

City of Tekoa

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 17, 2022

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Roy Schulz called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Council members present at the meeting were Dave Tysz, Shelly Ausmus, Mike Hale and B.J. Sperber. Clerk/Treasurer Eliza Evans-Teague was present, as well as additional attendees Lydia Fletcher and Todd Jensen.
- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Schulz led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:**
 - A. **COMMUNITY GROUP UPDATES:**
 1. B.J. Sperber reported on the Parks Board. They are working hard toward passing the new levy to cover large expenses from the breakdowns at the pool this summer and toward re-lining the pool in the next three years.
 2. Shelly Ausmus reported Small Business Saturday is in November. The Chamber is also sponsoring the “Pot-of-Gold” event in March, as well as the Tekoa Yard Sale and Slippery Gulch, to round out the year’s activities.
- IV. **CORRESPONDENCE:** None.
- V. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. **TITLE VIII NUISANCE ORDINANCE:** B.J. Sperber moved to approve the revised TITLE VIII, Mike Hale seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Eric Hansen will go over some language for the weed/yard abatement section and get back to us if he thinks there needs to be a language or process revision.
 - B. **CEMETERY ORDINANCE DISCUSSION:** postponed due to illness of the presenting council members.
 - C. **DENISE KEEGAN BUILDING UPDATE:** Mayor Schulz updated the council that he is in process of reaching out to Denise Keegan, without success. He is now trying other avenues to get in touch with her.
 - D. **BURN PILE RECOMMENDATIONS:** Mayor Schulz spoke with Fire Chief Chase re: burning. Fire Chief Chase said he would look at each case and consider the wind conditions and times the burn pile has to be out. So, the city will have to have piles ready for when conditions are right. Dave Tysz recommended the city put a large hydrant if the city continues to burn in that location. Notice of the burning methods will be posted, put in the newsletter and sent as an electronic notice. Shelly Ausmus asked about contacting the railroad. Mayor Schulz will do that as soon as he can.

E. STANFIELD PARKING LOT UPDATE: Mayor Schulz spoke with the Stanfields, who are offering the former Dorsey lot for parking rental. The council discussed the pros and cons of renting the lot. They will reconsider it in the spring if it is still available and has been improved. The council will let the community know it is available, should someone else be interested.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

A. FIREWORKS: tabled until the presenting council members are recuperated.

B. ERIC HANSEN-WATER ORDINANCE: Eric Hansen clarified the Mobile Home/RV Park current standing. He suggested that we add Mobile Home/RV Park language to maintain equity for all the system users. Mike moved to amend Part B of Code Section 2.22.120 to include language including RV /Mobile Home Parks. Dave seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. REPORTS:

A. MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Schulz asked the city attorney about chronic nuisance properties. Attorney Hansen explained the nature of such a property and asked questions about zoning. Lydia Fletcher, who works at the Tekoa Care Center, was asked a few questions. She suggested compiling a list of specific questions for the administrator(s). Todd Jensen suggested we find out their specific license. Eric Hansen will look at the zoning code tomorrow. There was discussion re: nuisance calls for EMS and 911 for the Tekoa Care Center and what can be done to abate them. Mike Hale suggested talking to the sheriff.

B. CLERK/TREASURER REPORT:

1. The .09 grant activities continue to be in progress. The library painting and flooring will happen the first week and a half of November. The electric car charging station needs to be moved from the original location identified for the .09 grant. The Tekoa Market would like to see if the car charger could be near them.
2. The cemetery is undergoing a transition and audit. Questions and issues about the cemetery should be directed to city personnel who can direct further inquiries to the Palouse branch of Kramer Funeral Home, as needed. All questions for Kramer Funeral Home should be directed to the Palouse branch. The pressure booster pump installation is underway at the cemetery. There are still parts the installer is waiting on so the vault/pump installation can be finished.
3. The Mainstreet Sidewalk Project is done from the standpoint of the contractor. Now the city will have to put gravel adjacent to the new sidewalk out to Main St.
4. The Influent Lift Station Project has hit unforeseen bedrock, and it is requiring additional equipment and time and will require a cost addendum.
5. The Preliminary Budget Hearing Workshop will be November 7, 2022, at 6:00 P.M. Eliza Evans-Teague brought the upcoming budget cycle wage rate propositions to the council for their consideration.

C. COUNCIL REPORTS:

1. Shelly Ausmus: none
2. Mike Hale reported on meeting with Port of Whitman and JUB re: the airport proposition and the possibility of turning that into a multi-year phase plan to improve the airport.
3. Dave Tysz: none.
4. B.J. Sperber: none.

D. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE: Todd Jensen suggested putting the electric car charger by the Avista building. There was some discussion about the issues involved.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. APPROVE OCTOBER 3, 2022, COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES: B.J. Sperber moved to accept the minutes from October 3, 2022. Mike Hale seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. APPROVE BILLS FOR PAYMENT: B.J. Sperber moved to pay EFT payroll checks and check numbers 16198-16212 in the amount of \$33,616.08. Mike Hale seconded the motion. The council passed the motion unanimously.

X. ADJOURNMENT: B. J. Sperber moved to adjourn the meeting. Mike Hale seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mayor Roy Schulz closed the meeting at 9:29 P.M.

APPROVED:

Roy Schulz - Mayor

ATTEST:

Eliza M. Evans-Teague– Clerk/Treasurer