

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail. Established 1874

Weekly Update March 10, 2017

Administration:

The City Council and the Budget Committee met this week for a budget orientation session. Finance Director Jeanie Dexter took them through the various steps involved with putting together a budget and the timelines for approval of a final City budget. Kent Bailey, representing our audit firm of Guyer and Associates, gave a presentation of the State audit standards and how they conduct and report audit findings to the City. Hopefully, this session will aid all of the budget board as they deliberate on this year's budget.

The snow has finally retreated up at Quail Ridge Golf Course, which means that the entire course is open to play. Stop by and meet Mike Brooks, our new golf course manager. We look forward to some exciting new changes for the course this year.

Remember that we move our clocks forward on Saturday night. Have a great weekend.

City Council

March 14th Agenda Items:

- Local Community Advisory Council Update
- Ratification of Police Association Contract



Finance:

The budget committee met on March 7th for an interim budget meeting to discuss current year to date revenue and expenditures compared to budget, to meet with the City's auditor and for budget training. The training presentation is available online at www.bakercity.com.

The January financial report is available on the website at <http://www.bakercity.com/DocumentCenter/Home/View/1317>

As of March 7th, the City has received current year property taxes of \$2,987,950 and prior year taxes of \$126,871.

Utilities

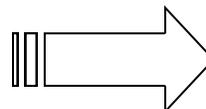
- Eight customers signed up for new water/sewer service and eight customers disconnected service from March 3rd thru March 9th. This includes all service changes.
- Zone 2 was billed on the March 8th. This zone includes 452 residential and 13 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 85 or 18% are signed up for direct payment.
- Zone 5 was billed today. This zone includes 460 residential and 17 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 97 or 20% are signed up for direct payment.
- Fifteen residential customers (Zones 1 and 5) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) five were actually turned off until their past due balance was paid.

Accounts Payable

The first of two accounts payable check runs for the month was generated today.

Accounts Receivable

Monthly accounts receivable billings were sent March 9th.
The billings were as follows:



Accounts Receivable	
Property & Weed Abatement	\$2,522
Cemetery	\$5,076
Wastewater Maintenance & Dumping Fees	\$610
Lien Searches	\$600
Ambulance	\$135,926
Airport Hangar Rent & Ground Lease	\$2,571
Street Patching & Miscellaneous	\$2,985
Economic Development Support	\$2,633
Golf Course Equipment Lease	\$5,116
Property Lease	\$3,782
Miscellaneous	\$447
Total Billed	\$162,268



Building Department:

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	2	3	1	7
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	0
Electrical	7	1	4	4
Mechanical	4	1	2	4
Plumbing	4	1	0	4
Fence	2	NA	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	19	6	7	19

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:

- 42791 Nye Road, Baker City— New residence
- 1905 Cherry Street, Baker City— Carport additions

COMMERCIAL PERMITS:

- 2295 Windmill Road, Baker City—Additional interior alterations

HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW: Next meeting is scheduled for March 29, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department Office.

Planning Department:

Public Meetings

- ◆ Proposed changes to the Baker City Development Code have been adopted through Ordinance No. 3351. These updates will go into effect on Thursday, March 30th, 2017. Please visit <http://www.bakercity.com/2268/Baker-City-Development-Code-Update> for more information about the Development Code update, and feel free to contact the Planning Department with questions.

Land Use Decisions & Projects

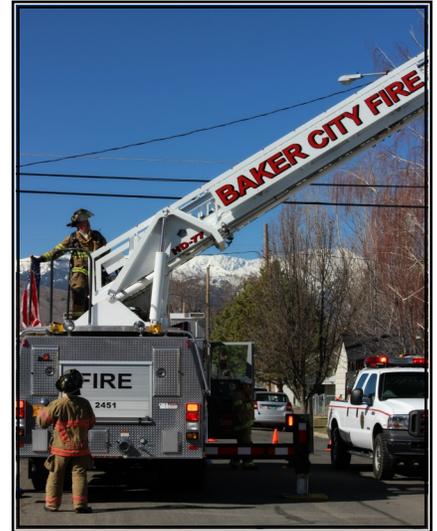
- ◆ The Planning Commission approved a Type III Site Design Review for a ±20,000 square foot addition to the existing wood processing facility on February 15th, 2017. The property is zoned General Industrial (I). The appeal period has ended and the decision is now final.
- ◆ A Land Use Review application was received for the siting of a carport on property located at 1905 Cherry Street, within the Residential Medium-Density (RM-D) Zone.
- ◆ A pre-application meeting was held to discuss development options for property located at 3510 Cedar Street.



The mission of the Baker City Fire Department is to provide dependable and efficient emergency services.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of February 19th to February 25th the Fire Department responded to a total of **40** emergency alarms.



AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	31
Rural Calls	9
Patient Transported	25
No Patient Trip	15

TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES 40

FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	0
TOTAL FIRE	0



◆ Washington Street—Fire Alarm



Airport Transfers	3
Out of Town Transfers	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2
Simultaneous Calls	2
Triple Calls	1

EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	27
Personnel Arrived for Cover	10
Incidents Not Covered	19

STATION MAINTENANCE

23 hours of station, apparatus and equipment maintenance.

Additional tasks included:

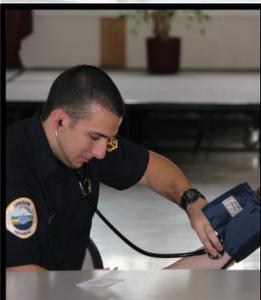
- Wash Apparatus
- Thermal Imaging and Fire Dynamics Training
- Fit Test SCBA's
- EMT Training

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE

This week the BCFD completed 28 hours of in-house training.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Blood Pressure Checks
- Fit Testing for Public Works Employees



The Fire Department provides free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am. Don't miss the next check on March 14th.



"The mission of the Baker City Police is to work in partnership with our community members, to actively promote the safety and welfare of our citizens, along with enriching their quality of life through the delivery of professional police services."



POLICE DEPARTMENT

★ BCPD handled over 176 incidents and opened 29 new cases this past week.

- One of these cases resulted in the arrest of a suspected drug dealer and the seizure of 4 ounces of methamphetamine. The suspect was charged with one count each of unlawful delivery of methamphetamine, unlawful manufacturing of methamphetamine, unlawful possession of methamphetamine and attempting to bribe police officers. Additional charges were filed against the same subject for unlawful possession of a stolen gun and theft of the gun taken in a December car break-in, and supplying contraband to a correctional facility. Methamphetamine had been found on the subject when booked into the jail. The value of the seized methamphetamine is estimated at a value of \$750 to \$1,000.00 per ounce. This case remains under investigation and more arrests are likely.

- ★ Sergeant Wayne Chastain and K-9 Capa assisted Union County Sheriff's Office during a traffic stop in which large quantities of illegal drugs were seized. Please refer to the press release, found below, regarding this case and note that the subject, Casey Bowen was later apprehended in Marion County and is no longer at large.

- ★ BCPD personnel continue to train on the MILO Use of Force simulator, provided by DPSST.

- ★ BCPD personnel participated in several briefing trainings, including a review of various officer safety topics.

- ★ BCPD Administrative Assistant / Car Seat Technician Phoebe Wachtel continues to assist families with car seat installations each week.

Code Enforcement Weekly Activity

Property Maintenance

- Followed up on 2 pending cases

Parking Violations and Complaints

- Issued 6 parking citations
- Followed up on 7 parking complaints
- Orange tagged 3 abandoned vehicles

Animal Violations and Complaints

- 3 dogs at large returned to owner
- 1 dog at large impounded
- Followed up with 2 dog impound cases
- Followed up on 4 animal complaints
- Followed up on 2 barking complaints

Miscellaneous

- Assisted Officers with 1 vehicle impound

On March 2, 2017 at about 2:00pm, Union County Sheriff's Drug Task Force detectives requested La Grande Police Department stop a black Land Rover driven by 33-year-old Casey Bowen of Salem. Baker City Police Department's K-9 Capa was deployed on the vehicle. A search warrant was later served. The result of the search was the seizure of a large quantity of methamphetamine, heroin and fire-arms. A passenger identified as 35-year-old Emma Lea Bowen of La Grande was arrested on a failure to appear warrant out of Ada County, Idaho and later charged with possession of controlled substance: methamphetamine and heroin and lodged in the Union County Jail. Lacking probable cause for his arrest at the time, Casey Bowen was released at the scene. After further investigation Casey Bowen has become a suspect.

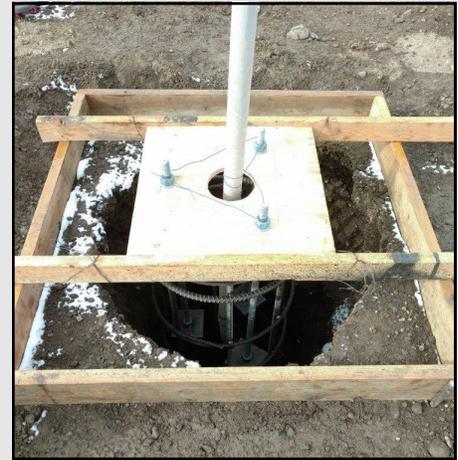
Union County Sheriff's Drug Task Force detectives were assisted by patrol deputies and officers from Union County Sheriff's Office, the La Grande Police Department, the Baker City Police Department and the Union County District Attorney's Office.



Public Works: Street Lights

The base for a new street light was poured Tuesday. It is located at the intersection of Best Frontage Road and east Campbell Street.

The excavation is 6.5 feet deep and 3 feet in diameter. The rebar reinforced concrete and 1" diameter 42" long attachment bolts will make an excellent base for the light.



Pictured left is an example of one of the existing light bases on Campbell Street. The new one on Best Frontage Road will be very similar.

Public Works: Parks and Recreation

Friday of last week concrete was poured for three of the new park picnic tables. Pictured right, Blain and Justin are "floating" the concrete surface.





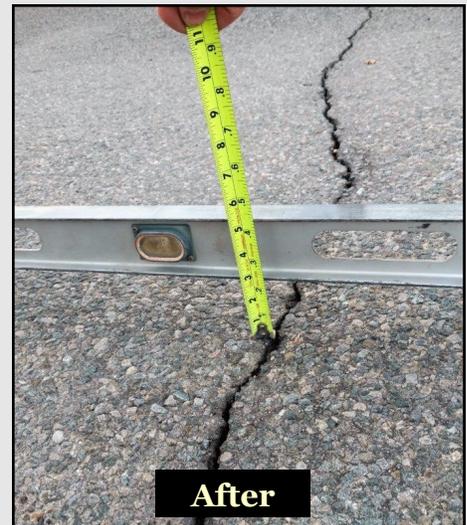
Public Works: Streets

A new stop sign base and sign was installed at the intersection of "H" and Cedar Streets. A Visi-Shield was installed on the new square post to improve safety and visibility.



Before

The material under the roads has thawed by now, but it will take time for the raised streets to "settle" back down to their original elevation. Here a measurement is taken at the same location as a couple weeks ago showing that the road has lowered by over an inch.



After



A skiff of snow fell early Tuesday morning. Since spring street sweeping clean-up has begun a light layer of pure salt was used to melt the snow and improve traction.



Public Works: Water Department

A new fire hydrant was installed this week at the intersection of Auburn and Pear Streets.

The crew of Justin and Blain are carefully setting the hydrant so that it is the proper height and plumb.

Justin and Blain quickly bolted together the "mega-lug" and "solid sleeve" fittings to make a permanent connection.

The hydrant is installed and the surrounding material will be compacted and cleaned-up once it dries.



Water valve maintenance is currently underway. Opening and closing the valves on a regular schedule is critical to maintaining a successful water distribution system. Pictured left, Tommy and Scott are closing and opening valves on "D" Street.



Public Works: Wastewater Department

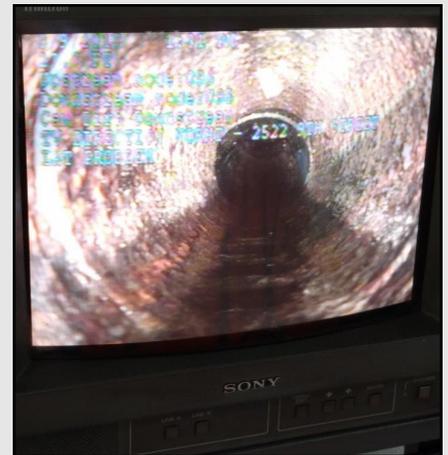
There were several issues this week in the Wastewater Department. None of them were resulting from a main line blockage.

Two laterals were inspected at the homeowners expense. Problems were discovered with both laterals. Maintenance of sewer laterals are the responsibility of the property owner. Estimates for the repair of the laterals have been prepared.



Keith and Jake F. worked to inspect a lateral connection on 9th Street.

The portion of the cast iron lateral from the main line to the pvc pipe connection appears to have more than sufficient slope.



Several wastewater lines (and one storm water line) are scheduled to be lined this year using the CIPP process. This year the winning bidder for the work was PEC from Helena, Montana. Pictured here, their crew is preparing to clean and video-inspect one of the lines on Valley Street. PEC is also the contractor who will be doing this same type of work for the City of LaGrande this year.

Public Works: Shop



The old street sweeper is being prepared to be sold. Wes and Scott repaired battery connections, pulled the radio and removed fleet stickers and the fire extinguisher.

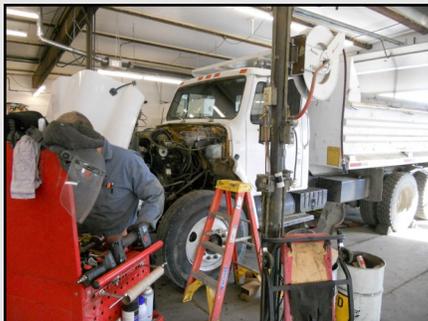


Due to extensive rust, the exhaust pipe was replaced on the dump truck. While in the shop the side boards will be replaced as well.



Scott completed a full service and safety inspection on this tractor. As a result, the boom latch will be repaired as well as the bucket control linkage.

This equipment will be back in service next week.



A full service and safety check was completed on this truck and it is now back in service.



Wes and Scott installed a new air gap on the water tank for refilling.



Public Works: Anthony Silvers Street Tree Grant

Grant applications for downtown street tree improvements will be accepted by the Baker City Public Works Department from March 1, 2017 to March 31, 2017. This grant is made possible through the Anthony Silvers Street Tree Trust Fund. Please click on the following link for program background, requirements and application [2016/2017 Silvers Street Tree Grant](#).



2016/2017 Street Tree Grant Application Downtown Street Tree Improvements

**Made possible by Anthony Silvers.
a man with a passion for trees.**

City of Baker City, Oregon

1655 1st Street, P.O. Box 650
Baker City, OR 97814-0650
541-523-6541 Voice/TDD
541-524-2049 FAX

