

# CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail. Established 1874

## Weekly Update February 10, 2017

### Administration:

This weekend should bring us some welcome sunshine. The melting this past week has been very controlled and hopefully we have averted major flooding in the City. We still have sandbags staged at the City Shop for citizens who are in need. Crews and homeowners continue to clear street drains to allow runoff to move into our storm water system. Thank you to all that have stepped up. If anyone has significant damage to their homes, please call the City at 541-524- 2036 and give us this information. We are compiling data for the County to forward to the State to see if we reach a threshold for a possible emergency declaration.

The Parks Board met this week and began to finalize plans for playground equipment in the Cedar Street Park. The work is scheduled for late May and volunteers are always needed. Stay tuned for more information as we get closer to Spring.

Enjoy the sunshine and have a great weekend.

### City Council

#### February 14th Agenda Items:

- Budget Resolution
- Council Appointments
- Development Code Update
- Truancy Ordinance -3rd Reading
- Dangerous Dog Ordinance -3rd Reading

### Finance:

As of February 1<sup>st</sup>, the City has received current year property taxes of \$2,899,961 and prior year taxes of \$123,491.

#### Utilities

- Seven customers signed up for new water/sewer service and six customers disconnected service from February 3<sup>rd</sup> thru February 9<sup>th</sup>. This includes all service changes.
- Zone 1 was billed on the February 7<sup>th</sup>. This zone includes 86 residential and 251 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 53 or 16% are signed up for direct payment .
- Due to a staff vacation, Zone 6 will be billed February 13<sup>th</sup> instead of February 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Fourteen residential customers (Zones 1 and 5) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) eight 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 February 9<sup>th</sup>. The billings were as follows:



Accounts Receivable	
Property & Weed Abatement	\$2,532
Cemetery	\$1,888
Wastewater Maintenance & Dumping Fees	\$152
Lien Searches	\$1,000
Ambulance	\$157,065
Airport Hangar Rent & Ground Lease	\$1,251
Street Patching & Miscellaneous	\$2,895
School Resource Officer	\$10,071
Miscellaneous	\$813
<b>Total Billed</b>	<b>\$177,667</b>



**Building Department:**

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	0	2	1	1
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	0
Electrical	3	2	3	0
Mechanical	2	0	1	0
Plumbing	0	3	0	0
Fence	0	NA	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>

**RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:**

- None to report this week.

**COMMERCIAL PERMITS:**

- 300 Oregon Trail, Huntington— Installation of 4 prefab storage structures.

**HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW:** Next meeting is scheduled for February 22, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department office, if needed.

**Planning Department:**

**Public Meetings**

- ◆ The City Council will hold their first hearing to review proposed changes to the Baker City Development Code on Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> in Council Chambers at City Hall. Please see the flyer below for more information about the Development Code update, and feel free to contact the Planning Department with questions.
- ◆ The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 to discuss an application for Site Design Review. Marvin Wood Products has applied for a Site Design Review to construct a ±20,000 square foot addition to the existing wood processing facility. The property is zoned General Industrial (I).

**Land Use Decisions & Projects**

- ◆ A pre-application meeting was held to discuss reconfiguring an existing property with six lots into two lots. The subject properties are located within the Commercial-General (C-G) Zone located in the 1300 block of Campbell Street, between Oak and Ash Streets.
- ◆ A Lot of Record determination was made for property located at 1724 Cherry Street in the Residential-Medium Density (R-MD) Zone.
- ◆ A ±128 square foot kitchen addition was approved at 1445 14<sup>th</sup> Street, located in the Residential-Medium Density (R-MD) Zone.
- ◆ Five floodplain determinations were completed for property owners requesting the determination for flood insurance purposes.
- ◆ The Planning Director participated in a statewide land use data workgroup focused on making relevant state GIS data more readily available and usable for local jurisdictions, which will help facilitate making local land use decisions in less time, and with more complete information.



# Planning Department Continued



## Baker City Development Code Update

The Baker City Development Code (BCDC) was amended in 2015. During the adoption process, a court decision was released identifying principles that needed to be incorporated into the sign chapter. City Council adopted all of the proposed changes in 2015 except for the sign chapter, and in 2016, the Planning Commission began work to revise the sign chapter. During the Planning Commission's work sessions, other revisions were identified. Some of these revisions are more complex and **may have an impact on landowners**. Other revisions are needed, including inconsistencies and reference corrections, clarifications, clearer organization, and other minor corrections. These types of housekeeping revisions are straightforward and do not materially alter the Code.

Making changes to land use regulations is a Legislative (Type IV) procedure, which is considered initially by the Planning Commission with final decisions made by City Council. A list of revisions was developed during Planning Commission work sessions held in 2016 on January 20<sup>th</sup>, February 17<sup>th</sup>, March 16<sup>th</sup>, April 20<sup>th</sup>, May 18<sup>th</sup>, June 15<sup>th</sup>, August 17<sup>th</sup>, November 9<sup>th</sup> and December 14<sup>th</sup>. These changes include:

MINOR EDITS	REVISIONS	ADDITIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Inconsistencies and reference corrections</i></li> <li>• <i>Clarifications</i></li> <li>• <i>Clearer organization of definitions</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Revise Sign Code based on case law principles, as well as to increase readability and ease of use</i></li> <li>• <i>Modify approval criteria for temporary occupancy of motor homes in residential zones</i></li> <li>• <i>Clarify language in Lot-of-Record criteria</i></li> <li>• <i>Clarify and increase size allowances for accessory structures in residential zones</i></li> <li>• <i>Simplify submission requirements for site plans and preliminary plats</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Add proposed public dedications as part of requirements to submit a preliminary plat</i></li> <li>• <i>Add requirement that City acceptance of any dedication be indicated on final plat</i></li> <li>• <i>Add process for determining rough proportionality for development and required public improvements</i></li> </ul>

### NEXT STEPS

- Get Input from the Public
- Public Open House on **January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017**
- Planning Commission Hearing on **February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017**
- Recommendation from Planning Commission
- City Council Hearings

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Request a presentation for your group
- Comment online or in person
- Read details of changes at the Planning Department office or on the website
- Attend the Open House on **January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

### For more information or to comment:

Visit us in person: 1995 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Baker City, OR 97814

Visit us online: <http://www.bakercity.com/2268/Baker-City-Development-Code-Update>

Email us: [planning@bakercity.org](mailto:planning@bakercity.org)

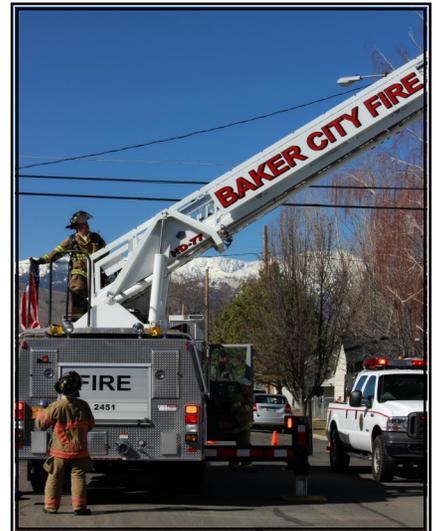
Call us: 541-523-8219



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

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of January 22nd to January 28th the Fire Department responded to a total of **29** emergency alarms.



## AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	20
Rural Calls	6
Patient Transported	22
No Patient Trip	4

<b>TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES</b>	<b>26</b>
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## FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	1
Dispatched Alarms	2
<b>TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES</b>	<b>3</b>



- ◆ 12th Street—Flue Fire
- ◆ I-84— Truck and Trailer Fire



Airport Transfers	2
Out of Town Transfers	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	0
Simultaneous Calls	2
Triple Calls	0

## EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	9
Personnel Arrived for Cover	10
Incidents Not Covered	2

## STATION MAINTENANCE

31 hours of station, apparatus and equipment maintenance.

Additional tasks included:

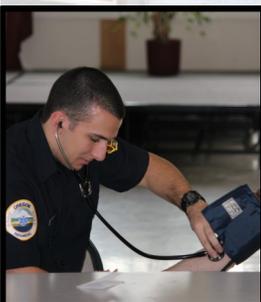
- Snow removal around station.
- CPR recertification.
- Skill Drills with SCBA, PPE and Hand Too Use
- Identifying Sepsis in Pre-Hospital Setting

## TRAINING/MAINTENANCE

This week the BCFD completed 45hours of in-house training.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Adopt-A-Hydrant program.
- Staking hydrants.
- Blood pressure checks.



The Fire Department provides free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am. Don't miss the next check on February 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 150 incidents and opened 24 new cases this past week.
  - Two of these cases resulted in arrests for outstanding warrants and one other resulted in arrests for probation/parole violations – One of these arrests was a direct result of our Most Wanted page, which can be found on Facebook.
  - Six of these cases initiated investigations for reported thefts and frauds.
- ★ BCPD Officers spent considerable time assisting with operations following the collapse of the building next to the Geiser Grand Hotel. The coordinated efforts of police, fire, public works and the building department allowed the City to re-open Main Street and Resort Street in a timely manner.
- ★ BCPD received the MILO training unit from DPSST, which is a use of force simulator. Officers will be subjected to various scenarios where they will have to act and react accordingly, along with choosing the correct course of action.
- ★ 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**

- Closed out 1 case
- Followed up on 2 pending cases

### **Animal Violations and Complaints**

- 2 verbal warnings for dog at large
- 5 dogs at large returned to owner
- Issued 1 citation for dog at large
- Followed up on 2 animal complaints
- Followed up on 2 barking dog complaints

### **Parking Violations and Complaints**

- Followed up on 11 parking violations
- Multiple verbal warnings
- Issued 4 parking citations
- Orange tagged 1 abandoned vehicle

### **Kennel Permits**

- Followed up on 5 existing kennels
- Denied 1 application for renewal



## Public Works: Water Department

The warmer temperatures and recent rain affected water flow rates from the Elkhorn Mountains and increased the turbidity level. This required an adjustment to water flows at specific intake structures along the pipeline in the Elkhorn Mountains. Jake and Justin used snowmobiles to access both the Goodrich and Salmon Creek diversions to adjust water flow.



Some locations along the pipeline road had to be leveled to create a surface on which the snowmobiles could successfully navigate.

Once they arrived at the diversions, deep snows had to be shoveled away so that valves could be located and turned to adjust the flow of water.



A water leak resulted in a soft spot developing on the shoulder of one of Baker City streets this week. The surface of the shoulder appeared okay, but the underlying material had become saturated from the constant flow of water from a broken meter.



A pickup was crossing the site and sunk nearly to the axle. It was then discovered that sometime prior the water meter froze and broke allowing the unrestricted flow of water to completely saturate the area.

A new water meter was installed by Dennis and the building was back in service quickly.



## Public Works: Storm Water

Several dozen catch basins were opened this week to allow storm water to flow unimpeded into the storm water collection system.

Jay is using a GPS receiver to locate the catch basin site so that a Public Works crew will know exactly where to dig into the snow berm to uncover the catch basin grate.



Sand and sandbags are available for use at the Baker City Public Works Department Facility.

Pictured to the left Dennis is guiding Craig to the stockpile location.

As of Thursday evening, 20 citizens have filled and taken sandbags for use around their homes.



At this time the Powder River is not posing any threat of flooding.

Pictured right are views of the Powder River on Thursday from the Madison Street and Hughes Lane Bridges.





## Public Works: Streets: Snow and Ice Control



Plowing of Baker City streets finally ceased this week. Crews have been plowing streets every week since December 9th.

Additional snow was hauled away from the City Hall parking lot and also from Court Plaza so the Christmas tree could be removed and parking spaces made available to downtown businesses.



Bare pavement on Indiana Avenue was a good sign from Mother Nature.



Snow loads have been a concern this winter on building roofs.

Matt is using a specialized tool to remove snow from one of Baker City's Public Works buildings.

City Hall receives calls every winter about sinking manholes in Baker City streets. This is actually not the case. It isn't that the manhole lids are sinking, what is actually happening is that the street surface has raised because the underlying material absorbed water, froze and expanded - thus raising the surface of the street. This can result in a noticeable bump in Baker City streets.

A manhole on 7th Street appears to be sinking...but it's not. Once the frost leaves the ground, the surface of the streets will subside to their original position.





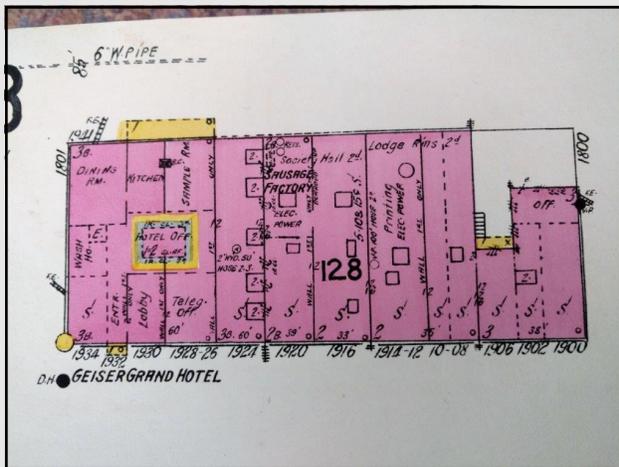
# Public Works: Downtown

Unfortunately the roof of one of Baker City's historic buildings collapsed Sunday morning.

Public Works responded immediately to the site and closed both Resort and Main Street under the direction of Emergency Services.



Pictured above are views from Resort and Main Streets. A close-up view (middle picture) shows the doorway of the fallen structure went right over a street light pole without causing any damage to the metal street light pole or globe. The front of the building appears to be in excellent condition.



One of the historical maps from 1923 shows that the building was used at that time as a sausage factory.



### Public Works: Downtown Continued



Downtown alleys remained closed this week.

Holiday decorations are finally being removed this week. Candy canes and garlands were first and the tree will be removed Friday.



### Public Works: Signs



Winter always takes its toll on street signs.

Some signs can simply be screwed back into place.



Other signs will probably require more work.



# Public Works: Shop



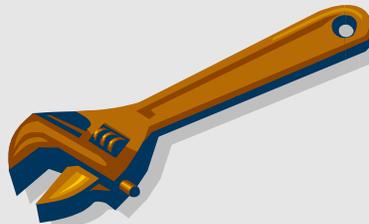
Wes and Scott serviced the engine, transmission and hydraulics on the backhoe. This equipment will be back in service on Friday.



Blain and Karl are pictured above. The cutting edges were flipped and the boom lock was repaired.



A safety check was performed on the ambulance this week and it is now back in service.



Wes and Scott have been working to keep Baker City equipment in operating condition. Pictured to the right, Wes is reinforcing the snow bucket on the Case loader after heavy winter use.



The grader was inspected and serviced. Some engine repairs will need to be made so that it can be back in service next week.



Kevin serviced and inspected the dump truck. This included replacing the mud flaps, adjusting brakes and straightening the bumper.