

# CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail. Established 1874

## Weekly Update May 12, 2017

### Administration:

It has been a very busy week here at the City. Congressman Walden was in the City for a town hall meeting. There was a large crowd and many timely topics were discussed. The Congressman was in agreement that cleaning up the Baker City Watershed should be a city and federal priority. We look forward to working with him in the future on this important endeavor.

The City Council had a productive meeting surrounding a proposed public safety fee. They are continuing their work to balance the budget. The Baker City Budget Committee is scheduled to meet at 6:00 pm on May 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> to finalize the City budget.

The Baker County Economic Development Committee is starting work on a new strategic plan. Stay tuned for opportunities to share your thoughts on the future of economic development in our community.

It looks to be a gray week ahead. Let's hope for some sun breaks and chances to get out and have some fun. Have a great weekend.

### City Council

#### May 23rd Agenda Items:

- 2015-16 Audit
- Ordinance 3354—Public Safety Utility Fee



### Finance:

The City budget meetings to discuss the 2017-18 proposed budget will begin on Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers. A copy of the proposed budget is available on the City's website at <http://www.bakercity.com/>.

#### Utilities

- ◆ Seventeen customers signed up for new water/sewer service and thirteen customers disconnected service from May 5<sup>th</sup> thru May 11<sup>th</sup>. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 2 was billed on the May 8<sup>th</sup>. This zone includes 462 residential and 13 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 86 or 18% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Zone 5 was billed today. This zone includes 463 residential and 17 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 97 or 20% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Thirteen residential customers (Zones 1 and 5) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) three 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 May 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Accounts Receivable:** Monthly accounts receivable billings were sent March 12th. The billings were as follows: 

Property & Weed Abatement	\$1,820
Cemetery	\$4,407
Water Hookups & Misc.	\$6,024
Wastewater Maintenance & Dumping Fees	\$2,884
Lien Searches	\$440
Ambulance	\$148,811
Airport Hangar Rent & Ground Lease	\$1,200
Street Patching & Misc.	\$2,868
Economic Development Support	\$2,633
Golf Course Equipment Lease	\$5,130
School Resource Officer	\$6,058
Misc.	\$1,249
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$183,524</b>



**Announcements:**

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	2	4	2	6
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	0
Electrical	6	9	5	7
Mechanical	4	4	3	4
Plumbing	0	0	1	2
Fence	0	NA	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>19</b>

**RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:**

- 136 Columbia St., Sumpter— New residence.

**COMMERCIAL PERMITS:**

- 1821 Main St., Baker City— Asbestos removal from commercial building.
- Cornucopia Hwy., Halfway— Addition of storage structure.
- 2129 2nd St., Baker City— Addition of two windows.

**HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW:** Next meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department Office.

**Planning Department:**

**Public Meetings**

The Planning Commission’s next meeting will be held on May 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Baker County Courthouse. The Planning Commission will consider a proposal for a re-plat of a subdivision from 40 lots to 5 lots at 3100 H Street in the General Commercial (C-G) Zone. The staff report was sent to Planning Commissioners this week in preparation for the meeting.

**Land Use Decisions & Projects**

- A re-plat application was received for the proposed reconfiguration of seven (7) existing lots to create two (2) lots. The properties are located within the 1300 block of Campbell Street in the General Commercial Zone. Notices of the application providing an opportunity to comment were mailed to all property owners within 100 feet of the subject properties.
- An application was approved for a ±750 square foot accessory structure at 2825 Colorado Avenue in the Residential Low – Density (R-LD) Zone.
- An application was approved for a ±1,000 square foot accessory structure at 3150 Elm Street in the Residential Medium-Density (RM-D) Zone.
- A Land Use Review application was approved for the construction of ±5 full-service RV spaces in the General Commercial Zone.
- An application was approved for a ±1,144 square foot garage at 1931 Clifford Street in the Residential High -Density (RH-D) Zone.



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

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of April 23rd to 29th the Fire

Department responded to a total of **47** emergency alarms.

## AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	34
Rural Calls	6
Patient Transported	30
No Patient Trip	10

## TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES 40



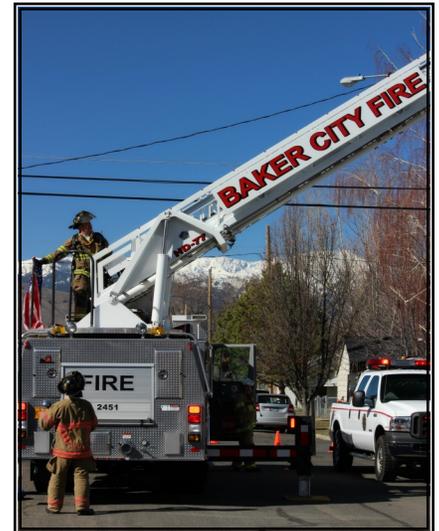
Airport Transfers	3
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	0
Out of Town Transfers Assigned	0
Motor Vehicle Accidents	0
Doubles (2 calls at once)	4
Triples (3 calls at once)	2
Public Assists	4

## FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	2
Dispatched Alarms	5

## TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES 7

- ◆ Cedar St.—Odor Investigation.
- ◆ Chico Ln.—Electrical Fire
- ◆ Main St.—Fire Alarm
- ◆ 17th St.—Fire Alarm
- ◆ City of La Grande—Mutual Aid

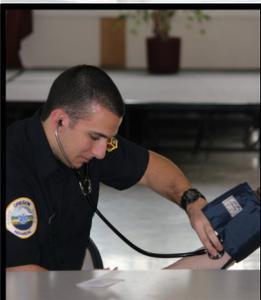


## EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	19
Personnel Arrived for Cover	7
Incidents Not Covered	12

## TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS/COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **103** hrs of Station and Equipment Maintenance
- **19** hrs of Fire/EMS or Safety Training
- **5** hrs of Fire Prevention Inspections
- **8**hrs of Community Events



The Fire Department provides free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am.  
 Don't miss the next check on May 16th.



*"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 190 incidents and opened 36 new cases this past week. Two arrests were for outstanding warrants and one arrest was of a subject wanted on a fugitive warrant with nationwide extradition. The warrant was issued out of Ada County, Idaho.



Left to right: School Resource Officer Lance Woodward, Natalie Marti, Lieutenant Dustin Newman and Chief Wyn Lohner.

★ Chief Lohner, Lieutenant Newman and School Resource Officer Lance Woodward attended a special presentation given by Natalie Marti. Ms. Marti is a motivational speaker that travels to various schools and other venues, speaking about the loss of her husband and daughter in a horrific drunk driving crash. While she survived the crash, she suffered from a debilitating traumatic brain injury and in 2016 formed the non-profit group *Be Safe and Sober*, with the goal of educating the public and end impaired driving.

★ BCPD Administrative Assistant Phoebe Wachtel and Community Connection Transportation Options Coordinator, Jodi Tool fitted Head Start students with their very own helmet. Bicycle helmets, courtesy of generous financial support by the Baker City Rotary Club, are available at the Department during regular business hours.



A Head Start student is pictured above with his new bicycle helmet.

- ★ Chief Lohner attended the 911 user group meeting, an advisory committee for dispatch.
- ★ 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 4 pending cases
- Closed out 2 cases (compliance gained)
- Issued 2 citations for non-compliance

#### **Animal Violations and Complaints**

- Issued 1 citation for no kennel permit
- Issued 1 citation for no dog license
- Followed up on 3 dog at large violations
- Followed up on 1 dangerous dog case
- Followed up on 1 dog bite complaint
- Followed up on 1 livestock permit violation

#### **Parking Violations and Complaints**

- Followed up on 7 parking violations
- Issued 1 parking citation
- Multiple verbal warnings
- 9 abandoned vehicles orange tagged

#### **Miscellaneous**

- 1 found item
- Followed up on 1 driving violation
- Issued 1 citation for a temporary use violation



## Public Works: Parks Department

**WE LOVE OUR VOLUNTEERS!!** The Baker City Parks Department is very fortunate to have citizens who are passionate about our parks and pathway. These volunteers take time from their lives to make our city a better place to live and our parks a better place to enjoy the outdoors. With a budget that barely covers the basics, the Parks Department could not accomplish nearly as much without them!



Tom Clement trimmed trees recently along the pathway south of 'D' Street.



Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Member, Linda Collins, and retired city employee, Tim Collins, planted perennial flowers and shrubs in the garden strip located at the Kirkway & 'H' pocket park.

## New play equipment will be installed next week at Cedar Acres neighborhood park.



Somerset - Baker City, OR  
View A



Somerset - Baker City, OR  
View B



### Public Works: Cemetery



There have been many instances of particles flaking off of the aging irrigation system at Mt. Hope Cemetery the last few years. When these particles try to pass through the valves or sprinkler heads, there is a potential for damage, which most often requires that the damaged part be replaced. In an effort to reduce the occurrence of these instances, a new "blow off" was installed at the end point of the system to flush the lines periodically. After the blow off is complete, the exterior piping will be removed, and the remainder will be encased in a valve box.

### Public Works: Street Department

Public Works crews patched streets both Monday and Thursday this week. Asphalt was purchased from vendors in LaGrande and used to patch 12 water lines, wastewater lines and storm water repairs.



Pictured left, Scott is rolling a wastewater lateral repair on Colorado Avenue. Pictured right, the crew is working on 9th Drive to patch the transition between concrete and asphalt where a new section of curb and driveway was installed last fall.



## Public Works: Street Department Continued



Karl is operating the steel wheel roller to compact the asphalt from a water line leak which occurred this spring.



Scott is operating the vibra-plate to compact asphalt for a storm water repair on Court Street.



Karl used the vibra-plate to compact crushed rock prior to the placement of asphalt.

Blain and Scott work to remove the gravel from a water leak repair on Plum Street so that it can be patched with asphalt.



Blain and Scott assisted O.T.E.C. by hydro-excavating locations for two new power poles on Auburn Avenue. The poles had to be relocated as part of the Auburn Avenue construction project.



## Public Works: Street Department Continued

There is still quite a bit of rock remaining on the tops of curbs, sidewalks and wheelchair ramps.

Public Works would like to encourage residents and business owners to sweep these areas off.



Before



After



Pictured above, Dennis used the "bucket truck" Tuesday to cut off some broken branches from a tree hanging over Auburn Avenue.

## Public Works: Wastewater Department

Several wastewater collection lines in town were cleaned this week.

Keith and Jake work to clean a line at the intersection of Broadway and 5th Streets.





## Public Works: Water Department

Water flow through one section of the pipeline in the Elkhorn Mountains has dropped off significantly within the past year. It is vital that maximum capacity through the transmission lines be maintained.

It's not a good sign when water is flowing out of the ground when there is a buried pipeline beneath. Jake and Justin check out the water coming from a leak in the pipe. It was believed that tree and grass roots may have penetrated into the pipe through joints and cracks in the pipe and created a blockage.

The buried pipeline was video-inspected and heavy intrusions of tree and grass roots were found.



The worst leak in the pipe was repaired and some of the roots removed. Additional work to remove the roots is planned for next week.



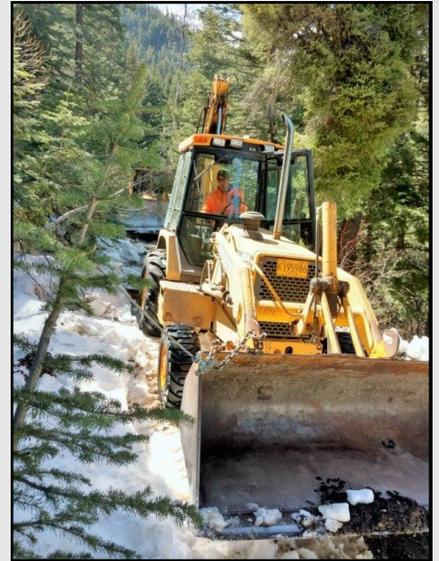


## Public Works: Water Department

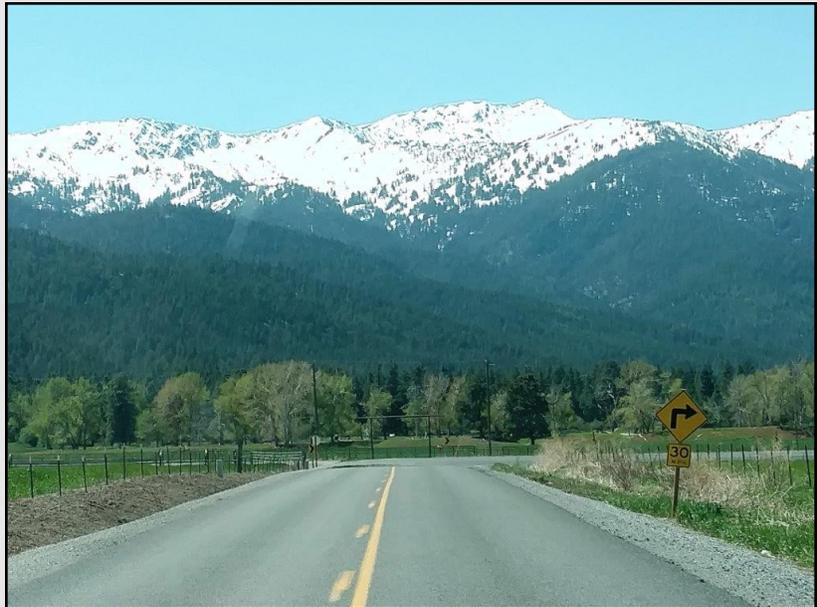


The section of pipeline road between Goodrich Creek and Little Mill Creek was plowed this week to allow for quicker access into the diversions to adjust water flows to meet customer demands.

Using a dozer, Justin plowed the snow up towards Goodrich Reservoir. The snow was deep and the snow firmly compacted. He was not able to plow all the way to the lake.



Pictured above Justin checks out the water flow at the "Camper Springs" intake.



The view of the Elkhorn Mountains (the source of Baker City's drinking water) while driving toward Marble Creek.



## Public Works: Shop



Kevin has been working on installing the overhead oil system in the shop. He mounted the oil reels and pumps and will be finished later today.



Wes and Scott took apart the #3 discharge valve and ordered parts. The rebuilding of the valve should be completed early next week.



Wes and Scott have been prepping equipment and vehicles for the City's upcoming "GovDeals" sale.

