

# *City of Tekoa*

## **COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

*For November 19, 2018*

A budget workshop was held at 6:00 p.m. to go over the preliminary budget.

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Pro-tempore Troy Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Council members present at the meeting were Wilson, John Giudice, Roy Schulz, Wendy Sienknecht, Carol Sturman, and Dave Tysz. Clerk/Treasurer Kynda Browning was also in attendance. Audience attendees were the Fletcher Family, Debbie Groom, Bill Harp and Fran Martin.

It was announced Mr. Jaeger resigned as mayor as of October 31, 2018.

- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Pro-tempore Wilson asked those present to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. PROFESSIONAL CONSULTATION:**

Jennifer Olson introduced herself as the new Healthy Tekoa Coalition Coordinator.

Debbie Hall from Neighbors Watch announced their next meeting.

Matt Morkert from Century West Engineering was in attendance. He said the sewer project is done. He said they ran into an issue on Main Street. The old sewer and water lines were laid on each other, so it didn't meet Department of Health or Department of Ecology standards. The water line was replaced to correct the situation at a cost of \$17,000. We went over the \$750,000 grant amount by \$62,000.00. A change order for \$17,264.69 was presented. Roy Schulz made a motion to approve the change order as presented. Carol Sturman seconded the motion; all were in favor. John Giudice asked how much is in city limits, and Matt Morkert said all of it is outside the city limits.

Progress payment no. 3, including a change order, for \$356,028.44 with a deduction for overtime work was presented by Matt Morkert. Roy Schulz made a motion to approve progress payment no. 3 as presented. Dave Tysz seconded the motion; all council members voted yes.

Matt Morkert explained they did an amendment for \$9,730.00 for the overtime on the project. The insurance company will pay for the inspector and soil remediation. Roy Shultz made a motion to approve the amendment for \$9,730.00 as presented. Dave Tysz seconded the motion; all council members voted yes.

Matt Morkert said we were awarded the Park and Crosby road project from TIB. He also talked about the city paying to replace the water and sewer line where the project will be located.

**IV. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:** There were none.

**V. CORRESPONDENCE:** There was none.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS:**

**A. DIANE GALLER PROPERTY:** Mayor Pro-tempore Wilson told the council Kelly Rambo leveled the building at Diane Galler's property, and Cliff Smith is hauling the siding away. The fire department will burn the rest of the building to use it as a training opportunity.

**B. OAKLAND BUILDING:** Mayor Pro-tempore Wilson said he has not been able to reach the Bretzes. He will try to contact them.

**C. RESOLUTION AND DEED FOR PARK DISTRICT FOR SWIMMING POOL, PARKING LOT, GYMKANNA GROUNDS, AND LEASE AGREEMENT FOR RUHL PARK:** Browning read Resolution No. 18-09 deeding the Whitman County Park District No. 6 the property for the swimming pool, the parking lot at the swimming pool and the gymkanna grounds. John Giudice made a motion to approve Resolution No. 18-09 as presented. Dave Tysz seconded the motion, all council members voted yes. The Quit Claim Deed giving the Whitman County Park District No. 6 the property for the swimming pool, the parking lot at the swimming pool and the gymkanna grounds was read. John Giudice made a motion to approve the Quit Claim Deed as presented. Wendy Sienknecht seconded the motion; all council members voted yes.

**D. BACK WALL OF LIBRARY:** Kevin Turnbough was in attendance and said we received an estimate to repair the back wall of the library. Kevin Turnbough talked about other ideas to repair the building.

**E. CITY EMPLOYEE SCHEDULE:** Mayor Pro-tempore Wilson said he talked to the maintenance crew, and they have a list of projects and their working schedule posted on the door in the shop. They will continue to put their projects on the door.

**F. RESIDENT COMPLAINTS:** Mayor Pro-tempore Wilson said Mike Bogenreif gave the person with the trailer on the Palouse to Cascades Trail, a ticket, because he is living without a sewer. There was discussion. It will be discussed in December.

**G. SPACE FOR PORT OF WHITMAN FIBER PROJECT:** Mayor Pro-tempore Wilson said he hasn't had time to view the basement at the old city hall. They talked about the Port of Whitman using part of the city council chambers. There was discussion about the wall in the council chambers.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. DISCUSSION/APPOINT NEW MAYOR:** Troy Wilson said he is willing to fulfill Mayor Jaeger's term. John Giudice made a motion to appoint Troy Wilson as mayor. Carol Sturman seconded the motion; all council members voted yes. Mayor Wilson was sworn in. Dave Tysz made a motion to appoint Roy Schulz Mayor Pro-tempore. John

Giudice seconded the motion; all council members voted yes, except Wendy Sienknecht voted no.

**B. COUNCIL MEMBER:** We will advertise for a new council member. The council will start the December 17 council meeting at 6 p.m. so they can interview the candidates.

**C. COST OF LIVING RAISE:** John Giudice said 2.5% to 2.8% is the amount of increases for eastern Washington. After discussion, Roy Schulz made a motion to give the employees a 2.5% increase, beginning January 1, 2018. Wendy Sienknecht seconded the motion; all council members voted yes.

**D. 2019 TAX LEVY RATE PUBLIC HEARING/RESOLUTION:** Mayor Wilson opened the public hearing. John Giudice made a motion to accept the tax levy Resolution No. 18-08 with no increase. Roy Schulz seconded the motion; all council members voted yes.

**E. CITY HALL HEATING SYSTEM:** We received a bid from Ackerman to replace the heating system for the city hall. There was discussion about the different options.

**F. ONLINE BILL PAY:** Mayor Wilson said most cities now have the ability to pay their bills online. Most of the cities charge the fee when you pay. The goal is not to cost the city anything. We will get more information concerning this.

**G. WATER/SEWER/GARBAGE LATE PAYMENT PLAN FOR RESIDENTS:** Mayor Wilson said the citizens of Tekoa have talked to him about shutting water off. We can set up late payment plans for residents. We need a policy to handle this. The mayor will write something up for this.

## **VIII. REPORTS:**

**A. MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Wilson did not have a report.

**B. CLERK/TREASURER REPORT:** Browning did not have a report.

**C. COUNCIL REPORTS:** There was discussion about the bowling alley. John Giudice made a motion stating the city will not purchase the bowling alley. Dave Tysz seconded the motion; all council members voted yes, except Roy Schulz voted no.

**D. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:** There were none.

## **IX. CONSENT AGENDA:**

**A. MEETING MINUTES:** Roy Schulz made a motion to approve the October 22, 2018, minutes as presented. Dave Tysz seconded the motion; all council members voted yes.

**B. APPROVE BILLS FOR PAYMENT:** Roy Schulz made a motion to pay payroll warrants 13671 through 13683 and EFT payroll warrants in the amount of \$26,107.30;

warrant number 13684 through 13719 and EFT warrants in the amount of \$204,602.61 as presented. Dave Tysz seconded the motion; all council members voted yes.

- X. ADJOURNMENT:** Roy Schulz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m. Dave Tysz seconded the motion; all council members voted yes.

**APPROVED:**

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Troy Wilson – Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Kynda Browning – Clerk/Treasurer