

CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

Weekly Update September 11, 2020

Administration:

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the people in Western Oregon who are dealing with fast moving wildfires that have claimed lives and devastated some communities. Baker City Fire has sent two of our firefighters and an engine to the West side to help these embattled communities.

The Fire Department also hosted a tribute to the first responders and American citizens who lost their lives in the 9/11 attack nineteen years ago today. A big shout out to all our first responders who work daily to protect us.

The City Council completed their work on revisions to the Baker City Comprehensive Plan, the Development Code and the City Zoning map. A big thank you to the Planning Commission and Planning Staff for their work over the last few years to update these important documents.

It looks like we are in store for a beautiful Indian summer with mild temperatures and cool nights. Get out and enjoy Baker City and keep following the protocols to protect yourselves and your friends, neighbors and guests in our community.

Planning Department:

PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

The regularly scheduled Baker City Planning Commission meeting for September 16, 2020, was cancelled.

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

The City Council approved the third reading of Ordinance #3380 on Tuesday, September 8, 2020, to revise the following items:

- the Baker City Comprehensive Plan - Goal 9 Economic Element, based on an Economic Opportunity Analysis Report completed for Baker City;
- the Baker City Development Code; and
- the Baker City zoning map for select properties in the City

The proposed changes will go into effect on October 9, 2020. Copies of the staff report and all materials are available for inspection at the Baker County Courthouse at 1995 3rd Street. All materials can be viewed for no cost, or provided at a reasonable cost. Digital versions can be e-mailed for free or are available online at <http://bakercity.com/2157/Planning-Department>. Please contact the Baker City Planning Department at 541-523-8219 with any questions.

APPLICATIONS

- A pre-school was approved at 1904 Resort Street in the Central-Commercial (C-C) Zone.
- A single-family dwelling was approved at 1685 Balm Street in the Residential Medium-Density (R-MD) Zone.



Finance Department:

Utilities

- ◆ Ten customers signed up for new water/wastewater service and nine customers disconnected service from September 4th thru September 10th. This includes all service changes.
- ◆ Zone 5 which includes 468 residential and 17 commercial accounts was billed September 8th. Of those accounts 128 (26%) are signed up for direct payment and 39 (8%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ Zone 2 which includes 471 residential and 13 commercial accounts was billed today. Of those accounts 101 (21%) are signed up for direct payment and 21 (4%) are signed up for ebilling.
- ◆ This week, three residential customers were tuned off for non-pay (over 60 days past due). All three will continue to remain off until their past due balance is paid or until payment arrangements (for those that are eligible) have been made with the City.

Accounts Receivable

Monthly accounts receivable billings were sent September 11th. The billings were as follows:

- | | |
|---|--|
| • Lien Search Fees - \$2,120 | • Airport Hangar Rent & Ground Lease - \$5,309 |
| • Cemetery - \$3,614 | • Baker County Economic Development Support - \$11,306 |
| • Street Cuts and Miscellaneous - \$2,753 | • Golf Equipment Lease - \$5,416 |
| • Water Service and Miscellaneous - \$1,967 | • Golf Cart Lease - \$1,250 |
| • Wastewater Service and Miscellaneous - \$12,851 | • Miscellaneous - \$3,026 |
| • Ambulance - \$437,771 | |
| • Ambulance Standby - \$2,305 | |

Total Billed \$ 489,688

Accounts Payable

The first of two accounts payable runs for September was generated September 10th.

The City of Baker City is seeking volunteers for the following:

- ⇒ Historic District Design Review Commission—2 positions available
- ⇒ Tree Board—2 positions available

Positions are for a 3-year term. Anyone interested in volunteering should visit [www.bakercity.com](http://bakercity.com) to fill out a volunteer form. You may also email 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>



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

FIRE DEPARTMENT

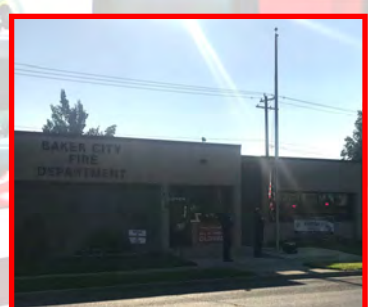
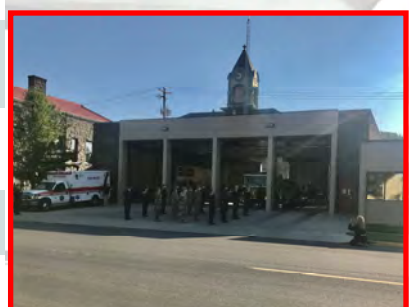
During the week of September 1st through September 7th the Fire Department responded to a total of **44** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS		EMERGENCY CALL BACKS		FIRE REPORTS	
City Calls	24	Request for Cover	10	General Alarms	1
Rural Calls	13	Arrived for Cover	8	Dispatched Alarms	6
Patient Transported	22			TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES	7
No Patient Trip	15				

TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/ FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS/ COMMUNITY EVENTS

TOTAL MEDIC	37
Airport Transfers	2
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	1
Out of Town Transfers Not Accepted	0
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1
Doubles (2 calls at once)	9
Triples (3 calls at once)	1
Quads (4 calls at once)	0
Public Assist	1

- **39 hrs** of Station & Equipment Maintenance
- **61 hrs** of Fire Training
- **3 hrs** of EMS Training
- **0** Burn Permits Issued—**BURN BAN IN EFFECT**



This morning, BCFD paid tribute to the first responders and civilian victims who lost their lives 9/11/01.



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Fire Department is **POSTPONING** the free blood pressure readings at the Senior Center every Tuesday, at 11 am. We will resume once social distancing is not required.

Weed Complaint and Abatement
Weed Complaints or yard maintenance concerns should be reported to the Fire Department at 541-523-3711 x 508 or emailed to sclinkenbeard@bakercity.com





"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

- ★ Last week, BCPD opened 60 new cases and responded to 223 calls, making several arrests for outstanding warrants and detainers. An arrest was made in the theft of a Google Chromebook and an Apple iPad taken from the Family Life Center at the Nazarene Church. The items belonged to the Baker 5J School District and had been onsite for staff use. The suspect in this case was charged with Burglary II and Theft II. During the course of the investigation, the suspect was believed to have entered the premises without permission, taken the missing items and was later found to be in possession of the stolen items upon contact with officers.

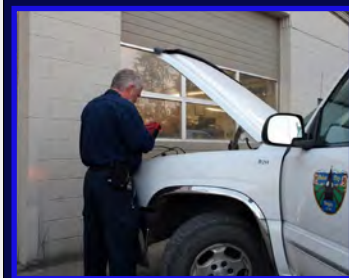
- ★ As Oregon and neighboring states experience unprecedented wildfires, which in some cases, have given residents only moments to evacuate, BCPD would like to join the Baker County Sheriff's Office and Baker County Emergency Management in encouraging citizens to sign up for Baker County Alerts. This free service allows residents to receive notifications about emergencies that affect Baker County. Notifications are delivered in real-time from the Baker County Sheriff's Office and may include evacuation orders, natural disasters, boil water orders, Missing Persons/AMBER alerts, etc. Notifications can be received via text (standard text messaging rates may apply), call (cell and land-line phones) or email. When signing up, you can include your physical address to receive alerts based on your location. All information provided is kept confidential. Please click on the link for more information: https://public.alertsense.com/SignUp/public.aspx?regionid=1357&fbclid=IwAR0twNTgIN0sxRNqYf0d8JTU-FKnPlvsAtgtDvUz6ZJ_50j3LCHAzsBv1PY.

- More information regarding emergency preparedness is available from the American Red Cross: https://www.redcross.org/content/dam/redcross/atg/PDF_s/Preparedness_Disaster_Recovery/Disaster_Preparedness/Be-Red-Cross-Ready-Preparedness-Factsheet.pdf.

- ★ In response to an uptick in the theft of bicycles and other items of opportunity, the Baker City Police Department issued the following Public Service Announcement: If you have friends or families visiting Baker City who are staying at local hotels or in any neighborhood and have bicycles or other valuables, we request that these items are taken inside. Thefts are rampant and criminals aren't hesitating to cut bike locks or enter open garages and other areas to steal. Please keep all valuables out of sight.

- ★ Face coverings, shields and/or masks are required in the front entrance of the Baker City Police Department, which is open to the public. This policy is in response to Governor Kate Brown's order requiring face coverings be worn in public indoor spaces by anyone 5 years of age and older.

Public Works: Shop



Scott completed many repair projects this week.

Here you see him working to keep the old R-244 service truck operational.



Code Enforcement Weekly Activity

Property Maintenance

- Responded to three new complaints
- Followed up on ten previous complaints
- Made four preventative contacts
- Opened one new case
- Closed one case

Parking violations

- Issued one orange tag
- Responded to fifteen new complaints
- Followed up on four previous complaints
- Issued one citation
- Issued one warning citation

Animal violations and complaints

- Responded to fourteen animals running at large
- Followed up on two previous complaints
- Impounded three dogs
- Responded to three dangerous dog cases
- Performed two animal welfare checks
- Issued one citation

Miscellaneous

- Thirty-four miscellaneous community contacts
- Three community service stops
- Two officer assists
- One park check
- Eleven court hearings
- NINE FOUND ITEMS

Public Works: Wastewater Department



Left: A resident on Place Street called and left a message on a Public Works line about a plugged line. The line was cleaned three time last week. Rick cleaned the line again on Thursday. Special plumbing parts have been ordered and should be installed next week.

Right two: A report was received Thursday afternoon about a possible wastewater main line problem in the alley between Main and First Streets. Upon responding to the site it was discovered that the main line was indeed plugged. It took several cleanings with the Jetter truck to remove the blockage of grease and wet wipes.



A new manhole and 8" diameter wastewater main line is being installed in Birch Street this week. It will serve the new Silver Birch subdivision. It is a difficult project because it is very deep (12') and the groundwater is high in that area. The project began Wednesday morning and the new concrete base was poured Thursday at 11am.



Karl used the asphalt zipper to pulverize the street surface as Jake turned on the water supply to keep the drum lubricated.





Public Works: Wastewater Department continued



Left: Blain digging the deep excavation while Karl perform spotting duties. The hole is so deep, Blain can't actually see where he is digging!



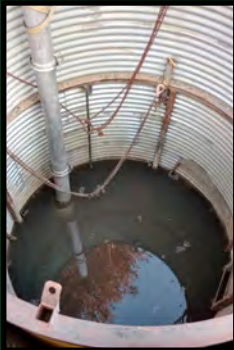
Right: Shoring is set into place to protect the workers in the deep hole.



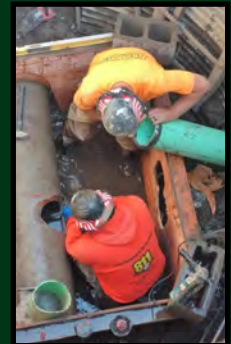
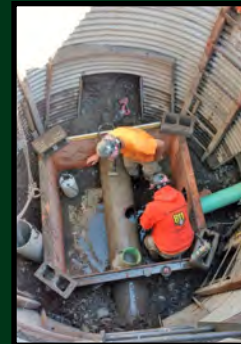
Left: Hydro-excitation is used to expose the 15" wastewater main line.



Right: A special "wrench-bob" was used to perfectly locate what is to become the center of the new manhole.



Left: A pump was used to evacuate water from the hole while work was being performed. The groundwater is so high in the area that it completely covered the bottom 4' of the excavation overnight.



Right: The water was pumped out of the hole and work to construct the new manhole base continued.



Left: Finally the new 8" diameter pipe was perfectly set for alignment and grade—as Karl celebrates success!



Right: A 1' ring is then set into place being supported by concrete blocks.



Left: The concrete was placed and formed around the pipes.

The manhole will be completed next week.



Public Works: Mountain Line



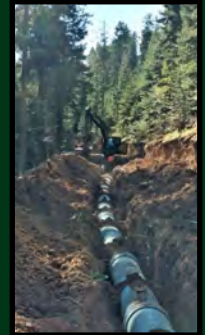
The crew of Justin, Brian, Nate and Hunter made excellent progress on the pipeline project this week. They attained a personal best Thursday by installing 585 ft of the 24" PVC pipe. Everything went smoothly until the very end of the day when extremely hard rock was encountered. The hydraulic breaker will have to be used to break down the rock next week.

Top left: Justin, Nate and Hunter work to excavate and install the pipe.



Right two: Brian works on backfilling and compacting the line.

Left: The end is within sight! At the very top of the photo is where the new line will connect to the existing line. Once complete, the pipeline installation will be done for the year.



Public Works: Street Department



Left: Dispatch called Public Works late Monday night to request that Place Street between 3rd and 4th Streets be closed because a tree on that block had developed a split and had potential to crash down in the high winds. The street was closed and the property owner was notified.

Right: The crew of Riley and Cayn worked to crack fill the parking lot and golf cart paths at the Quail Ridge Golf Course on Tuesday.



Public Works: Stormwater Department

A new stormwater manhole was installed near the freeway. It will drain stormwater runoff for the new Silver Birch subdivision development.





Public Works: Watershed Hunting Access Permits

Baker City Watershed Hunting Access Permits



Permits are available at the Baker City Public Works Department at City Hall front entrance

- Hours to request a permit are: **Monday through Friday, 11:30 AM—12:30 PM and 4:00 PM—5:00 PM.** A mask is required.
- Outside of the above hours permits can be requested through email at bakercitywatershedhunting@gmail.com. The required items listed below will need to be sent in along with the request. This process may take 1-2 business days to complete.

The following information will be required when applying for a permit (either in person or via email):

1. Hunter's name, address and phone number
2. Hunting ID #
3. Hunting tags (will need to see electronic tags)
4. Vehicle make/model and plate number you will be driving to the watershed
5. If you will have a non-hunting companion – that individual's name, address and driver's license #

Permits will not be issued until Forest Service fire classification is no longer at high or extreme. If you have questions please call (541) 524-2047. Permits will be issued no sooner than 3 business days prior to your hunt.