

City of Tekoa

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

For September 21, 2020

Remote meeting

I. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Pro-tempore Dave Tysz called the remote meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Council members present at the meeting were Tysz, Alyssa Heagy, John Jaeger, Mary LaSalle, Roy Schulz, Wendy Sienknecht, and BJ Sperber. Clerk/Treasurer Kynda Browning was also in attendance. The Fletchers, Kurt Bartelheimer, Matt Morkert and Jennifer Olson were logged in remotely.

II. PROFESSIONAL CONSULTATION: Matt Morkert asked the council to approve the DOE conditions that were in the amendment for the upcoming sewer plant lift station project. John Jaeger made a motion to approve the amendment as presented. Roy Schulz seconded the motion; John Jaeger voted yes, Alyssa Heagy voted yes, Mary LaSalle voted yes, Wendy Sienknecht voted yes, BJ Sperber voted yes, and Roy Schulz voted yes. The motion passed. Matt Morkert said they are working on the design for the lift station, so it will be ready when we want to start the project.

Matt Morkert asked the council to accept the TIB Crosby and Park Road project as complete. John Jaeger made a motion to approve the project as complete. Roy Schulz seconded the motion. There was discussion about the project. John Jaeger voted yes, Alyssa Heagy voted yes, Mary LaSalle voted yes, Wendy Sienknecht voted yes, BJ Sperber voted yes and Roy Schulz voted yes. The motion passed.

Browning told the council that TIB said there is a not enough gas tax money in the state, and they shorted us \$130,000 we owe the contractor. We will have to wait until we get the revenue to pay them.

III. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE: Jennifer Olson was in attendance and asked that everyone complete the 2020 Healthy Tekoa Survey. She also talked about the other activities they will be doing.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE: There was none.

V. OLD BUSINESS:

A. FENCE ORDINANCE: Browning reported that we need to have the planning commission have a public hearing on any amendment to the zoning ordinance, including a fence ordinance. We will have a planning commission meeting on October 8, 2020, at 6 p.m. in the council chambers.

B. SIDEWALKS - CAN WE PAY A PORTION AND HOMEOWNERS PAY A

PORTION: Eric Hanson, the city attorney said we have to have someone on the small works roster do the work and suggested having the homeowner pay for it. There was discussion.

C. TINY HOUSES: Browning reported people that commented were split about 50/50 about tiny houses. Dave Tysz asked if the planning commission can discuss it at the meeting. There was discussion for and against tiny houses.

D. CRIME COMMITTEE: Alyssa Heagy reported the crime committee met and said they want to do a community survey. They are going to go door to door the week of October 5 to 9. They will ask citizens if they are concerned about crime and the cost increase if we increase the sheriff contract hours. Wendy Sienknecht said she will help. Dave Tysz asked the sheriff if all the time they charge us for is in town, and the sheriff said yes.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

A. AMENDMENT FOR LIFT STATION/FINAL BILL FOR VERSATILE: This was done during Matt Morkert's report.

B. DEPUTY CLERK POSITION: Browning reported the council made a motion in March to hire a full-time deputy clerk for \$15.00 an hour with the same benefits that Tara Chittenden had, and that is what she advertised for. There was discussion about only having a part-time deputy clerk. Browning will bring the applications to the October 5, 2020, council meeting and the council can decide at that time.

Mary LaSalle's computer quit and she exited the meeting.

C. FILING AND INSTANT ALERT CLERK: Browning asked the council to consider hiring someone to put the instant alert information into the computer and to do filing. After discussion, John Jaeger made a motion to hire someone to put the instant alert information into the computer and archive the information in the records room. Roy Schulz seconded the motion. John Jaeger voted yes, Alyssa Heagy voted no, Wendy Sienknecht voted no, BJ Sperber voted yes and Roy Schulz voted yes. After discussion they council decided to amend the motion. Alyssa Heagy made a motion to hire a temporary independent contractor for 80 hours of work for \$20.00 an hour. John Jaeger seconded the motion; Wendy Sienknecht said that she would like to pay someone \$15.00 an hour. John Jaeger voted yes, Alyssa Heagy voted yes, Wendy Sienknecht voted no, BJ Sperber voted yes and Roy Schulz voted yes. The amended motion passed.

D. LETTER TO RAILROAD: John Jaeger said the railroad is awarding a bid to disassemble the arena. He wrote a letter to the railroad and asked for the panels to be given to the school, and the bleachers to the arena people. He also asked that they go to the city council for permission before they put the fence up, take care of the noxious weeds and tell the city what is under the ground that caused them to want to fence it.

E. TOW SERVICE FOR JUNK CARS: Mike Bogenreif asked the council to consider hiring a company to tow junk cars. He is estimating it will cost the city about \$250.00 per car. Dave Tysz will check with a company in Spokane and report back at the October meeting.

F. SIX-YEAR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN PUBLIC HEARING: The council would like Browning to ask Matt Morkert what the cost would be to pave Main Street. Dave Tysz opened the public hearing. John Jaeger asked everything to stay the same, but put the Water Street sidewalk project first on the list. Dave Tysz said the footbridge is deteriorating. Roy Schulz made a motion to approve the plan as amended. Wendy Sienknecht seconded the motion. John Jaeger voted yes, Alyssa Heagy voted yes, Wendy Sienknecht voted yes, BJ Sperber voted yes, and Roy Schulz voted yes. The motion passed.

VII. REPORTS:

A. MAYOR'S REPORT: The mayor was not in attendance.

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

C. COUNCIL REPORTS: Wendy Sienknecht thanked Mike Bogenreif for the report. She also said Jerry Squibb asked about cleaning up his alley.

D. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE: There were none.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. August 17, 2020, MEETING MINUTES: Roy Schulz made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. John Jaeger seconded the motion; all council members voted yes.

B. APPROVE BILLS FOR PAYMENT: Roy Schulz made a motion to pay EFT payroll checks and check numbers 14772 to 14779 and 14792 in the amount of \$21,519.37 and EFT check and check numbers 14780 through 14791 and 14793 through 14874 in the amount of \$282,892.57 as presented. John Jaeger seconded the motion; all council members voted yes.

X. ADJOURNMENT: Roy Schulz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. John Jaeger seconded the motion; all council members voted yes.

APPROVED:

Dave Tysz - Mayor Pro-tempore

ATTEST:

Kynda Browning – Clerk/Treasurer