

**City of Tekoa**  
**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
*Tuesday – January 13, 2026 - 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 DAN THOMAS:** Present.  
**CM MARGIE JAEGER:** Present.  
**CM PETE MARTIN:** Present.  
**CM MIKE HALE:** Present.  
**CM SHELLY AUSMUS:** Present.  
**CM DAVE TYSZ:** Present.  
**CM REID SMITH:** Present.  
**ATTY. HANSON:** Absent.
- IV. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS:** There were none.
- V. JANUARY 5, 2026, COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:** CM Ausmus moved to accept the January 5, 2026, Council Meeting Minutes. CM Martin seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
- VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS, PUBLIC HEARINGS AND CORRESPONDENCE:**
- A. PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:**  
Darlene Pearson asked the council to reinstate the second comment period in council meetings.  
Doug Palmer spoke about the dangers of Kratom, and he spoke about the backhoe damage and said the council member who broke it should pay for it.
- B. COMMUNITY GROUP UPDATES:** There were none.
- VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**
- A. UNION CONTRACT:** CM Martin reported meetings are being scheduled soon. He said the mayor asked for the updated bill. The mayor explained he is responsible for keeping abreast of the expenses for the city. CM Ausmus explained there have not been many hours of late. CM Martin will make sure to keep the council abreast of the costs. There was discussion.
- B. NOISE ORDINANCE:** Atty Hanson is not in attendance. CM Tysz brought some information on Harassment, RCW 9A.46.020. He proposes this be reviewed by Atty. Hanson and move toward adoption by ordinance.

- C. **WWTP FACILITIES PLAN-OPTIONS:** Matt Morkert introduced Hunter Carol, his recent hire. He explained some flow assumptions about the current facilities plan. There was discussion. Matt also explained the three actual options and the remaining sub-needs, including the possibility of irrigating the golf course. There was extended discussion.
- D. **CLERK/TREASURER APPOINTMENT ORDINANCE:** CM Tysz moved to pass Ordinance No. 910, CM Martin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- E. **WHITMAN RECOVERY COMMUNITY REQUEST:** Mayor Schulz has spoken with most of the people who make decisions at the Tekoa Market, and they are leaning towards installing the naloxone dispenser.
- F. **GOLF COURSE REMODEL:** CM Martin reported that previous bid paperwork has been located. He is waiting on some bids that need to change to accommodate changes for windows and siding. There was discussion. Steven Thomas reported that the septic pump truck will need to return to finish the job.

#### VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **COMMUNITY HEART & SOUL- RES. 26-01:** CM Ausmus moved to accept Resolution No. 26-01. CM Martin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. **2026 BUDGET AMENDMENT: ORDINANCE NO. 909:** Interfund transfer water utility to CE, \$1,206.74; sewer utility to CE, \$2,266.66; CE to Airport, \$15,000.00; and amend revenue and expenses for the airport CARB loan for a total of \$94,303.01. There was discussion. CM Ausmus moved to pass Ordinance No. 909. CM Martin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. **ANNUAL REPORT REVIEW:** Clerk Evans-Teague spoke about the Annual Report that Springbrook review was recently completed on. There was discussion. The council signed the Annual Report Review and Acceptance sheet.
- D. **WELL TRANSDUCER:** Steven Thomas addressed the growing need for a well transducer with an estimated cost of \$1,700. There was discussion.
- E. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** The mayor called executive session on a personnel discussion at 8:10 PM for 20 minutes. The mayor ended executive session at 8:24 PM.
- F. **CONFIRMATION OF NEW CLERK/TREASURER, BANKING AND CREDIT CARD AUTHORIZATION:** Mayor Schulz recommended hiring Kynda Browning for the clerk/treasurer position at \$32/hr. with 3 weeks of vacation with supplemental clerk training at \$35/hr. Ausmus moved to accept \$32/hr. and 3 weeks' vacation, NO-Thomas and Hale. YES- Ausmus, Reid, Tysz, Jaeger. Tysz moved to reimburse Clerk trainer at \$32/hr. CM Martin seconded the motion. YES- Martin, Jaeger, Thomas, and Tysz. NO – Hale and Reid.
- G. **FEE RESOLUTION No. 99-26:** Clerk Evans-Teague explained the change on the fee resolution. CM Tysz moved to pass Resolution No. 99-26, CM Smith seconded the motion, Ausmus – no. Tysz, Jaeger, Smith, Hale, Thomas and Martin – yes.

**H. MAYOR PRO TEM AND FINANCE OFFICER APPOINTMENT:** There was discussion. The council will discuss this position on February 2, 2026. Martin nominated Dave Tysz for Mayor Pro Tem. Ausmus seconded Tysz for Pro Tem. Motion passes unanimously. Ausmus moved to add Kynda Browning to the bank account and to have a credit card account for the same amount as the current clerk/treasurer.

**IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS:**

**A. MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor is going to the legislative conference next week and reminded the council about the road project.

**B. STAFF REPORT:** Evans-Teague reported the cybersecurity grant is halfway through the process. She reported she had begun working with the new clerk and respectfully declined to train for \$32/hour when the last two trainers have been paid \$35/hour. She is still open to phone calls.

**C. COUNCIL REPORTS & COMMENTS:**

~CM Smith reported to the council on the Fire Dept., particularly a fire engine in need of repair. They have their new radios.

~CM Ausmus reported on the Parks and Recreation Department and talked about their levy. She asked about the RV near the church and when their deadline for significant movement is.

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

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT:** CM Ausmus moved to adjourn the meeting. CM Hale seconded the motion. The council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Schulz adjourned the meeting at 8:53 P.M.

**APPROVED:**

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Roy Schulz - Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Eliza Evans-Teague- Clerk/Treasurer