

City of Tekoa

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

For August 17, 2020

Remote meeting

I. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Troy Wilson called the remote meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Council members present at the meeting were Wilson, Alyssa Heagy, John Jaeger, Mary LaSalle, Wendy Sienknecht, BJ Sperber and Dave Tysz. Clerk/Treasurer Kynda Browning was also in attendance. The Fletchers, Diane Harp and Jennifer Olson were logged in remotely.

II. PROFESSIONAL CONSULTATION: There was none.

III. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE: Diane Harp wanted to thank the sheriff for taking care of the pit bulls. She said the sidewalks need to be taken care of so people don't have to walk in the street. Browning will send the sidewalk ordinance to the mayor and council.

Jennifer Olson was in attendance and said the 2020 Healthy Tekoa Survey was launched today. She will be putting it in the newsletter.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE: There was none.

V. OLD BUSINESS:

A. UPDATE CODE FOR FENCES: John Jaeger put together a statement to add to our code that does not allow barbed wire or electric fences unless they are approved by the council, excluding fences that are grandfathered in. There was discussion about grandfathering in the people who already have barbed wire fences. There will be no fee for the fence, but they will now require a permit to make sure they are putting them within their property lines. We will have Eric Hanson put the ordinance together for us. BJ Sperber made a motion to require a permit for all fences including barbed wire and electric fences and such permits must be approved by the council. John Jaeger seconded the motion. John Jaeger voted yes, Alyssa Heagy voted yes, Dave Tysz voted yes, Mary LaSalle voted yes, BJ Sperber voted yes and Wendy Sienknecht voted yes.

Wendy Sienknecht will send the mayor a copy of the letter to the Community Action about the Wheatland Apartments for him to sign and send.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

A. APPROVE PAY ESTIMATE NO. 3 AND 4 FOR TIB PROJECT: Pay estimate No. 3 for \$137,401.02 and pay estimate No. 4 for \$273,244.12 for the TIB Crosby and Park Street project were presented for approval. John Jaeger made a motion to approve pay estimate no. 3 and 4 as presented. Alyssa Heagy seconded the motion. John Jaeger voted yes, Alyssa Heagy voted yes, Dave Tysz voted yes, Mary LaSalle voted yes, BJ Sperber voted yes and Wendy Sienknecht voted yes.

B. JOHN JAEGER REQUESTING TO TAKE SAMPLES FOR \$50.00 PER TRIP:

John Jaeger is volunteering to take water and sewer samples weekly for \$50.00 per trip. Mayor Wilson said they are driving the Tekoa truck up so it is not costing us more money. After discussion, they decided to keep it the way it is.

C. TO ENCOURAGE HOMEOWNER TO REPLACE DANGEROUS SIDEWALKS, CONSIDER HAVING THE CITY PAY FOR MATERIALS AND HOMEOWNERS TO PAY FOR LABOR: Kevin Turnbough is asking the council to consider helping homeowners get sidewalks replaced by dividing the cost with them. Alyssa Heagy talked to MRSC if they said we would have to pay prevailing wage, so we probably can't do it. We will do research on this.

D. TINY HOUSES: Browning said she has had a few people ask the council to consider allowing tiny houses in Tekoa. There was discussion. We will put this on the September agenda.

E. CRIME COMMITTEE: Mayor Wilson is asking to form a crime committee to discuss the need for more police presence and asked if there is anyone on the council that is interested. Alyssa Heagy, Dave Tysz, BJ Sperber and Mike Bogenreif are interested. Alyssa Heagy will chair the committee. BJ Sperber said the council should ask the community members what they think. There was discussion.

F. CDBG FUNDING FOR LMI RESIDENTS THROUGH COMMERCE AND COUNTY - \$4,972.00 PER CITY: Browning said Whitman County is receiving COVID funding, and the city can get \$4,972.00 to help low-to-medium income residents. John Jaeger made a motion to accept the money. BJ Sperber seconded the motion. John Jaeger voted yes, Alyssa Heagy voted yes, Dave Tysz voted yes, Mary LaSalle voted yes, BJ Sperber voted yes and Wendy Sienknecht voted no.

VII. REPORTS:

A. MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Wilson reported the property at the trailhead is cleared out.

He hired Donovan to put the camera up for the burn pile, but he is currently in harvest.

Duane Groom and Kevin Turnbough made a list of their tasks for a few days. The mayor said he can send a copy to anyone who would like to receive it.

He said we have a lot of tansy in town, and most of it is on railroad property. There was discussion. Dave Tysz suggested planting pine trees. John Jaeger said he will look into it with the conservation district.

There was discussion about the sidewalk on Main Street that is covered with gravel. Peter Haxton will sweep it up.

B. CLERK/TREASURER REPORT: Browning did not have a report.

C. COUNCIL REPORTS: Alyssa Heagy talked about closing down a street for the restaurant to use for outside seating during COVID. There was discussion. She will talk to Donovan Chase about it.

Mary LaSalle said she was asked about the following:

~The food truck and what is required for them to sell food.

~The park next to the pharmacy: Browning said Park and Rec takes care of it. Mary LaSalle also asked about weeds coming out the sidewalks that need to be pulled. We will ask Peter Haxton to take care of them.

Wendy Sienknecht talked about instant alert and said she is still working on it.

~She asked if homeowners should pick up the limbs since they are responsible to the middle of the street.

~She said the asphalt is coming up on Howard and Main Streets and needs to be patched.

~She talked about one of the deputies that comes and what a good job he does.

~ She asked about Mike Bogenreif providing a monthly report.

~She talked about the reader board at the hardware store.

~There was discussion about changing the dog ordinance.

D. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE: There were none.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. July 20, 2020, MEETING MINUTES: John Jaeger made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Dave Tysz seconded the motion; all council members voted yes.

B. APPROVE BILLS FOR PAYMENT: John Jaeger made a motion to pay EFT payroll checks and check number 14841 to 14850 and 14755 in the amount of \$25,814.77 and EFT check and check numbers 14851 through 14864 and 14756 through 14771 in the amount of \$53,037.68 as presented. Dave Tysz seconded the motion; all council members voted yes.

- X. ADJOURNMENT:** John Jaeger made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 p.m.
Dave Tysz seconded the motion; all council members voted yes.

APPROVED:

Troy Wilson - Mayor

ATTEST:

Kynda Browning – Clerk/Treasurer