

**City of Tekoa**  
**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
*Monday – December 2, 2024, 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 ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Schulz led in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. ROLL CALL:**
- MAYOR SCHULZ:** Present.  
**CM MANDI PRINCE:** Present.  
**CM MARGIE JAEGER:** Not Present.  
**CM PETE MARTIN:** Present.  
**CM MIKE HALE:** Present.  
**CM SHELLY AUSMUS:** Present.  
**CM DAVE TYSZ:** Present.  
**CM CHERI CURRIER:** Present.
- IV. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS:** None.
- V. NOVEMBER 18, 2024, COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:** CM Martin asked that the phrase “The investigation made by AWC determined the council had not harassed the employees” be included in his exact words in the November 18, 2024, minutes. CM Prince seconded the motion. CM Martin, Prince, Ausmus, Tysz and Currier voted yes. CM Hale abstained from the vote. CM Ausmus moved to accept the amended minutes for November 18, 2024. CM Tysz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS, PUBLIC HEARINGS AND CORRESPONDENCE:**
- A. PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:** Steve Haxton asked about the several instances of correcting the minutes re: harassment issues. There was discussion.
- B. COMMUNITY GROUP UPDATES:**
- VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**
- A. ETHICS POLICY:** There was discussion. CM Tysz moved to accept the Ethics Policy as is written and put it in the Personnel Policy. There was discussion about moving forward without including the attorney’s input. CM Tysz withdrew his motion.
- B. HARASSMENT POLICY:** The council will wait until Atty. Hanson is present.
- C. TINY HOMES:** The council will wait until Atty. Hanson is present. There was discussion about the possibility of tiny homes impacting property values. CM Ausmus suggested a public meeting before any adoption of an ordinance. There was discussion.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. FINAL BUDGET HEARING:** Mayor Schulz opened the Final Budget Hearing at 6:18 P.M. There were questions re: wages and how soon certifications can be achieved and how long the city will need certified operators. Steven Thomas spoke to the timing questions. There was discussion re: sewer costs and other costs. In addition, there was discussion about having a different process next year that would allow for finishing the budget earlier in the year. December 16<sup>th</sup>, 5-6 P.M., will be the next budget workshop. There was discussion re: library expenses and usage. The mayor closed the Final Budget Hearing at 7:18 P.M. CM Ausmus moved to budget a single year \$150K line-item transfer from the sewer fund to sewer reserves in the 2025 budget. CM Prince seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
- B. CEMETERY COMMITTEE REQUEST APPROVALS:** Clerk Evans-Teague presented the city's proposals for 4Q 2024 and 1Q 2025 proposals to the Goldenrod Cemetery Perpetual Care Endowment Committee. CM Martin explained the process for the meeting on December 3, 2024. There were clarifications about letters for the committee. CM Ausmus moved to approve submission of letters to the committee. CM Hale seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- C. STEVE HAXTON:** Steve Haxton brought some information to the council re: the retaining wall that appears to have been removed at 317 S. Water St. at the south border. It abuts the alley, and some of the dirt that was piled nearby is sloughing into the alley. Steve Haxton has spoken, though an interpreter, to the Babb/Douglas couple who live there. There is a concrete footing at the base of where the soil was removed. The problem is that the now vertical dirt has begun to slough. It needs a retaining wall. There is a danger the wall could collapse. The mayor clarified that he does not believe the city has a specific interest in this matter. It is a property owner issue. The mayor will call the attorney tomorrow to make sure of any responsibility the city may have in this matter. There was discussion.

## **IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS:**

- A. MAYOR'S REPORT:** None.
- B. STAFF REPORT:** Carleen Sams starts tomorrow as the deputy clerk.
- A. COUNCIL REPORTS & COMMENTS:** CM Martin is still working with the golf course re: the proposed clubhouse renovations. CM Martin is also continuing to work on interpretive sign locations. CM Prince read a letter resigning her position effective immediately. CM Ausmus reported that Parks and Rec. levy looks as though it may have failed. If it did, the Parks and Rec. District intends to put the levy on the ballot again. The mayor spoke to a replacement levy requirement, and the Parks District will have to consult their attorney regarding this matter. There was discussion.

**X. APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS AND CLAIMS:** None.

**XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None.

**XII. CONTINUED PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Reid Smith asked about the budget workshop on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT:** CM Hale moved to adjourn the meeting. CM Ausmus seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mayor Schulz adjourned the meeting at 7:56 P.M.

**APPROVED:**

---

Roy Schulz - Mayor

**ATTEST:**

---

Eliza M. Evans-Teague– Clerk/Treasurer