

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail. Established 1874

Weekly Update February 24, 2017

Administration:

February is turning out to be a normal weather month. Wait 10 minutes and it will change. Thankfully our snowpack is going into the ground with little flooding so far. Baker City has been named a 2016 Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation in honor of its commitment to effective urban forest management. Once again we can be proud of our beautiful City.

The City is sponsoring a meeting for business owners and interested citizens to discuss the Oregon Main Street program. Sheri Stuart, Main Street Coordinator for Oregon Main Street, will be in the area to discuss how Baker City can once again become a Performing Main Street. The meeting will be held on March 1, 2017 at 6:00 pm in the Baker City Council Chambers. Come join your fellow business people in discussing and setting a course for the future of our historic downtown.

A "Night at Old Auburn" takes place at the Baker Heritage Museum on Saturday starting at 6:00 p.m. This is a great fundraiser for the Museum and a good time to shake off the winter blues.

Have a great weekend.

Finance:

Utilities

- ◆ Zone 3 was billed on the 23rd and it includes 490 residential and 48 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 97 or 18% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Zone 8 was billed today and includes 457 residential and 19 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 102 or 21% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Three customers signed up for new water/sewer service and three customers disconnected service from February 17th thru February 23rd. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Seven Zone 7 customers were scheduled to have their services disconnected for non-pay. All seven customers paid their past-due balances prior to their turn-off date.

Payroll

Seventy-three employees were paid today including nine paid volunteer firefighters and the dangerous dog hearings officer. Of those 73 employees 68 or 93% are signed up for direct deposit.

City Council

February 28th Agenda Items:

- 3rd Reading of Development Code Update
- SBDC Update
- 911 Contract
- EDC Contract
- Connect Oregon Grant Agreement
- Asphalt & Concrete Bid Awards
- Exploring Main Street Application and Main Street Revitalization Grant





Building Department:

	Per- mits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	4	1	1	21
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	0
Electrical	3	6	6	6
Mechanical	2	0	0	2
Plumbing	1	1	3	2
Fence	0	NA	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	10	8	10	31

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:

- 1917 Clark St., Baker City—Demo detached accessory building damaged by snow.
- 1445 14th St., Baker City—718 sq. ft. addition to home.
- 1635 4th St., Baker City—Repair of existing accessory building damaged by snow.

COMMERCIAL PERMITS:

- 975 Campbell St., Baker City—Demo existing walls and remodel.
- 714 Cole St., Haines—Construct two new interior walls.

Planning Department:

Public Meetings

- ◆ The City Council held the first public hearing to review proposed changes to the Baker City Development Code via Ordinance No. 3351 on Tuesday, February 14th. The first and second readings of Ordinance 3351 were approved. The next hearing will be held on Tuesday, February 28th, 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 permit for a ±20,000 square foot addition to the existing wood processing facility on February 15th, 2017. Notice of the Planning Commission’s decision has been sent out to property owners within 100 feet and anyone who participated in the hearing. The appeal period on the decision is open until March 7th, 2017.
- ◆ A Land Use Review application was received for the addition of retail space to an existing structure within the Commercial-General (C-G) Zone. The existing structure houses an industrial manufacturing operation.
- ◆ One floodplain determination was completed for a property owner requesting the determination for flood insurance purposes.



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 20th, February 17th, March 16th, April 20th, May 18th, June 15th, August 17th, November 9th and December 14th. These changes include:

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

NEXT STEPS

- Get Input from the Public
- Public Open House on **January 25th, 2017**
- Planning Commission Hearing on **February 1st, 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 25th, 2017**

For more information or to comment:

Visit us in person: 1995 3rd Street Baker City, OR 97814

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

Email us: planning@bakercity.org

Call us: 541-523-8219

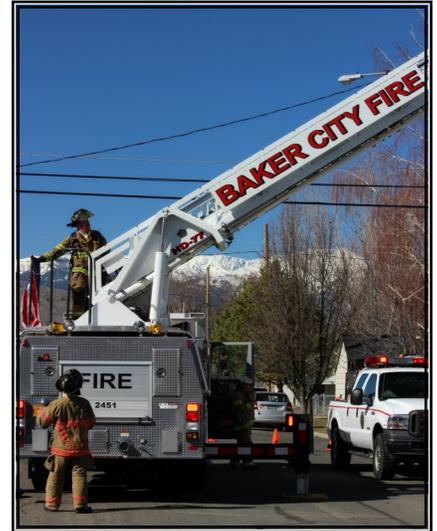


The mission of the Baker City Fire Department is to provide dependable and efficient emergency services.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of February 5th to February 11th the Fire Department responded to a total of

31 emergency alarms.



AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	23
Rural Calls	3
Patient Transported	17
No Patient Trip	9

TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES	26
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FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	1
Dispatched Alarms	4
TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES	5



- ◆ Main Street—Building Collapse
- ◆ 3rd Street—Structure Fire



Airport Transfers	0
Out of Town Transfers	0
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1
Simultaneous Calls	3
Triple Calls	0

EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	9
Personnel Arrived for Cover	5
Incidents Not Covered	5

STATION MAINTENANCE

9 hours of station, apparatus and equipment maintenance.

Additional tasks included:

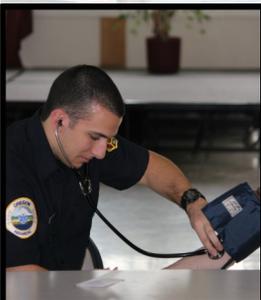
- Wash Apparatus
- Weekly Checks
- SCBA Training
- Hose Evolutions

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE

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

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- CPR and First Aid Training
- 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 28th.



"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 160 incidents and opened 28 new cases this past week.
 - Four of these cases resulted in arrests for outstanding warrants and four others resulted in arrests for probation/parole violations.
 - Five of these cases initiated investigations for reported thefts and frauds.
 - One case resulted in a sexual corruption type investigation that includes a local victim and a suspect on the east coast.
- ★ BCPD also arrested a local man for unlawful possession of narcotics after a traffic stop and alert by K9 Capa. That case will lead to a search warrant being served on a backpack that is believed to be owned by the arrestee.
- ★ Lt. Newman provided a presentation to the Baker City Rotary group.
- ★ 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

- Orange tagged 5 abandoned vehicles
- Issued 24 parking citations
- Followed up on 9 parking violations
- Impounded 1 parking hazard
- Multiple verbal warnings

- Issued 2 citations for dog at large
- Issued 1 citation for no dog license
- Followed up on 3 barking complaints
- Issued 2 citations for barking violations
- Issued 2 citations for City Ordinance animal violations
- 1 kennel permit application permit denied
- Followed up on 2 animal complaints

Animal Violations and Complaints

- 2 dogs at large returned to owner
- ◆ 2 horses at large returned to owner



Public Works: Water Department

A resident living on 2nd Street called the Public Works Department at 6:50 Thursday morning to report a water mainline break on "A" Street. Jake was the first responder to the scene and verified that the problem was most likely a "full circle" break in a 4" cast iron water mainline. Jake reduced the pressure in the main line by partially closing two water valves which control the flow of water to the broken pipe location.

It is important that the line is not turned completely off - as that could allow dirt, debris and other contaminants to enter into the line. An "emergency locate" was promptly requested through the One-Call System (811).

Once the underground utilities were marked the crew of Tommy and Scott worked to repair the broken pipe.



Jay marked the city utilities in the area. While it seems that a broken water line would be very easy to find by just following the stream of water - that isn't always true. Sometimes water from a broken pipe can be seen surfacing 50 feet or more from the break. In this case the water was coming up through the asphalt only about 5 feet away from where the line was broken. With Jay's precise markings the main line was easily found and excavated.

Here you can see the 4" main line is still under some pressure. Had the control valves not have been turned down to reduce water pressure the spray would have looked like a Yellowstone geyser!



Tommy and Scott used the asphalt zipper to pulverize the street surface.



Public Works: Water Department Continued



Tommy operated the backhoe to excavate the majority of the material from around the 4" pipe.

The Vactor truck was easily able to remove enough of the leaking water so the pipe could be exposed and repaired.



Scott placed a full circle repair clamp over the crack in the broken pipe.

Before final tightening was completed the clamp is rotated so that the bolt ends are under the pipe. This is done in case this section of line ever has to be excavated again so the backhoe bucket won't catch on the protruding bolts.

The repair is now complete. The main line was turned on to full pressure and the excavation is ready to be filled in. "Full Circle" breaks in cast iron lines are fairly common during the spring- especially after a winter where the frost penetrates so deeply into the ground.





Public Works: Wastewater

New water and wastewater services were installed Wednesday on Cherry Street.

The asphalt zipper was used to grind the asphalt into small pieces suitable for use as backfill material.



Excessive groundwater flowing into the wastewater lateral trench necessitated the use of the Vactor truck to remove the water.

Justin and Blain used the mini excavator to excavate the site and place bedding rock into the wastewater trench.

Justin placed fill material into the trench while Blain used the hydraulic compacter attached to the backhoe to compact the road bed material.





Public Works: Streets



Baker City's new street sweeper arrived this week. Elgin representatives trained Baker City Public Works personnel as to proper and efficient operation and maintenance of this fine piece of equipment.

A morning training session was performed in the Public Works equipment shed.

Pictured right, Matt is taking the Elgin Crosswind Sweeper out on its "maiden voyage".

Notice Matt is looking to his right while sweeping on Church Street. A sweeper operator must always be alert and checking his/her mirrors for curb lines, children, parked and moving vehicles, pets etc.



The Elgin "Pelican" mechanical sweeper will continue to be used to pick up sanding and chipseal rock and leaves in the fall.

The new Crosswind is now Baker City's primary street Sweeper.



Public Works: Shop

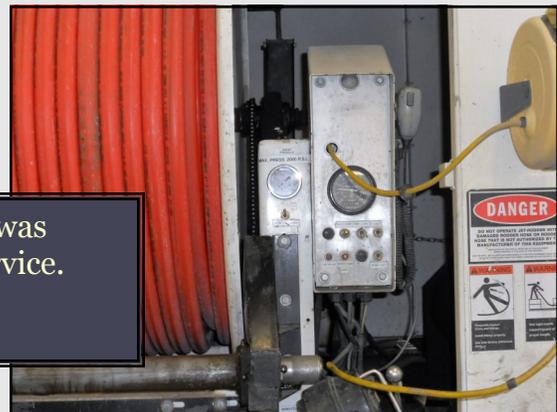


The Water Specialist's new truck was in the shop this week so that Wes and Scott could mount tool boxes and install a tow package and radio. This service vehicle will be on the road next week.

Wes and Scott replaced the throttle position sensor on the service truck and it is back in service.



The Jetter's pressure gauge was replaced and it is back in service.





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

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