

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail. Established 1874

Weekly Update November 17, 2017

Administration:

The City Council met this week and heard a lot of testimony from citizens on a chronic property ordinance. The Council tabled the discussions and will have staff address some of the issues that were brought up in the meeting. Chronic property violations are a source of concern for many neighbors and can have a great deal of affect on property values. Striking a balance between property rights is always a challenge for elected officials.

Baker City Downtown held their first monthly wine walk on Thursday. There were a lot of people downtown enjoying the festivities and raising money for this month's charity, which was the Catholic Church Food Bank. The event will continue each third Thursday with a different local charity each month.

We will not be having a weekly report next week because of the Thanksgiving weekend. Enjoy the holiday weekend and if you are traveling, please have safe travels.

City Council November 28th

- 3rd Reading of Development Code
- Union County Regional Housing Rehab Project Presentation

Finance:

Finance Director: As of November 7th the City has received \$774,018 in current year property taxes and \$44,424 in prior year property taxes.

Utilities

- ◆ Fourteen customers signed up for new water/sewer service and eighteen customers disconnected service from November 10th thru November 16th. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 6 was billed November 14th and included 483 residential and 55 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 108 or 20% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Zone 3 will be billed today and includes 498 residential and 47 commercial accounts. Of those accounts 109 or 20% are signed up for direct payment.
- ◆ Thirty-one residential customers (Zones 2 and 5) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non pay (over 60 days past due) four of those were actually turned off until their past due balance is paid.

Payroll: Draw checks were issued November 15th.

Accounts Receivable: Monthly accounts receivable billings were sent on November 13th. The billings were as follows: 

Property & Weed Abatement	\$2,005
Property Rent	\$2,700
Cemetery	\$1,921
Wastewater Maintenance	\$448
Street Utility Maintenance Patching & Misc.	\$7,801
Water Line Hookups	\$496
Lien Searches	\$1,560
Ambulance	\$528,235
Airport Hangar Rent & Ground Lease	\$3,125
Baker County Community Development Support	\$14,777
Misc.	\$1,883
Total:	\$564,951



Building Department:

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	1	5	4	7
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	0
Electrical	2	6	2	7
Mechanical	3	1	5	5
Plumbing	0	0	1	7
Fence	0	NA	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	6	12	12	26

COMMERCIAL PERMITS:

- 2170 Main St., Baker City— Commercial roof repair/replace.
- 180 Mill St., Sumpter— Commercial roof repair/replace.

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:

- 49011 Cornucopia Hwy, Halfway—Detached accessory building addition.
- 47518 Steele Hill Rd., Halfway—Detached accessory building.
- 35850 W Carson Ln., Halfway—Interior remodel/repair.

HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW: Next regularly scheduled meeting is December 13, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department Offices.

Planning Department:

Public Meetings

The Baker City Council held the second of three public hearings to discuss revisions to the chapter text and boundaries of the Freeway Overlay District. The third public hearing will be held on Tuesday, December 12th, 2017 at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers of Baker City Hall.

Land Use Decisions & Projects

A ±2,320 square foot single-family dwelling was approved at 1150 Columbia Avenue, located in the Residential – Medium Density (R-MD) Zone.





Community Development:

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE IS CHOSEN

Tomorrow, Saturday, November 18th, the annual cutting and delivery of the Baker City Christmas Tree will take place.

Congratulations to Wanda Groshens and her family for having their tree chosen as the 2017 Community Christmas Tree.

The Community Christmas Tree is chosen from nominations that were submitted to the Community Development Department. Those nominations were forwarded on to the selection committee at OTECC. The selection committee takes into account safety, location and size of the tree.

A big thank you goes out to everyone that nominated trees this year!

The Community Christmas Tree has become a centerpiece for the holiday season in Baker City and it takes a lot of coordination to make it happen. A special thank you to the following volunteers and partners who will be donating their time and equipment: Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative, Chuck Carey, Superior Towing, Eastern Oregon Rental, Baker City Police Department and Public Works.

The lighting of the tree will take place on Saturday, December 2nd in Court Plaza after the parade.

This year's parade theme is "Silver Screen Christmas". For additional information and an application please visit the following link: [Baker County Chamber of Commerce](#) .





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

FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of **October 29th** through **November 4th** the Fire Department responded to a total of **24** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

City Calls	12
Rural Calls	6
Patient Transported	10
No Patient Trip	8

TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES 18



Airport Transfers	3
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	0
Out of Town Transfers Assigned	0
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2
Doubles (2 calls at once)	3
Quads (4 calls at once)	0
Public Assists	1

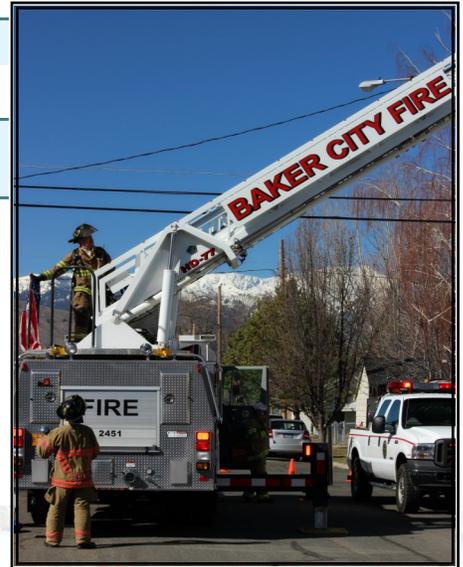
FIRE REPORTS

General Alarms	0
Dispatched Alarms	6

TOTAL FIRE 6



- Grove Street—Faulty smoke detector.
- Valley Avenue—Burn complaint.
- Main Street—Vehicle fire.
- 11th Street—Debris pile fire.
- Court Street—Burn complaint.

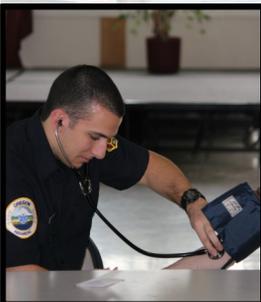


EMERGENCY CALL BACKS

Requests for Cover	2
Persons Arrived for Cover	0
Incidents Not Covered	2

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS/COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **43** hrs of Station and Equipment Maintenance
- **9** hrs of Fire/EMS or Safety Training—IV Pump Operation, EMT—Advanced Practical Training
- **18** hrs Community Events—Downtown Trick or Treat, BP 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 November 21st



"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 175 incidents and opened 36 new cases this past week.
- ◆ Baker City Officers arrested a subject on a charge of menacing for allegedly pointing a firearm at another individual who was in fear that the subject may shoot him.
- ◆ Baker City Officers investigated the theft of a motor vehicle stolen from the DHS parking lot. The vehicle was recovered in La Grande with the suspect in the vehicle who was subsequently arrested for Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle.
- ✪ Chief Lohner presented a proposed Chronic Disorderly Property Violation Ordinance to City Council. Discussion concerning this proposed ordinance, which is intended to deter repeated criminal activity and to deter repeated City Ordinance violations at residences and businesses located within Baker City, was tabled until the next City Council meeting.
- ✪ BCPD staff and fundraiser volunteers have started planning for the 2nd Annual *Drug Prevention K9 Fundraiser!* Tickets are available at the Baker City Police Department and Barley Brown's Tap House.
- ✪ 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 with 3 pending cases
- Issued 3 citations for non-compliance
- Issued 1 citation for a grass and weed violation

Animal Violations and Complaints

- 1 dog at large impounded
- Followed up on 1 animal complaint

Parking Violations and Complaints

- Issued 6 parking citations

- Followed up on 7 parking violations

Traffic Violations

- Issued 2 citations for DWS violation
- Issued 2 citations for driving with no insurance
- Issued 1 citation for failure to register
- Issued 1 citation for illegal alteration or display of plates

Found Items

- 1 found bicycle
- 1 found passport

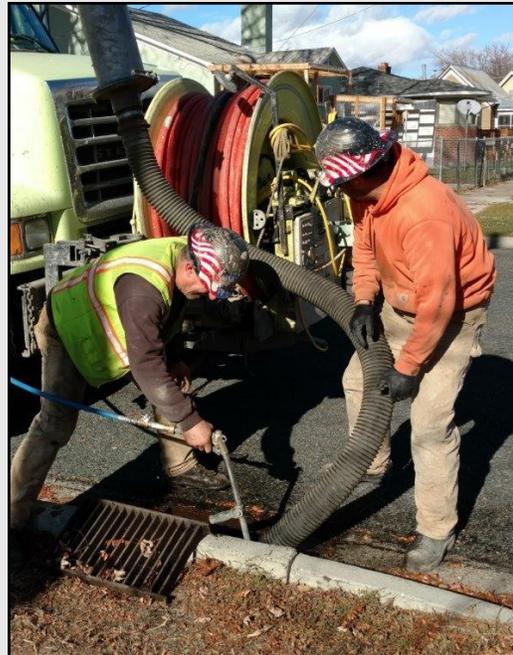


Public Works: Storm Water Department

The annual catch basin cleaning has begun. It is important that catch basins be cleaned to remove debris each year. If debris is not removed from the catch basins it will eventually enter the storm water collection lines and plug them. Catch basins are typically cleaned each fall after most of the leaves have fallen but before the weather turns cold.



Blain and Scott are shown here cleaning a catch basin on Carter Street.



Scott and Blain have improved the efficiency of the procedure by using a 4" flexible semi-rigid hose for induction instead of the 8" steel pipe.

Public Works: Street Department

Justin and Brian worked to improve safety for access into the Baker City stockpile site. The gate entrance was relocated an additional 16 feet west from Atwood Road so that trucks could pull out of the roadway when needing to open the gate to enter.

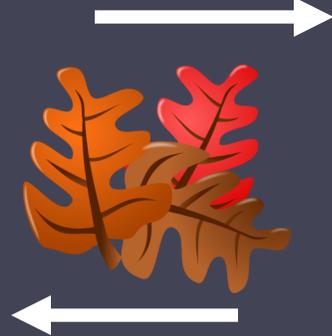




Public Works: Street Department Continued

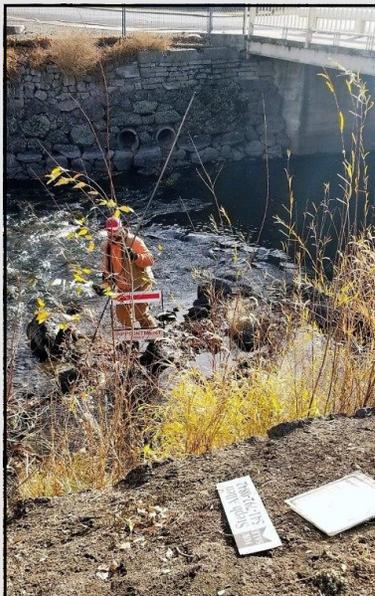
Matt continues to make headway keeping Baker City streets clean.

Pictured right, Matt is dumping another load of leaves onto the sweeper pile. Craig hauled several loads of leaves and sweeper debris to the Baker Sanitary Landfill this week.



There are around 200 locations in town where tree branches hang so low that the street sweeper and snow plow equipment can't reach all the way to the street curb. This particular spot is on Broadway Avenue near Main Street.

Several real estate signs were retrieved from the Powder River this week - they will be returned to the real estate companies.



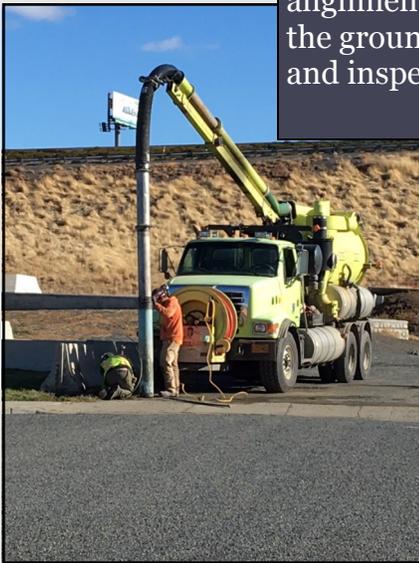
Two new street sign stubs were excavated late last week. Karl and Jacob are carefully digging a hole for a new sign base near a 6" Cascade Gas line near the intersection of 4th and Campbell.



Public Works: Water Department

Crews made preparations for the installation of a 2" water meter that will feed the irrigation system for the new Dog Park that is planned near Sam-O Pool on the east end of Baker Street. Limited information was available regarding the size and location of existing water facilities in the area so some initial reconnaissance work had to be completed before parts could be ordered.

Jay used locating equipment to trace the alignment of the existing water line on the ground so that it could be potholed and inspected.



Once the line was located, Scott and Blain used the vector to expose the pipe and determine the correct size, depth, location, and condition of the underground facilities.



Justin laid out a mock-up of the meter and check valve assembly so that the proper parts could be ordered and the necessary vault size could be determined. Once all of the parts arrive the meter assembly will be installed.

A portion of the 2" ductile iron line that is used to flood the ice skating rink each winter had to be exposed so that the locating equipment could be connected and the trace completed.

Public Works: Waste Water Department

Nine precast concrete steps were used to provide safe ingress and egress for access to the parshall flume. Influent readings are recorded constantly at the site.



Karl and Jacob excavated and placed the steps. Then excess asphalt grindings were used to cover the surrounding area. Karl used the Volvo mini-excavator to perform the majority of the work and Jacob hauled grindings using a backhoe.



← Rick uses the Auto-CAT 9000 Titrator to check chlorine residual of treated effluent.



The finished product.

Public Works: Community Participation



Scott worked this week to put the finishing touches on a cut-out profile of a sleigh that will be part of the Public Works float in this year's Christmas Parade. The final product will be revealed on December 2.



Public Works: Shop

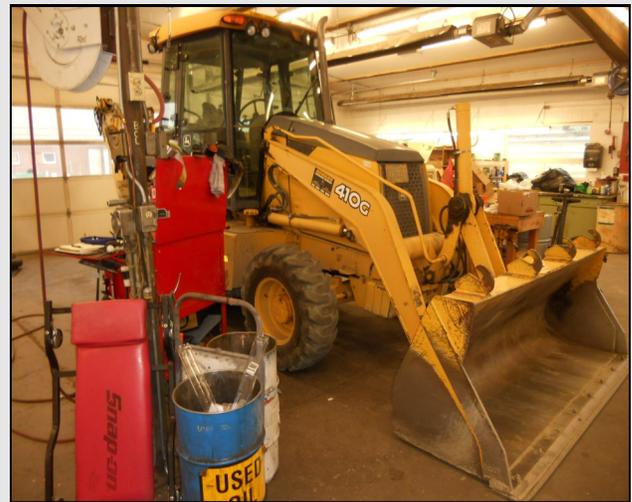


One of the service vehicles was brought into the shop. Wes and Scott made repairs and it is now ready for the new Facilities Manager.

The new backhoe developed a leak. Western States CAT came over and repaired the leak which was covered under the warranty.



After Western States CAT repaired the new backhoe, they were able to charge the nitrogen containers on two of the older backhoes. The nitrogen is used to operate the ride controls.





Baker City Police Department

The Baker City Police Department presents the 2nd annual

DRUG PREVENTION K9 FUNDRAISER

Tickets \$25

Available at:
Barley Brown's Tap House & the Baker City Police Department
541-523-3644



Saturday
December 9th
starting at 4PM at the
Baker City Event Center

Our Top Sponsors



CLIFF'S SAWS & CYCLES
BAKER CITY OREGON
Since 1958



Baker City Herald

Social Hour: 4pm

K9 Demonstrations: 5pm

Dinner: 5:30pm

Live Auction: 6:30pm

-Meet Capa & the BCPD Officers

-Kids under 6 get in free

-Silent Auction & Raffle

-Key Items Include:

*DS-90 Youth Can-Am 4-Wheeler

*Browning 300 WSM Safari

Edition Rifle

*Buffalo Hunt

*4-Night Getaway in Sunriver

*KLiM Riding Gear

*Willamette Country Music

Festival Passes

*Diamond Plate Pickup Bed Toolbox