

City of Tekoa
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Monday – November 3, 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:** None.
- V. OCTOBER 20, 2025, COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES and OCTOBER 23, 2025, SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:** October 20, 2025, CM Ausmus stated that she would like to see more details about the airport discussion included or the L & I fine specifics. She would also like to see more details about a burn last spring and comments from a council member. CM Ausmus moved to “re-do the minutes” before approval. CM Martin seconded the motion. There was discussion. The motion passed unanimously. CM Thomas moved to accept the October 23 Special Meeting Minutes. CM Jaeger seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS, PUBLIC HEARINGS AND CORRESPONDENCE:**
- A. PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:** Steve Haxton addressed the point of order made at the last meeting. He clarified previous statements to the council. He also addressed the difference between bullying and criticism.
- B. COMMUNITY GROUP UPDATES:** None.
- C. TAX LEVY HEARING: RES. 25-07:** Clerk Evans-Teague explained the resolution with either a 0% or 1% increase. There was discussion. CM Tysz moved to accept the 1% property tax increase. There was discussion. Yes-CM Hale & Tysz. No-CM Thomas, Jaeger, Ausmus, Currier, Martin. The motion failed.
- VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**
- A. UNION CONTRACT:** CM Martin reported that negotiations are continuing.

- B. CENTURY WEST WASTEWATER FACILITIES PLAN:** Mayor Schulz reported that there was a meeting with Dept. of Ecology. CM Tysz explained Century West will complete and correct the facilities plan. CM Hale reported that DOE would like to see a completed plan, not a tentative one, so the city should take the time to submit a completed plan. There was discussion and clarification.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. CODE ENFORCEMENT:** CM Ausmus asked about ticket and reporting. Clerk Evans-Teague explained that the new ticket books are finally in. CM Ausmus would like to see regular reports.
- B. RESOLUTION 25-08 FOR WSDOT CARB LOAN:** Clerk Evans-Teague explained this resolution is the formal presentation of what the council has already approved and went over the terms. CM Hale reported on recent fuel sales and goals for the airport. There was discussion and questions. There were some questions about project status. CM Ausmus asked about revenue projections. There was discussion re: electrical permits. CM Hale is still looking into permits and whether they are needed. The city will err on the side of caution, if it is not clear. CM Tysz moved to approve Resolution 25-08. CM Hale seconded the motion. CM Martin abstained. CM Thomas, Currier, Jaeger, Ausmus, Hale and Tysz voted yes. The motion carried.
- C. EQUIPMENT RENTALS/FINANCIAL POLICY:** There was discussion about financial policy. Tekoa doesn't have a formal policy. CM Ausmus would like to see a copy of the credit card statement in the packet. Clerk Evans-Teague will look at SAO publications for financial policy formation and put it on the next agenda.
- D. GOLF COURSE:** CM Ausmus would like to see the city make the golf course a priority in the next year and dispel the rumor about selling the golf course. There was discussion. CM Tysz would like to see the city invest in the golf course. CM Martin spoke about where things left off with the clubhouse upgrade process and what the Port of Whitman will support.
- E. WAIVING LATE FEES FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY FEDERAL SHUTDOWNS:** CM Ausmus brought up the federal furloughs. There was discussion about helping our citizens. Clerk Evans-Teague let the council know what the lawyer said and recommended that citizens in need of help come in and make a payment plan. Clerk Evans-Teague will post this option at the post office, bank and office.

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS:

- A. MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Schulz reported the grader was hauled up to Spokane for repair. He will check in tomorrow to see if they know what the problem is and keep in touch with the council. CM Martin suggested having a maximum amount for repairs depending on what was found.
- B. STAFF REPORT:** Steven Thomas reported on the general activities and problem-solving activities of the public works department for water and sewer over the last several months. He also reported on airport activities and what is needed there, specifically re: wiring boxes. Steven also specifically mentioned manholes that need to be waterproofed and a few other needed repairs. He has been working on implementing safety policies and procedures. Warren, Henkle and Park St. received crack sealing. Supervisor Thomas has been looking into "package sewer plant" options. It should take about two weeks for him to receive estimates to pass along to Century West. Public Works has

used almost all the meters on the shelf, reserving a few for winter back-up. Steven is in a Water Exam Prep class this week and then will go back to studying for Sewer II. Jeff Latkowski is studying for his pesticide license. Steven would like to remind everyone that burn pile limbs should be 4" in diameter, or less. Grass, leaves and compostables do not go in the burn pile, so people should look for the compost section for those items. There was discussion. Clerk Evans-Teague reported that the Critical Areas Update Planning Grant has come through. Framework will submit documents for signing for the next meeting.

COUNCIL REPORTS & COMMENTS: Cheri Currier asked about office hours and extending them from 8-5pm. CM Martin reported he is working on the sign boards. Once things are sealed in plastic he will put them up. CM Jaeger volunteered to help people with leaf pickup. If people rake their leaves and put them in plastic bags, they will pick them up and put them on the leaf pile. CM Hale reported on the fraud training by SAO last week. He thought it was very useful. CM Hale also reported on the 3rd quarter financial reporting. There was discussion.

XI. APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS AND CLAIMS: None.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT: CM Tysz moved to adjourn. CM Hale seconded the motion. Christina Kisskeys asked about getting the nonprofit rate for teaching a class at the community center. CM Ausmus suggested she bring in a written plan for the council next meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Mayor Schulz adjourned the meeting at 7:49 P.M.

APPROVED:

Roy Schulz - Mayor

ATTEST:

Eliza Evans-Teague- Clerk/Treasurer