

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail. Established 1874

Weekly Update May 26, 2017

Administration:

Thursday was the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center. I remember the grand opening festivities and am so appreciative of all the volunteers and community members that help make this attraction possible. Congratulations to all people who have made the Interpretive Center one of our greatest tourism attractions. It was so nice to see so many folks from out of town at the Center to celebrate this milestone.

The Mayors Council was held in Halfway this week. It was great to hear the challenges and successes of the small cities in Baker County. I am always amazed at the dedication of the individuals who volunteer to lead their communities and the unselfish work that they do. All of the cities are working to prepare for the eclipse weekend (August 18-22). Each community is planning multiple events and gearing up for a record number of visitors.

Summer looks to return this weekend. Let's all remember our Veterans as we appreciate and celebrate their sacrifice. Have a great holiday weekend.

City Council

June 6th Special Session

Agenda Items:

- Ordinance 3354— Public Safety Utility Fee
- Discussion on 2017-18 Fee Resolution



Finance:

Utilities

- Zone 7 was billed on the 22nd and included 545 residential and 28 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 119 or 21% are signed up for direct payment.
- Zone 4 was billed today and includes 711 residential and 62 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 181 or 23% are signed up for direct payment.
- Thirteen customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and thirteen customers disconnected service from May 19th thru May 25th. This includes all service changes.
- Twelve customers (Zone 7 and Zone 3) were scheduled to have their services disconnected for non-pay. Two customers had their service turned off until their past due balance was paid.

Payroll

Seventy-four employees were paid today including seven paid volunteer firefighters and two part-time public works employees. Of those 74 employees 69 or 93% are signed up for direct deposit.

LID Billings

LIDs are billed every six months over a twenty year period. Interest is charged at the Local Government Investment Pool Rate plus 1% which is currently an annual rate of 2.16%. These LIDs can be paid off at any time with interest charged through the payoff date.

- Thirty-three 2014 Resort Street Underground Utility LIDs were billed today. The original assessment for relocating the utilities on Resort Street underground included sixty-three property owners for a total of \$294,879. The remaining balance outstanding is \$155,864 (including current interest due).



Announcements:

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	7	15	1	3
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	3
Electrical	4	4	9	8
Mechanical	2	3	2	0
Plumbing	1	6	2	7
Fence	6	NA	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	20	28	14	21

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:

- 2825 Colorado St., Baker City—new detached accessory building
- 1931 Clifford St., Baker City—detached garage
- 2409 19th St., Baker City—new residence
- 2895 5th St., Baker City—detached garage
- 3105 Estes St., Baker City—enclose existing carport
- 43728 Wingville Cemetery Rd., Baker City—interior repairs

COMMERCIAL PERMITS:

- 2710 15th St., Baker City—new detached accessory building
- 2015 1st St., Baker City—structural repairs

HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW: Next meeting is scheduled for May 31, 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 June 28thth at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers a Baker City Hall. The Planning Commission will consider two applications:

- ◆ A proposal for the addition of living space to an existing single-family dwelling and an addition to an existing accessory structure. The subject property is addressed as 1827 7th Street and is located in the Industrial (I) Zone. This week a pre-notice was sent to all property owners within 100 feet of the subject property.
- ◆ A request for a variance for a freestanding sign exceeding the area allowance at 175 Campbell Street, in the Commercial General (C-G) Zone.

Land Use Decisions & Projects

- ◆ An application was approved for a bed and breakfast located at 2324 1st Street in the Residential High-Density (RH-D) Zone.
- ◆ An application for a temporary office was approved at 3100 H Street in the Commercial-General (C-G) Zone.





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

FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of May 7th to May 13th the Fire Department responded to a total of **37** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	27
Rural Calls	4
Patient Transported	20
No Patient Trip	11

TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES 31



Airport Transfers	1
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	1
Out of Town Transfers Assigned	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3
Doubles (2 calls at once)	7
Triples (3 calls at once)	0
Public Assists	5

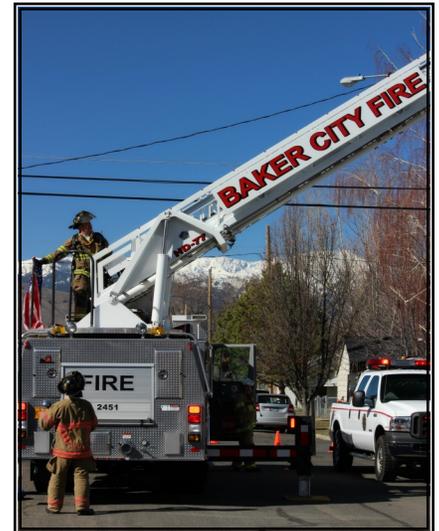
FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	6

TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES 6



- ◆ Pocahontas Rd.—False Alarm
- ◆ Birch St.—Trash Fire
- ◆ Foothill Dr.—False Alarm

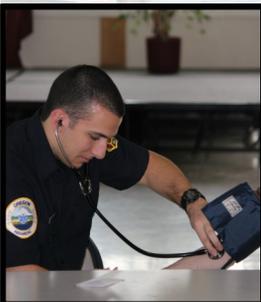


EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	10
Personnel Arrived for Cover	4
Incidents Not Covered	6

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS/COMMUNITY EVENTS

- 116.5 hrs of Station and Equipment Maintenance
- 19 hrs of Fire/EMS or Safety Training
- 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 30th.



"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 180 incidents and opened 42 new cases this past week.
 - Four of these cases initiated investigations into reported assaults, one of which was a Measure 11 Assault 2.
 - Three cases resulted in death investigations, with one being a suicide and another an overdose.
 - BCPD is investigating a commercial burglary at the Sinclair Station in South Baker. One suspect has been identified and the other two are still being sought.
 - BCPD is also investigating an online sexual corruption case.
- ★ Sergeant Regan's patrol team completed range training and defensive tactics training.
- ★ BCPD conducted a "Swearing In" of our newest patrol officer. Officer Dan Vile comes to our department and community with almost 30 years of law enforcement experience.
- ★ 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

- Started 1 new case
- Followed up on 1 complaint

Parking Violations and Complaints

- Followed up on 7 parking violations
- Issued 3 parking citations
- Orange tagged 6 abandoned vehicles
- 1 abandoned vehicle impounded

Animal Violations and Complaints

- 9 dogs at large returned to owner
- Issued 1 citation for dog at large

Miscellaneous

- Followed up on 2 temporary use violations
- Followed up on 3 weed violations
- 1 found item returned to owner





Public Works: Cemetery



Cemetery staff and crews with Grass Master, the cemetery and parks maintenance contractor, have been working hard to have Mt. Hope Cemetery looking its finest for the upcoming Memorial Day observance.

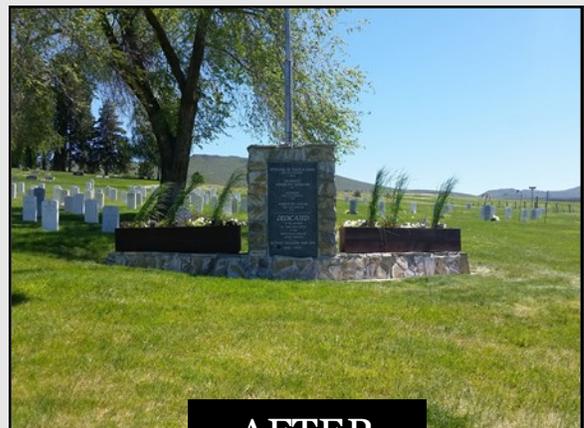
The office at the cemetery will be staffed from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Saturday, Sunday and Monday to assist with grave locations and other questions. Small maps and restrooms are available at the office. 32 gallon black cans will be placed at several intersections containing water so that live flowers and plants may be watered after placement to keep them fresh longer.

All flowers, plants, and decorations that are deteriorated or do not comply with Mt. Hope Cemetery Rules and Regulations (available on line at <http://www.bakercity.com/departments/public-works-dept/cemetery>) will be removed beginning on June 8, 2017. If citizens wish to keep those items they should be removed prior to that date. Signs have been posted at the cemetery gates and office with information regarding the office hours and decoration removal date and criteria.

The Baker Valley Pool and Shuffleboard League has been a long time supporter of improvements to the Veteran's Section at Mt. Hope Cemetery. Their most recent contribution allowed for improvements to the Veteran's Memorial located in this section. Thank you to this organization for its continued support! Thank you as well to Denise Harmon and Hearts & Petals for taking care of filling the new planters!



BEFORE



AFTER



Public Works: Cemetery Continued



**MT HOPE ABBEY MAUSOLEUM
LOCK WILL BE CHANGED**



EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2017

NOTICE!!

Upon showing your old key, you will be issued a new one. You may do so by coming to the Public Works Department at Baker City Hall, 1655 1st Street. For more information you may call 541.524.2047 or email lewing@bakercity.com

BAKERCITY CEMETERY DEPARTMENT





Public Works: Parks Department

Cedar Acres Park received a much needed and very appreciated playground improvement last week. This project was made possible through a combination of resources. The new equipment purchase was funded entirely by a grant from the Ash Grove Charitable Foundation. The volunteer installation work was completed by the Maintenance and Construction Section (MACS) of the Oregon Recreation and Parks Association. Each year this organization accepts applications from agencies, entities and organizations, and selects up to two service projects to complete. The only costs incurred by the recipient are hotels and meals. MACS volunteers for this project were comprised of parks and recreation professionals from West Linn, Tigard, Hillsboro, La Grande, Tualatin Hills, Durham, Oregon State Parks, Oregon Recreation and Parks Association, and MRC - Gametime (equipment supplier.)

MACS getting the job done!





Public Works: Parks Department Continued

We are very fortunate to live in a community that is home to many supportive businesses and organizations. Barley Browns hosted the MACS for dinner during their stay. Sweet Wife Baking provided breakfast and coffee two days. The Baker City Lion's Club and members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board supplied lunch each day at the park. Baker Sanitary donated restroom and dumpster services. Triple C Redi-Mix donated gravel. Without community support and charitable opportunities, projects like this would never be accomplished. We owe each of these businesses and organizations a huge THANK YOU!



The Baker City Lion's...community service with a smile!



Meet Miles Joseph...The Parks Department's youngest volunteer!



Thank you bags were prepared for the volunteers by the neighborhood folks!



Public Works: Parks Department Continued

Cedar Acres Park is one of three neighborhood parks in Baker City. When the Parks Master Plan was adopted in 2015, these three parks were identified as priority areas for improvement. Our hope is to be successful in obtaining grant funding and in-kind services in order to be able to make improvements to South Baker and Riverpark neighborhood parks in the future. The Parks Department is funded out of the City's General Fund. Without finding alternate resources for improvement projects, enhancements to our parks system will not be possible.



BEFORE....



AFTER!



A full truckload of wood chips was delivered to Baker City Parks last Friday. Pictured left, Dennis works with the truck driver while the chips were off-loaded using a hydraulic ram which simply pushes the chips from the inside of the truck.

The wood chips were used around the new playground equipment at Cedar Acres

Park and around existing playground equipment at the Geiser-Pollman Park.

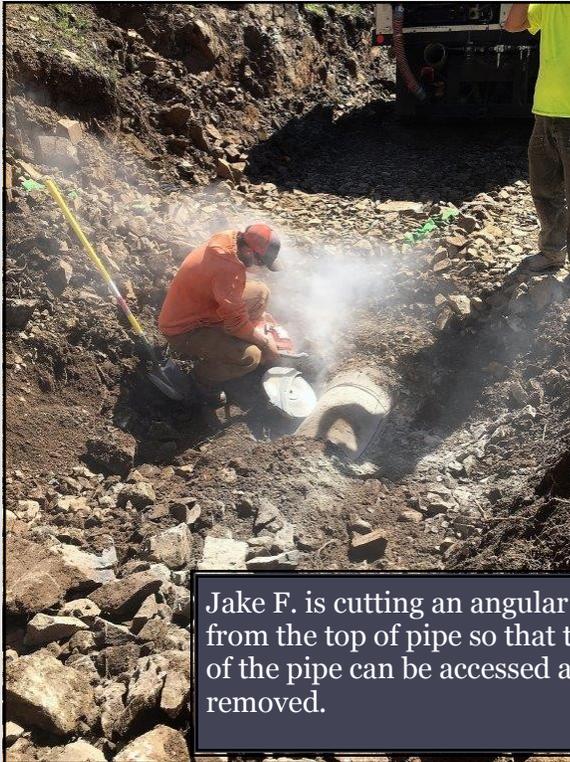
Here two college summer workers, Stephen and Kyle, work to level out the chips in the Geiser-Pollman Park.



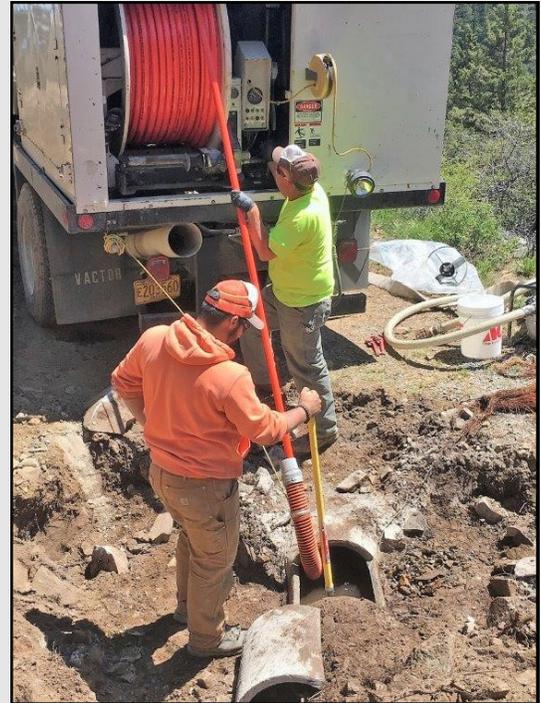


Public Works: Water Department

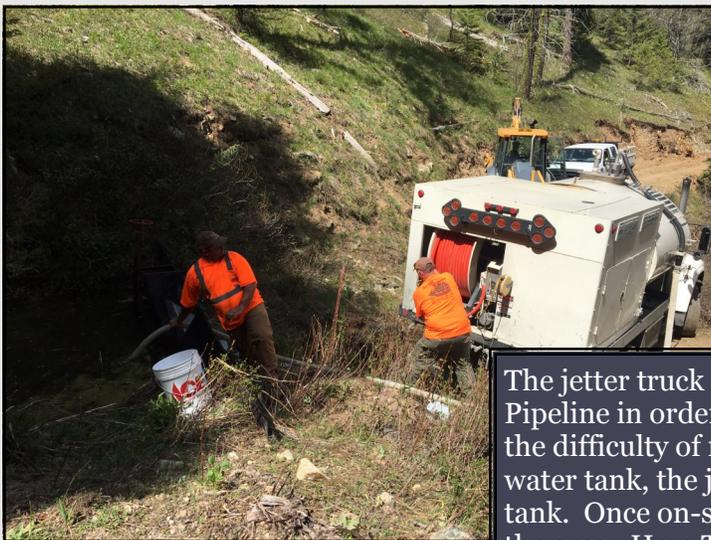
Crews continue to make progress repairing and maintaining the water pipeline in the Elkhorn Mountains. Justin is working this week repairing broken sections of the line and improving the road for safe access. Jake and Stephen worked repairing fence lines to keep cattle out of the watershed. Keith, Tommy and Jake F. have been cutting tree and grass roots from inside the concrete water line in the Elkhorn Mountains.



Jake F. is cutting an angular piece from the top of pipe so that the inside of the pipe can be accessed and roots removed.



Pictured above Keith and Jake are operating the root saw inside the pipe through the new access point. A brand new jetter hose is being used for the work and all of the equipment the crew is using has been thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before working on the pipeline.



The jetter truck is being used to cut roots from the Mountain Pipeline in order to improve the flow capacity to town. Due to the difficulty of navigating the narrow pipeline road with a full water tank, the jetter was transported to the site with an empty tank. Once on-site, the tank was filled using available water in the area. Here Tommy and Keith are shown pumping water into the jetter tank from Camper Springs.



Public Works: Water Department Continued

While Jake and Stephen worked on the watershed fence Tom traveled to Goodrich Reservoir to check the water level and adjust flow from the outlet. The head gate located at the base of the dam was opened 30 revolutions to allow for additional water to leave the reservoir. Water from the snow melt continues to enter into the reservoir at a slightly faster rate than it is leaving.

The snow shown in this photo represents future drinking water for the citizens of Baker City. The ice around the edge of the reservoir has melted significantly over the last few weeks. 

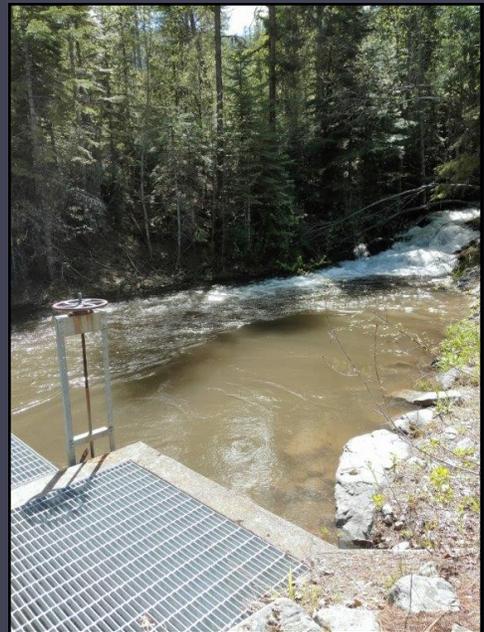


The water leaving Goodrich Reservoir is crystal clear as it enters the "Glory Hole" outlet. Once the water leaves Goodrich Reservoir it enters the Goodrich Creek streambed and flows easterly towards the valley. 



This photo shows the diversion structure where water is diverted from Goodrich Creek and sent down the Goodrich Municipal Pipeline to Baker

City. By the time the Goodrich Creek water reaches the pipeline diversion point 2.5 miles downstream it can become turbid - especially this time of year when there is heavy snow melt runoff. The water shown in this photo is many times above the allowable turbidity limit for municipal drinking water standards. Goodrich Creek water won't be used until snowmelt lessens and the water becomes clear.





Public Works: Street Department

911 Dispatch called Public Works Tuesday morning to request assistance by closing a road to traffic. A truck hauling logs had a mechanical breakdown and was in danger of losing its load of logs. Jake and Craig responded to the scene and promptly closed the road.

As you can see the back axle is turned 90 degrees to the line of travel. You won't get very good gas mileage traveling in this configuration.



Last Friday Baker City Crews patched part of the trench on "G" Street where a waterline was installed earlier this spring.

The work was performed by Craig (picked up the asphalt from LaGrande), Tommy (operated the backhoe), Keith, Jake F., and Kyle (shoveled, raked and rolled the asphalt).

The work was scheduled for that day because Baker High School does not hold classes on Fridays.



Baker City Inventory Specialist Craig traveled to the "Old Castle" fabrication plant in Nampa, Idaho to pick up manhole and catch basin parts for the Auburn Street project.

Public Works: Street Department Continued



Here the crew of Blain and Stephen are removing a section of sidewalk to create a new tree well in the downtown area.



Three new trees were installed along Resort Street Wednesday. Jennifer, Dennis, Scott and Kyle performed the work. Existing tree wells were excavated, root barrier enclosures expanded where necessary and the three new trees planted. Topsoil reserved from the Cedar Acres Park Project was used to backfill around the new trees.



Public Works: Wastewater Department

A new sewer lateral connection was provided for a business located on 10th Street. The owner requested the new connection in order to reroute a section of old orangeburg line which had failed.

Blain and Scott worked to excavate down to the elevation of the 12" diameter concrete wastewater line. A 4" insert-a-tee" connection was used for the connection.

Because of the close proximity of a 4" natural gas line a Cascade Gas Company representative is required to be on site while the work is being done.





Public Works: Shop



Wes and Scott performed some repairs on the Vector's hydraulic pump and it is now back in service.



The new tarp was a little shorter for the dump bed. Tarp locks were moved and the striker on the passenger door was replaced. →

The 60 lb. jack hammer was rebuilt this week.



A representative from Western States Cat came over to do an update on the right side drive seal. It was completed on Thursday and is back in service.



A big thank you to Scott Foss for helping in the Shop this week. This machine was greased and the engine serviced.



Public Works: Announcements

**MEMORIAL DAY
WEEKEND**
CEMETERY OFFICE HOURS
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
SATURDAY–SUNDAY–MONDAY
Staff available to assist with grave locations

The graphic features a background of the American flag with stars and stripes. The text is centered and uses a mix of bold, sans-serif fonts and a cursive script for the final line.

**ALL FLOWERS, PLANTS, AND DECORATIONS
THAT ARE DETERIORATED OR DO NOT
COMPLY WITH MT. HOPE CEMETERY RULES
AND REGULATIONS WILL BE REMOVED
BEGINNING
JUNE 8, 2017.
IF YOU WISH TO KEEP SUCH ITEMS, PLEASE
REMOVE THEM PRIOR TO THAT DATE.
THANK YOU!**

The graphic features a background of the American flag with stars and stripes. The text is centered and uses a bold, sans-serif font throughout.



Public Works: Announcements



DON'T FORGET: Baker City Public Works Department is currently selling 29 surplus items through GovDeals.com auction site. This is an opportunity for local citizens to purchase items which are no longer needed or used by the City of Baker City. Some of the pieces of equipment and vehicles for sale include a 1995 Chevy Blazer, 1994 Ford Ranger, 1980 Ladder Truck, 2001 Chevy Blazer, Swartz Sweeper, Caterpillar D-6 Dozer, 2009 Crown Victoria, as well as dozens of other items. These items are now available for viewing or bidding. To access the site and register to bid, simply go to the website GovDeals.com.