September 2025 Newsletter

**Mayor:**

Roy Schulz

**Council:**

Michael Hale

Margie Jaeger

Pete Martin

Shelly Ausmus

Cheri Currier

Dave Tysz

Dan Thomas

**Clerk/Treasurer:**

Eliza Evans-Teague

**Deputy Clerk:**

Nikki Jensen

**Maintenance**

Steven Thomas

Jeff Latkowski

**Code Enforcement Officer:**

Mike Bogenreif

509-828-2144

tekoacodeenforcement@outlook.com

**Building Inspector:**

Kevin Turnbough

509-714-5148

kturnbough14@gmail.com

**Office Hours:**

8:00 A.M. to

 4:00 P.M.

**Council Meetings:**

1st and 3rd 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

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| September 2 – EMS & EMT Training6:30 P.M. – Ambulance Barn September 2 – Whitman Co. Hosp. Dist.6:30 P.M. – City Hall September 8- City Council Meeting6:00 P.M. – City Hall September 11 – Empire Theatre5:30 P.M. Empire TheatreSeptember 12 – Chamber of Commerce7:30 A.M. Trestle Coffee | September 16 Parks & Rec6:00 P.M. – City Hall September 22 – City Council Meeting6:00 P.M. – City HallSeptember 25 - Food Distribution8:00-11:00 A.M. – City Hall September 29 – Tekoa EMT (Board meeting)6:30 P.M. – Ambulance Barn |

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*Message from the Mayor—*

Greetings, everyone. As I write this, the harvest is well underway, and the weather has been very cooperative. I am sure the farmers are thankful. School is about ready to start, along with fall sports. Be aware of the added foot traffic and get out and attend the school event of your choice, and support the kids' activities. I especially recommend attending The Palouse Empire Fair and taking in the various activities, including the kids' show and competing against other kids.

Because of technical difficulties, the city council meetings have moved to the YouTube format. The city is not in charge of the broadcast; a private citizen sets up and manages the system. Having watched a little of the meetings, I was impressed by the quality of the sound and the picture, and I would encourage citizens to watch and see how the city is doing.

The Airport repaving had a bit of a setback because of some unforeseen soft spots that had to be addressed. By the time you read this, things should be back on track. Public Works continues to knock out as many water and sewer projects as they can in between classes and training. The Office is staying busy running the town. Although many of the projects the city is involved with are grants, they take a huge amount of time to administer and keep track of. Meetings, phone calls, and paperwork, and that's when things go smoothly, which is rare. It is common to have to pivot and change direction a few times, which keeps it interesting.

The city hasn't given up the idea of implementing the Project Share water and sewer assistance program. My apologies, every time we try to tackle it, we seem to get distracted. I promise we will have a plan by October. If you want your name put on or taken off the emergency notification list, call City Hall. Last but not least, Project Hope volunteers will be in Tekoa on October 15th. If you have yardwork or small house repairs you need help with, please call City Hall at 509-284-3861.

Thank you for your time, and we will talk later.

Roy

"The most important step a man can take. It's not the first one. It's the next one. Always the next one.

Brandon Sanderson

**\*\*\*Please remember that the Tekoa Community Center is available for rent for private and community group events. Schedule now for the holidays! Call City Hall for dates and rates: 509-284-3861. \*\*\***

**Community Heart & Soul**

The Community Heart & Soul discovery meeting will be on September 12 at 5:30 P.M. in the Tekoa Community Center. If you are interested in finding out more about the Community Heart & Soul program, please join us for dinner and a presentation about revitalizing our community from the inside out (with help from the Innovia Foundation). Please RSVP to Alex Overton so we can plan for dinner. Alex’s email address is Alexoverton509@gmail.com.

 **Tekoa Food Pantry**

Tekoa Food Pantry will distribute commodities on September 25 from 8:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.

**Tekoa Parks & Recreation**

Want to leave a legacy in Tekoa? Send in your suggestions on what to name the park (below the pool) to PO Box 568, Tekoa, WA 99033. Please have your suggestions submitted by October 31st. The winning name will be chosen at the November Parks & Rec. meeting. Please help us welcome Bruce McGuigan as the newly appointed Parks & Rec. commissioner, position No. 5.

**Empire Theatre**

We have two movies for you this month! First, on Saturday, September 13, at 6 P.M., we have “*School of Rock* We will have all the usual concessions as well as theater T-shirts ($20) for sale.  This month, we are starting a new series called "Sunday Movie Series”; these movies will start at 2 P.M. Not only are the movies free as usual, but you will also receive a free bag of popcorn. Our first showing is Sunday, September 21 & the movie is “*To Kill a Mockingbird*”.

As you may or may not know, we depend solely on donations (with a little help from concession sales) to keep the theater open (& offer free movies).  If you will remember, we were closed last December through March, which was due to a collapse of part of the ceiling.  The good news is that it was covered by insurance, the not-so-good news - it brought to light that the roof was leaking, which is not covered by insurance.  We have an estimated $8,000 in repairs that need to be done & our bank account is not up to the challenge.  We hope to have a special fundraising event soon to address this issue before the rain comes.  In the meantime, any donations (which, BTW, are tax-deductible) you might give would be greatly appreciated.

**Tekoa Library**

* Tuesdays, September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 at 4 P.M. is Crafter's Circle.
* Thursdays, September 4, 11, 18, 25 at 11:45 A.M. is Storytime.
* September 3 at 2 P.M. is a homeschool STEM activity
* September 17 at 1:30-2:30 P.M. is Kids' Club-Lego's
* September 24 at 6:30 P.M. is Adult Book Club

**Healthy Tekoa**

HEALTHY Tekoa News! September is an important month to take some time to recognize

National Recovery Month and Suicide Prevention Month. Two big topics that we can

impact in small ways. It is hard to ask for help. We can ease this hurdle by sharing the

Messages of Hope to our family members and neighbors. Hope fosters resiliency as we face

our daily challenges. We partnered with the Tekoa Library in offering chalk art, Messages of

Hope on Thursday, Sept. 25th, from 1-3 pm downtown by the library. Please join us in spreading

Hope Suicide & Crisis Lifeline – Dial 988 (available 24/7).

Get connected with HEALTHY Tekoa on Tuesday, September 9, at 9 AM at Tekoa School

District Boardroom or join us on Zoom—email jolson@tekoasd.org for the meeting link.

 **Chamber of Commerce**

The Tekoa Chamber hopes everyone has a safe harvest, a good start to the school year, and a successful fair season. Our monthly meeting is one week later this month on Friday, Sept. 12th, 7:30 AM at Trestle Coffee. Please join us!

