

City of Tekoa
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Monday – December 15, 2025 - 6 P.M.
Tekoa City Hall

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Schulz called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE:** Mayor Schulz led in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. ROLL CALL:**
- MAYOR SCHULZ:** Present.
CM DAN THOMAS: Present.
CM MARGIE JAEGER: Present.
CM PETE MARTIN: Absent.
CM MIKE HALE: Present.
CM SHELLY AUSMUS: Present.
CM DAVE TYSZ: Present.
CM REID SMITH: Present.
ATTY. HANSON: Present.
- IV. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS:** None.
- V. DECEMBER 1, 2025, COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:** CM Smith moved to accept the December 1, 2025, council meeting minutes. CM Ausmus seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
- VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS, PUBLIC HEARINGS AND CORRESPONDENCE:**
- A. PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:** Christina Kisskeys presented information re: a possible class at the community center. She is asking for the non-profit rate for an herbal class. The council will consider this and get back to her in January.
- B. COMMUNITY GROUP UPDATES:** Jennifer Olson updated the council on Healthy Tekoa Coalition activities. Jennifer Olson then reported on Chamber of Commerce activities. CM Ausmus commented on what a great job Jennifer Olson has done. There was discussion.
- VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**
- A. UNION CONTRACT:** CM Ausmus reported the contract is about half-way negotiated.
- B. ORDINANCE 907: 2026 FINAL BUDGET:** There was discussion. CM Hale moved to pass Ordinance 907. CM Ausmus seconded the motion. CM Hale and Smith voted yes. CM Ausmus abstained, CM Jaeger, Tysz, and Thomas voted no. The motion failed. There was discussion. CM Hale moved to accept Ordinance 907. CM Thomas seconded the motion. CM Hale, Smith, Ausmus, Thomas and Jaeger voted yes. CM Tysz voted no. The motion passed.

- C. **NOISE ORDINANCE:** Atty. Hanson clarified the options for the current option of a subjective level noise ordinance and the possibility of going to a decibel level reader. There was extensive discussion. Atty. Hanson offered to put an ordinance together for the council to consider and the council will look at that in January.
- D. **WWTP FACILITIES PLAN-CENTURY WEST:** Dan Remmick distributed the complete WWTP Facilities Plan and a summary of alternatives, then explained the alternatives. There was extensive discussion.
- E. **REVIEW WATER CONNECTION FEES:** CM Tysz noted that some people will need a larger connection than ¾” and prices will only go up, so he wants to see the connection fees accommodate that. There was discussion. CM Tysz moved to raise the rate for ¾” water install to \$4,500 and larger sizes are extra. CM Ausmus opposed and CM Hale, Jaeger, Smith, Thomas and Tysz voted yes. The motion passed.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **WHITMAN RECOVERY COMMUNITY CENTER:** Megan Guido and Carlos Romero gave a presentation about the new support and resource center, Whitman Recovery Community Center to support those leaving addiction, or considering leaving addiction.
- B. **CHRISTINA KISSKEYS-CLASS RATE REQUEST-COMMUNITY CENTER:** This will be decided at the next meeting.
- C. **ORDINANCE 908: 2025 BUDGET AMENDMENT:** CM Hale moved to approve Ordinance 908. CM Tysz seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
- D. **AIRPORT RESERVE ALLOCATION:** Clerk Evans-Teague asked the council to allocate the project reserve of \$3,000 toward airport lighting costs this year. There was discussion. CM Hale moved to approve allocating \$3,000 toward lighting costs at the airport this year. CM Tysz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- E. **TIB PRESERVATION PROJECT SOQ SELECTION:** CE &C, Keller and TD&H were the SOQ options presented to the council. There was discussion. CM Jaeger moved to go with CE & C (Community Engineering & Consulting). CM Hale seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- F. **CEMETERY ENDOWMENT REQUEST:** Clerk Evans-Teague explained the end-of-the-year cemetery endowment request. CM Smith moved to approve the request. CM Hale seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
- G. **XPRESS BILL PAY OPTION:** Clerk Evans-Teague explained the Express Bill Pay system for electronic utility billing and payment acceptance. There was discussion. CM Ausmus moved to accept the contract with Xpress Bill Pay and CM Jaeger seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS:

- A. **MAYOR’S REPORT:** Mayor Schulz reported that several council members and he attended the EOE training last Saturday. He also reported that a city employee, Jeff, has had a medical issue. Hopefully he will be home by the end of the week or early next week. The mayor has brought in a

substitute and both the substitute, and the mayor, will train on the snowplow. There was discussion about the tree on Water St. overhanging the street.

B. COUNCIL REPORTS & COMMENTS: CM Ausmus was interested in L&I status, the clerk will report. CM Ausmus also asked about whether there was progress at the property on Crosby St. toward setting their home? She reported attending a well-balance event at the Port of Whitman for elected officials. CM Jaeger asked about the Old City Shop and Old City Hall buildings. CM Tysz reported for CM Martin that the gold course is working on putting in new windows.

C. STAFF REPORT: Clerk Evans-Teague reported that L and I fines were reduced to \$6655, payable over a two-year period. She also announced her resignation effective in January. There was discussion. The mayor accepted her resignation. CM Ausmus moved to approve a range of \$28-32 for advertising for a new clerk/treasurer. CM Tysz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

X. APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS AND CLAIMS: CM Hale moved to approve EFT payroll and checks #18172-18189 in the amount of \$50,609.23 and EFT payroll and checks #18190-18231 in the amount of \$617,984.85. CM Tysz seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

XII. ADJOURNMENT: CM Ausmus moved to adjourn the meeting. CM Thomas seconded the motion. The council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Schulz adjourned the meeting at 8:20 P.M.

APPROVED:

Roy Schulz - Mayor

ATTEST:

Eliza Evans-Teague- Clerk/Treasurer