

City of Tekoa
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Monday – May 19, 2025, 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 CHERI CURRIER: Present.

- IV. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS:** CM Ausmus moved to accept the agenda. CM Hale seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- V. MAY 5, 2025, COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:** CM Hale moved to accept the minutes. CM Thomas seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
- VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS, PUBLIC HEARINGS AND CORRESPONDENCE:**
- A. PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:** None.
- B. CORRESPONDENCE:** Clerk Evans-Teague read the resignation from Steve Haxton as the building inspector. The mayor let the council know there is a tentative plan for Kevin Turnbough to become the main inspector and Steve Haxton to fill in when Kevin is unavailable. There was discussion about possibly going in a different direction re: hiring a new building inspector.
- C. COMMUNITY GROUP UPDATES:** None.
- VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**
- A. CREDIT CARD POLICY:** CM Tysz said he would work on the policy for the personnel manual. There was discussion.
- B. TINY HOMES FOLLOW-UP:** CM Ausmus ***asked about* the process re: the tiny homes ordinance needs to be reviewed by the attorney and brought back to us. ****

*** changes motioned and approved by the council on 6/16/2025.*

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **BEN MERRITT/AUSTIN BEALE RE: VARIANCE:** Postponed until next meeting.
- B. **JUB-AIRPORT FUNDING REQUEST & RESOLUTION 25-01:** Clerk Evans-Teague explained the funding request. CM Hale moved to accept the funding request and CM Martin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. CM Hale explained the current grant application for the planning for the next phase of airport development and asked the council to approve Res. 24-01 guaranteeing grant match funds. There was discussion. CM Ausmus moved to approve Res. 24-01. CM Currier seconded the motion. Resolution 25-01 passed unanimously. CM Hale also let the council know the county commissioners approved the .09 economic development grant for runway lights just today. The final week of August is the target time for a celebration of our new runway project's completion.
- C. **INVESTMENTS:** Clerk Evans-Teague explained the Treasurer's notes that matured on the 15th of May and the need to reinvest the monies. There was discussion. CM Ausmus moved to renew both bonds for the 3-year Treasury note proposed. CM Tysz seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
- D. **PICKLE BALL COURT:** The council supports the painting of pickleball court lines to be painted on the basketball court. ***There was discussion about the ownership of the court.*
***change moved and approved by the city council.*
- E. **BUDGET COMMITTEE UPDATES:** CM Tysz suggested freezing wages for the remainder of the year. There was extended discussion. The subject will be on the agenda at the next meeting. The budget committee wanted to understand which funds emergency funds come out of. There was discussion about allocation of hours on time sheets and possibly more detailed reporting.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS:

- A. **MAYOR'S REPORT:** The mayor reported that there is some talk about a regional wastewater facility in Whitman County. There will be listening sessions about this possibility in the near future. Tomorrow the mayor will join the Port of Whitman in attending a Brownfield cleanup conference in Walla Walla.
- B. **STAFF REPORT:** The clerk/treasurer reported that the annual report is almost finished and will be reviewed by Springbrook. There were questions about expenditures.
- C. **COUNCIL REPORTS & COMMENTS:** CM Currier asked if the employees could sign the receipts as they accrue. CM Martin thanked Steven Thomas for installing the interpretive panels around town. CM Martin reported about the location of the sign near the trailhead in a neutral area by the telephone pole. There was agreement to put it there. CM Jaeger congratulated Steven Thomas for passing his Sewer I exam. She inquired about the building at the trailhead and CM Martin explained the building with writing on it will be going away, per state parks. CM Martin installed a dog waste station at the trailhead, as well. There was a discussion. CM Ausmus noted the walkway by the rest area is looking much better. She inquired about mosquito spraying. The mayor said spraying should commence soon. There was some thought about changing the mosquito-spraying schedule to get better results. CM Ausmus asked about when we would see Matt from Century West. He will be here on June 16th. There were questions about summer positions and the open public works position. CM Tysz is continuing to work on budget ideas.

- X. APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS AND CLAIMS:** CM Hale moved to accept the EFT payroll and checks #17791-17813 in the amount of \$78,936.87 and EFT payroll and checks#17816-17845 in the amount of \$41,097.96. CM Ausmus seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None.
- XII. ADJOURNMENT:** CM Ausmus moved to adjourn. CM Hale seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. Mayor Schulz adjourned the meeting at 7:25P.M.

APPROVED:

Roy Schulz - Mayor

ATTEST:

Eliza Evans-Teague- Clerk/Treasurer