

# CITY OF BAKER CITY

On the Historic Oregon Trail.  
Established 1864, Incorporated 1874

*Weekly Update January 8, 2021*

## **Administration:**

The New Year brings change to Baker City. A newly elected City Council will soon take their Oath of Office. As the City Manager, I work to carry out the vision of the council and day to day operations of the city. That Oath and my work is a solemn anthem to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Oregon, and the Baker City Charter. This means some things will remain unchanged like bulwarks set in place by those from years past. However, some changes will be instituted as your local government lengthens its stride, becomes more efficient, effective, and adapts to the world in which we all live and operate.

In considering the future of Baker City, I think it best to appreciate the past. Thank you to those early families who, with sweat and blood, by foot, handcart, or wagon stepped into the unknown and bravely turned west and followed the trail to and through Baker City. Thank you to Mayor Loran Joseph and the City Council you led. It is never easy to be the standard-bearer and serve as mayor. Thank you to Fred Warner for years of labor. You have left the city a better place than you found it.

As we all step forward into the unknown, may we embrace our forebearers hardy and resilient spirit. Let us lift our brow, stiffen our chins, link arms, and march bravely towards the future.

## **City Council**

Elected City Councilors will take their oaths next week to join Councilor Lynette Perry for the 2021 Baker City Council.

Councilors Elect Kerry McQuisten, Johnny Waggoner Sr., Shane Alderson and Joanna Dixon will be taking their oaths at City Hall on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 4pm. The Oaths will take place outside on the front steps of City Hall.

Councilor Spriet and Councilor Elect Heather Sells will be taking their oaths at the beginning of Tuesday's Council meeting at 7pm.

The Council meeting will be held via Zoom with the Council Chambers open for limited audience. The City Council meeting will be available for viewing through our website at <http://bakercity.com/2173/Council-Videos>

### **2021 City Council**

#### **City Council Agenda—Jan 12th**

- Oaths
- Vote for Mayor & Vice-Mayor
- Board, Commission & Committee Volunteers

- Lynette Perry
- Johnny Waggoner Sr.
- Jason Spriet
- Joanna Dixon
- Kerry McQuisten
- Heather Sells
- Shane Alderson



## **Planning Department:**

### **PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING**

The regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting for January 20, 2021 has been cancelled. The next regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting will be February 17, 2021.

### **APPLICATIONS**

- An attached garage was approved at 2626 7<sup>th</sup> Street in the Residential-High Density (R-HD) Zone.
- An accessory structure was approved at 2190 Grove Street in the Residential-High Density (R-HD) Zone.
- A Home Occupation Permit was approved at 2540 D Street in Residential-Medium Density (R-MD) Zone.
- A Property Line Adjustment was approved between 1351 and 1357 Dewey Street, located in Residential-High Density (R-HD) Zone.
- An application has been received to divide one lot into two at 3060 Place Street. Notice of the application was mailed to nearby property owners this week. The property is in the Residential-Medium Density (R-MD) Zone.

## **Building Department:**

	Permits Issued City	Inspections City	Permits Issued County	Inspections County
Building	3	16	3	13
Manufactured Dwelling	0	0	0	0
Electrical	5	12	3	4
Mechanical	3	10	4	6
Plumbing	3	4	1	3
Fence	0	NA	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>26</b>

### **COMMERCIAL PERMITS:**

- 1000 Court Street, Baker City—Demo of accessory structure
- 43041 Sag Road, Halfway—Structural repairs
- 160 N Mill Street, Sumpter—Additions
- 4050 17th Street, Baker City—Interior modifications

### **RESIDENTIAL PERMITS:**

- 39971 Rhody Road, Sumpter—Accessory structure
- 1625 Hughes Lane, Baker City—Garage remodel

### **HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW:**

Next regularly scheduled meeting is January 20, 2021 at 8:00am in the Building Department Offices.



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

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the week of **December 29th through January 4th** the Fire Department responded to a total of **27** emergency alarms.

AMBULANCE OPERATIONS		EMERGENCY CALL BACKS		FIRE REPORTS	
City Calls	19	Request for Cover	9	General Alarms	0
Rural Calls	2	Arrived for Cover	6	Dispatched Alarms	6
Patient Transported	18			<b>TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES</b>	<b>6</b>
No Patient Trip	3				

## TRAINING/MAINTENANCE/ FIRE PREVENTION

TOTAL MEDIC RESPONSES		INSPECTIONS/ COMMUNITY EVENTS	
Airport Transfers	0	• 4 Burn Permits Issued	
Out of Town Transfers Accepted	3	• 28 hrs of Station & Equipment Maintenance	
Out of Town Transfers Not Accepted	2	• 4 hrs of Fire Training	
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	• 16 hrs of EMS Training	
Doubles (2 calls at once)	5	• 0 hrs of Safety Training	
Triples (3 calls at once)	0	• 0 hrs Community Events	
Quads (4 calls at once)	0	• 0 hrs Fire Prevention Inspections	
Public Assist	0		

**New Year, New Burn Permit**  
**FREE burn permits are available in person at the Fire Station.**

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](mailto: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**

- During the past week, BCPD opened 57 new cases and responded to 158 calls, making several arrests for outstanding warrants and detainers. Detectives continue to conduct follow up on a case involving the break-in to multiple recreational vehicles parked at a local storage facility. Police arrested Alexander Prentice Griffin, 29, for three counts of Unlawful Entry into a Motor Vehicle, Theft II, Criminal Mischief II and Criminal Trespassing II on December 26<sup>th</sup>. Multiple pieces of camping gear and other items that had been stolen from the vehicles was recovered during the initial investigation. Griffin was also cited on an outstanding Contempt of Court warrant issued by Baker County Justice Court.
- Please join BCPD in welcoming Dallas Brockett to our team. Dallas Brockett, hired as Code Enforcement Officer, comes from Ontario Police Department having served as a Code Enforcement Officer there for over five years. Dallas brings a wealth of experience and we're excited to bring him onboard!

## **Public Works: Water Department**



Parts needed to repair the leak near the reservoir arrived this week. The Vactor truck hydro-excavated around the water leak in preparation for the repair work. The brass fitting was installed, the water turned back on and the leak had stopped!



An air release valve was installed on the Goodrich line near Washington Gulch Road.





## Public Works: Stormwater Department

A small stormwater system that was installed by a developer several years ago on Scenic Vista Drive was decommissioned. A new stormwater line and catch basin will be installed near the same location.

## Public Works: Well Drilling



The well driller requested a substantial quantity of water to use while this portion of the well is being drilled.

Water is being supplied from a fire hydrant at the corner of 10th and Indiana. A firehouse was inserted through a 4" iron pipe crossing Indiana Avenue.



A temporary ramp was then built using asphalt grindings. Vehicles can easily drive over the ramp at a slightly reduced speed. Things will be placed back to normal once the water is no longer needed.



## Public Works: Warehouse



Left: The concrete foundation and stem wall were poured for the pipe shed extension project.



Middle: Because of the cold weather, concrete test cylinders were taken out of the concrete and allowed to cure onsite for the first week.



Right: The construction sign and traffic cone area in the equipment shed is being reorganized.



## Public Works: Street Department



Concrete and asphalt chunks were crushed last week for recycle use on upcoming city projects.



Several snowfall events caused crews to salt and sand hundred of locations throughout the city. 32 tons of salt were delivered to Baker City for use throughout this winter.

A crew worked to fabricate the attachment system for the new snow plow blade to be attached to the 6-wheel drive ex-military vehicle for use at the airport.

## Public Works: Wastewater Department



A test pit was excavated last week between the airport and the freeway. The location is very near the crossing of the freeway. Soils were examined by an engineer and ground water depth was measured.



Public Works was hired to video-inspect a line near the intersection of Valley and Oak. The line was found to be in poor condition and the owner plans to replace it this spring.



Left: A line between 10th and 11th Streets was video-inspected to determine the cause of a lateral blockage. A pile of roots was found in the main line where a drain cleaner had snaked the line.

Right: A new industrial strength door was installed at the Wastewater Treatment Facility this week.





## It's that time of year again!

In prep for this year's snow plow season, Baker City Public Works is asking citizens to help our snow removal crews by **removing all travel or utility trailers, non-working or infrequently used vehicles and any other miscellaneous items currently being stored on the street or directly next to the street.** Our citizens play a key role in the success of our snow removal program!

**\*\*\*Did you know: 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.