

# CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.  
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

*Weekly Update January 24, 2020*

## Administration:

As many of you know, the City had a major breakdown of our heating unit at Sam O Swim Center. The parts have been ordered and we are working hard to come up with a solution. This is an older system and the repair parts are not readily available. Please check the YMCA's website at [www.bakerymca.org](http://www.bakerymca.org) for updates on planned reopening. Thank you for your patience as we work to get the Center back in operation.



Community Connections has an interest free construction program to help low income homeowners with repairs. If you thought you could not afford to do home repairs, this is a program that might interest you. Check out the flyer contained in this weekly report.

### City Council Meeting January 28th

- BCD Update
- Airport Commission Vacancies
- Tree Board Vacancy
- Aviation Services Contract

It appears that we no longer have taxi service in Baker City. If you are interested in a potential business venture, please inquire at City Hall for the process of getting a taxi license.

The forecast is for more winter weather. Drive safely and have a great weekend.

## Finance Department:

### Utilities

- ◆ Two customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and three customers disconnected service from January 17<sup>th</sup> to January 23<sup>rd</sup>. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 7, which includes 556 residential and 25 commercial accounts, was billed January 21<sup>st</sup>. Of those accounts 163 or 28% are signed up for direct payment and 36 (6%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Zone 3, which included 497 residential and 49 commercial accounts, was billed today. Of those accounts 110 (20%) are signed up for direct payment and 39 (7%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ This week 28 residential customers (Zones 2 and 7) were scheduled to have their water turned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due) two of those were actually turned off until their past due balance was paid.



## Planning Department:

### City Council Public Meeting

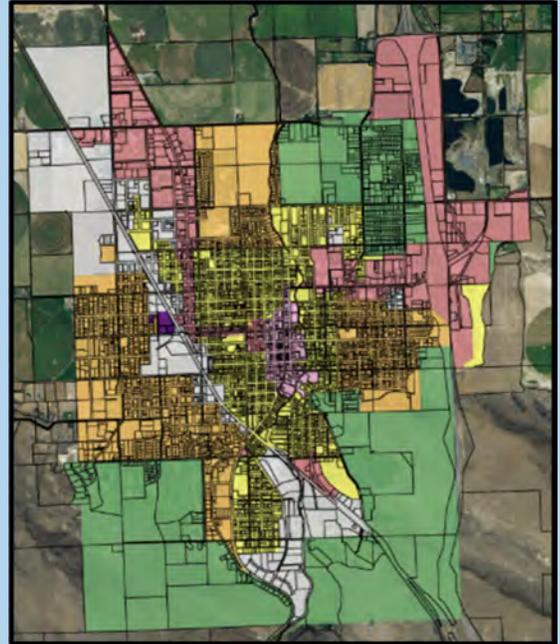
The Baker City Council upheld the Baker City Planning Commission’s decision to deny the construction of a cell tower in the 1400 block of D Street. Those with standing are eligible to appeal the final decision to the Oregon Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) within 21-days of when the decision was made. The final decision was signed on January 22, 2020. If there is no appeal within this time period, then the decision is final. It is the responsibility of the appellant to file a “Notice of Intent to Appeal” with the Oregon Land Use Board of Appeals, as defined in ORS 197.830.

### Planning Commission Public Meeting

The Planning Commission will meet again on February 19, 2020, at 6:00p.m., in Council Chambers at Baker City Hall to complete their review of materials for proposed code updates and areas for potential re-zoning.

### Applications

- ◆ A land use review for a new single-family dwelling was approved at 2610 Walnut Street, located in the R-HD zone.



**Baker City Zoning Map**

## Building Department:

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	3	6	0	4
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	0
Electrical	2	4	0	9
Mechanical	2	7	0	1
Plumbing	2	3	1	1
Fence	0	NA	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>

### **COMMERCIAL PERMITS:**

- 2500 E Street, Baker City—Modification to scoreboard structure/speakers

### **RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:**

- 1911 15th Street, Baker City—Detached accessory structure
- 1011 Walnut Street, Baker City—Interior remodel

### **HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW:**

Next regularly scheduled meeting is February 5, 2020, at 8:00 a.m. in the Building Department.



*"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**

- ✪ During the past week, BCPD opened 27 new cases, making numerous arrests for outstanding warrants and detainers.
  
- ✪ Investigators continue to process evidence and conduct interviews in response to a shooting that occurred at a building near the BLM compound last week. Shawn Quentin Greenwood, a 48-year-old Vale man, was arrested and has been charged with the nonfatal shooting of Nathaniel Leeland Brown, 37, who was shot in the hand during this incident. Greenwood has also been charged with second-degree murder in the shooting death of Angela Michelle Parrish, 30, of Vale.
  
- ✪ Please join BCPD in wishing Officer Blake Hawkins the best of luck as he and his family relocate to the Boise area. Officer Hawkins, a five-year veteran of the Baker City Police Department, has accepted a position with the Ada County Sheriff's Office. Officer Hawkins was an outstanding member of this Department and was recognized numerous times over his five-year career, including as a recipient of the Medal of Valor Award presented by the Oregon Peace Officers' Association. Officer Hawkins was nominated for this award following his quick actions on June 5, 2017 when he entered a smoke-filled room to assist a disabled citizen out of a burning apartment complex.



- ✪ Gun locks are available upon request from the Baker City Police Department, located at 1768 Auburn Avenue. These locks, donated courtesy of Project ChildSafe, are available during regular business hours. Please note, the lobby is closed during the lunch hour. More information about Project ChildSafe can be found at <https://www.projectchildsafe.org/>.
  
- ✪ BCPD personnel participated in several briefing trainings, including a review of various officer safety topics.



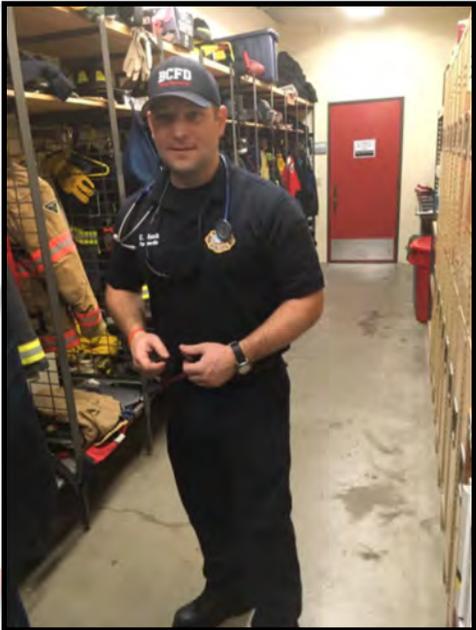


The mission of the Baker City Fire Department is to provide dependable and efficient emergency services.

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of **January 14th** through **January 20th** the Fire Department responded to a total of **30** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS		FIRE REPORTS	
City Calls	36	General Alarms	0
Rural Calls	6	Dispatched Alarms	1
Patient Transported	30	<b>TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES</b>	<b>1</b>
No Patient Trip	12		
<b>TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES</b>	<b>42</b>		
			
Airport Transfers	2		
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	6		
Out of Town Transfers Not Accepted	0		
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1		
Doubles (2 calls at once)	7		
Triples (3 calls at once)	2		
Quads (4 calls at once)	0		
Public Assist	2		



Welcome Casey Husk to the Baker City Fire Department Team!



EMERGENCY CALL BACKS	
Requests for Cover	10
Persons Arrived for Cover	9

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

- **32 hrs** of Station & Equipment Maintenance
- **27 hrs** of Fire Training
- **20 hrs** of EMS Training
- **7 hrs** of Community Events
- **6** Burn Permits Issued

The Fire Department provides free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am. Don't miss the next check on January 28th.



## Fire Department

This week we officially said good-bye to Fire-fighter/Paramedic Keegan Carey. After two years of service to our community, Keegan has accepted a similar position with Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue. The new position will put him much closer to his family and we wish him well, but he will certainly be missed at BCFD.



Onboarding Casey Husk and Staff Training

## Fire Cadet Explorer Program

The Baker City Fire Department and the Baker School District 5J have established a Fire Cadet Explorer program which kicked off on Tuesday, January 21st!

The explorer program is an educational program designed to prepare students for a future in EMS and the fire service.

The program establishes goals and objectives to give students an insight into how the fire and EMS service operates and provides effective trainings to help the students succeed in this career path.

This partnership was developed to provide students (ages 16-18) with the ability to explore career opportunities in emergency services related to fire, rescue and emergency medical services. The need for this type of program is based on the school's desire to provide non-tradition educational opportunities for students, and the City of Baker City Fire Department's need to increase recruitment and talent acquisition resources for part-time and career positions within the City's Fire Department.

The program is being coordinated by our FF/EMT Steven Donaldson and Lieutenant Casey Johnson, with assistance from FF/Paramedic Andrew Snodgrass and FF/EMT Brian Johnson, Kris Pepera is Baker High School's liaison for the program.



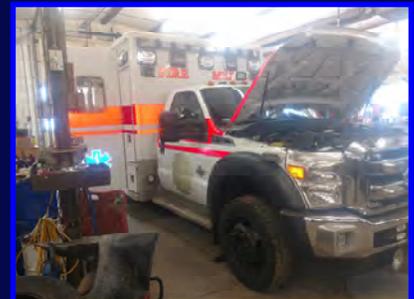
### Public Works: Shop



We serviced the transmission and repaired a power steering leak. We also performed a safety check.



We replaced a tensioner pulley, an idler pulley and a belt. This rig is back in service.



We temporarily installed a siren until the new sirens we ordered arrive.



We had the right tire repaired on this rig.



We rerouted the intake so it wouldn't suck in snow. Now this rig is running great!



We installed new hand warmers on this four-wheeler.

### Public Works: Parks Department

This week, staff used a special recipe for colored concrete to fabricate six new posts for the Geiser-Pollman park. They used several pieces of rebar to strengthen the posts.





### Public Works: Water Department



A crew travelled to Elk Creek to adjust the flow of fresh water coming into Baker City. The snowpack is definitely increasing. Justin, Brian and Blain worked to upgrade cathodic test stations along the Goodrich line which crosses Baker Valley. As you can see on the far right, they had an audience of buffalo watching them work.

### Public Works: Wastewater Department



A resident on 5th Street had requested to have their wastewater connection relocated from a substandard line in an undedicated alley, to a main line lying under the 5th Street right of way. Back around 1970, a sewer stub was installed for this purpose. A contractor dug at the described location and was able to find the buried pipe.



Public Works received an emergency call from Police Dispatch on Saturday afternoon describing a wastewater emergency in the Hillcrest neighborhood. It had snowed overnight causing the steep section on Tracy Road to be very slick and not suitable for the travel of heavy wastewater cleaning trucks. Craig assisted in plowing and sanding the route needing to be travelled by both the vactor and the jetter trucks.



Next, Jake and Karl brought up the vactor and jetter trucks.



## Public Works: Wastewater Department continued



Wastewater was mere inches from overflowing the manhole. Once the vacor truck had successfully removed the wastewater from the manhole, the line was cleaned by forcing the hose to go with the flow.



It took the crew several attempts before the blockage was penetrated enough by the hose and nozzle to once again allow the flow of wastewater down the pipe.

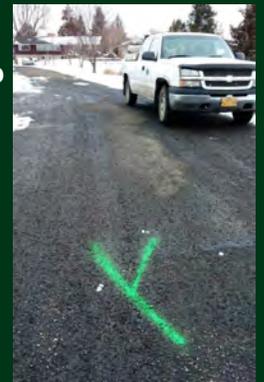
The following work day, Karl and Jake returned to investigate what had caused such an interruption on an otherwise nice Saturday afternoon.

The video inspection camera revealed that a large root mass had grown to the size of the 8" pipe and plugged it completely.



Karl and Jake used the Vivax push-can with the Sonde unit to exactly locate the location of the intersection of two main lines.

Right: This photo shows the location where two main wastewater lines connect under the surface of Tracy Street. It is not acceptable that two main lines connect without constructing a manhole.



Public works plans to install a manhole next week.

**\*\*\* It is legal to salvage road killed deer and elk. \*\*\***

If you are interested in salvaging the meat from road kill deer, please call 541-524-2047 and we will put you on a call list.



# CAN'T AFFORD HOME REPAIRS?

Find out if you qualify for an interest-free construction loan. Income limits and other qualification requirements apply.

Repairs may include, but are not limited to, plumbing, electrical, structural repair, roof repair/replacement, siding, paint, windows/door, insulation, heat system, floors.

Available to owner occupied homes throughout Baker, Grant, Union, and Wallowa counties.

To apply, call Community Connection of Northeast Oregon, Inc. in La Grande (541) 963-3186.



## 2020 CENSUS

### The US Census is hiring!!!

The US Census is looking for people to help get an accurate count for Baker County. Starting pay is \$16-\$17.50 an hour + mileage. Training starts mid-March.

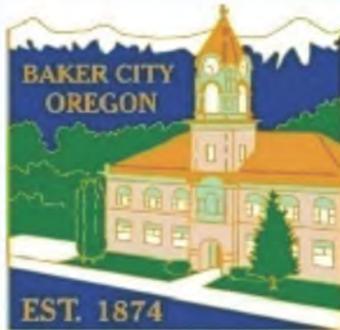
If interested, please contact WorkSource Oregon, 1575 Dewey Avenue, Baker City. 541-523-6331

### **Ever consider volunteering your time...**

**The City of Baker City has multiple openings in various Boards, Commissions and Committees.**

Anyone interested in volunteering should visit [www.bakercity.com](http://www.bakercity.com) to fill out a volunteer form. You may also email [admin@bakercity.com](mailto:admin@bakercity.com) or call 524-2033 for more information.

The direct link to the volunteer form page is: <http://bakercity.com/2149/Boards-Commissions>



# Railroad Quiet Zone

**Community Open House**

**Date: Thursday, January 30th**

**Time: 5:00 to 7:00 pm**

**Place: Council Chambers,  
City Hall**

**Proposed Railroad Quiet Zone**

- . View Proposed Intersection Modifications**
- . Provide Comments & Feedback**

**If you are not able to attend please visit [bakercity.com](http://bakercity.com) to see proposed plan. You can send your comments and feedback to [admin@bakercity.com](mailto:admin@bakercity.com) by February 7, 2020.**