

DECEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

Mayor:

Roy Schulz

Council:

Lydia Fletcher
Michael Hale
Margie Jaeger
Pete Martin
Amanda Prince
BJ Sperber
Dave Tysz

Clerk/Treasurer:

Eliza Evans-Teague

Deputy Clerk:

DonNell Ellsworth

Maintenance/

Animal Control:

Kevin Turnbough
Steven Thomas

Code Enforcement

Officer:

Mike Bogenreif
509-828-2144
tekoacodeenforcem
ent@outlook.com

Building Inspector:

Steve Haxton
509-981-2157

Office Hours:

8:00 A.M. to
4:00 P.M.

Council Meetings:

First & Third
Monday
6:00 P.M.
Tekoa City Hall
Council Chambers

Phone:

509-284-3861

Fax:

509-284-3590

Email:

tekoaclerk
@gmail.com

Website:

www.tekoawa.com

December 1 - Chamber of Commerce
7:30 A.M. – Éclair's

December 4 – City Council Meeting
6:00 P.M. – City Hall

December 5 – Whitman County Hosp. District
6:30 P.M. – City Hall

December 7 - Empire Theatre Board
5:30 P.M. - Empire Theatre

December 12 – Healthy Tekoa Coalition
9:00 A.M. – School District Boardroom

December 18 - City Council Meeting
6:00 P.M. - City Hall

December 21 - Food Distribution
8:00-11:00 A.M. – City Hall

****Please note that there are
NO meetings in December
for Tekoa Parks & Rec and
Tekoa Community Ambulance.***



The City of Tekoa will have our council meeting on Monday, December 4, and 18, at 6:00 P.M., in the Tekoa City Hall Council Chambers. You may join in person.

Message from the Mayor—

Happy Holidays to everyone. I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. Being with friends and family can really remind us of what is truly important, and how precious moments can be.

Ok, let us get to it. Most of you may have noticed the arrival of the recently bought walking bridges. Thank you again to the Port of Whitman and Port Commissioner Karl Webber for the heads-up. The installation could still happen this fall, if the weather allows, but do not hold your breath. The guys still have some more pressing projects they would like to get done before the weather closes in. I hope the new electric reader board is to your liking. We are still experimenting with it, to see what works the best for everybody. I think it will be an unbelievably valuable addition to the downtown area. The city has moved the cardboard dumpster at city hall, and we have locked it up except during city business hours. I am going to make an executive decision, and I will open it on Saturdays, from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M., to accommodate those who work during the week. Let us see how it works and I hope I do not forget. The council is having discussions about using a part of the levy monies and replacing some sidewalks in the downtown area. The public works guys want to try to do the work themselves, potentially saving the city some money. After the first of the year, I will send out a questionnaire with a few items that the council would appreciate your thoughts on. The work at the sewer plant continues and is on schedule with no major setbacks. Again, please remove non-running cars, trailers, and other obstructions that may cause a problem during snow plowing.

Every day I seem to experience something that makes me grateful to live and be involved in this wonderful community. I am grateful to Eric and Connie Marsh and their amazing crew of volunteers who pull off the commodities distribution every month. I am grateful for all the boards and councils who keep all the different entities running. I know I am going to miss some but here goes: Tekoa Parks and Rec, Tekoa School Board, Tekoa Fire Dept., Whitman County Hospital District, Tekoa Ambulance, Tekoa Cemetery Board, Tekoa Slippery Gulch Committee, all of our churches, Tekoa Booster Club, Tekoa FFA and Tekoa 4-H Boosters, Empire Theatre board, Tekoa Chamber of Commerce, Tekoa Golf Course board, Dollars for Scholars committee, and last but certainly not least, I am grateful for my city council. I am grateful to be the hometown of Suzanna Scaroni. I am grateful for our school, teachers, coaches, and all the

important support staff that goes with it. I am grateful for our businesses that they chose Tekoa, and I am grateful for those of you who volunteer, help out, and otherwise make this place what it is, especially the volunteers for the ambulance and fire department. I am grateful for all the city's employees, Code Enforcement Officer- Mike Bogenreif, Building Inspector- Steve Haxton, Cemetery Coordinator- Kathi Houston, Public Works Department- Kevin Turnbough, Steven Thomas, Clerk-Treasurer Eliza Evans-Teague, and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer DonNell Ellsworth, Rest Area and Library Maintenance-Jessica May. The dedication and professionalism they show is something we all should be proud of.

"Not failure, but low aim, is a crime" ~James Russell Lowell

Thanks for your time, and have a Merry Christmas,
Roy





TEKOA FOOD PANTRY

Tekoa Food Pantry will be distributing commodities, on
December 21, 2023, from 8:00-11:00 A.M.



HEALTHY Tekoa News!

December is **National Impaired Driving Prevention Month**. Here are tips when partying with alcohol or marijuana: *Have a designated driver, have the designated driver keep keys, get a ride to/from a party, and discuss a plan before heading out.* Stay safe Tekoa! **We reached our goal!** Thank you, Tekoa, for taking part in the Annual Community Survey.

Tekoa School District Job Openings



Transportation Supervisor / Custodial / Maintenance

Transportation - Maintenance of district vehicles; make decisions about the upkeep and improvements in cooperation with the superintendent; monitor budget; develop the budget in cooperation with the superintendent; follow district procedures and purchase supplies and services as needed; drive routes and activities as needed.

Maintenance – Maintain school facilities; may include some custodial work when/where needed; general maintenance of interior and exterior of buildings; work with staff to find and correct potential problems. Salary: **\$28.00 per hour.** For more information, visit tekoasd.org. Benefits include medical, dental, vision, life insurance, long-term disability insurance, flexible spending account, participation in a Washington State retirement plan, 403(b) options, and paid personal and sick leave.

TEKOA CITY HALL

The City of Tekoa is hiring for the Public Works Department. **Starting salary: \$22-\$26/HR,** negotiable DOE. **Full salary range: \$22-30/HR.** Full-time benefits life insurance, long-term disability insurance, retirement, vacation, and sick leave, and \$700 a month towards medical, dental, and vision. Open until filled. Please contact city hall at **(509) 284-3861, 419 N. Washington Street, Tekoa, WA 99033** for more details.

Winter weather is coming. Please clear any vehicles or trailers from the street so it is easier for Public Works to plow our snow. The Public Works Department would like to remind everyone that on garbage day, please make sure to remove your trash cans from the street after they have been emptied to avoid being hit by the plow. Also, it is the responsibility of the property owners to keep all sidewalks around their property clear of all snow and debris. Please contact city hall if you have any questions. Thank you!

EMPIRE THEATRE

A lot is going on this month, so mark your calendars so you do not miss anything! On **December 2**, there will be a **FREE** chili and cornbread dinner from 5:30 to 7:00 P.M., at the Tekoa Community Center. Also, next door at the Empire Theatre a ***Christmas Variety Show*** starts at 7:00 P.M.; donations are accepted. Enjoy a wonderful dinner and a show! On **December 21**, at 6:00 P.M., the ***Crosby Street Players*** will be supplying a free variety show followed by a one-act play, "A Christmas Dream." ***Come one, come all***, on December 31, New Year's Eve BINGO, from 7:00 to 9:00 P.M.! We will have \$1/Card Bingo; beer & wine will be available for purchase: start time to be announced.

Tekoa Library Happenings

The **Tekoa Gingerbread Contest** has moved to the library this year. Drop-off days are Dec. 5 & 6, during open library hours, 1:30–6:00 P.M. You can also call Shelly to arrange a different drop-off time if needed. Ages 5 and below are required to make a gingerbread person. All other ages make a gingerbread house. Every part must be edible except the base, so no toothpicks, wires, glue, etc. Each entry must be made by the person entering it. For full details, pick up the rules at the library. They will also be sent home via the schools. **For info on Kids' Club, Teen/Tween Club, Books & Bunco, Storytime, and Crafters Circle,** follow the Tekoa Library on FB or visit our website: www.whitcolib.org. Or call Shelly at the library at 509-284-5657.

