

NOVEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

Mayor:
Roy Schulz

Council:
Shelly Ausmus
Michael Hale
Pete Martin
Mandy Prince
Angie Rambo
BJ Sperber
Dave Tysz

Clerk/Treasurer:
Eliza Evans-Teague

Deputy Clerk:
Donnell Ellsworth

**Maintenance/
Animal Control:**
Kevin Turnbough
Steven Thomas

**Code Enforcement
Officer:**
Mike Bogenreif
509-828-2144
tekoacodeenforcem
ent@outlook.com

Building Inspector:
Steve Haxton
509-981-2157

Office Hours:
8:00 A.M. to
4:00 P.M.

Council Meetings:
First & Third
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

November 2 - Empire Theatre Board

5:30 P.M. - Empire Theatre

November 3 - Chamber of Commerce

7:30 A.M. - Éclair's

November 6 - City Council Meeting

6:00 P.M. - City Hall

November 7 - Whitman County Hosp. District

6:30 P.M. - City Hall

November 7 - Ambulance Meeting

6:30 P.M. - Ambulance Building

November 14 - Healthy Tekoa Coalition

9:00 A.M. - School District Boardroom

November 16 - Food Distribution

8:00-11:00 A.M. - City Hall

November 20 - City Council Meeting

6:00 P.M. - City Hall

November 21 - Parks and Rec.

6:00 P.M. - City Hall

November 29 - Ambulance Board

6:30 P.M. - Ambulance Bldg.



The City of Tekoa will have our council meeting on Monday, November 6th, and 20th, at 6:00 P.M., in the Tekoa City Hall Council Chambers. You may join in person.

Message from the Mayor—



Greetings to everybody. As I compose this message, we have just experienced a pretty sweet couple of weeks weather-wise, and I will truly be sad to say goodbye to fall. As nice as it has been, it would really be beneficial for my farmer friends if we would get some rain, so if anyone has a rain dance or another trick up their sleeve to get some much-needed precipitation, it would be greatly appreciated.

We have an election on November 7, and I would encourage everyone who is a registered voter to educate themselves on the issues, make an informed decision and fill out a ballot. There are a couple of points that were made the night of the debates. The first one is that the mayor cannot "give" himself a raise. Only the council can approve pay increases or other expenditures with a majority vote. The mayor has the right to hire and fire. They also have the responsibility to oversee and evaluate employees. Because they work closely with the employees, it is within their job description to manage personnel issues and present to the council any suggestions on pay adjustments.

As you may have seen, the reader board by the Gymkhana Ground is up and running with the help of our Public Works Department and Darrell Thies' electrical expertise. Anybody who has ever had to deal with grants knows the hoops that are required to jump through, and the city office, once again, waded through the paperwork to make it happen. Tekoa School District will partner with the city and supply content to be displayed. I think it will really add to our "Tekoa" experience. Once we have an internet connection there, the information will start to roll out! Port of Whitman Commissioner Karl Webber recently reached out to me and informed me that the Port of Whitman had a couple of surplus walkways that could be what we need to fix the walking bridge on Water Street. After looking at a couple of pictures and putting a tape measure to the walkways, bridge, and other consultations, it was decided we could make them work. The walkways should arrive soon, and as soon as we develop a plan, the project will start.

Over the last two weeks, I spent four days out of town at conferences for the city. The conversations I shared, and the ideas and information that were exchanged were incredibly valuable. Halloween is approaching, so don't short yourself on candy, and make sure

to toss the parents on the sidewalk a morsel or two. I really appreciate your hearing me wander through these newsletters. I hope you find them useful. "A ship in port is safe, but that is not what ships were built for".

~Benazir Bhutto

Thanks all. We will talk soon.

Roy



TEKOA FOOD PANTRY

Tekoa Food Pantry will be distributing commodities, on
November 16, 2023, from 8:00-11:00 A.M.





Tekoa Parks & Recreation

Tekoa Parks and Rec. District would like to thank you for your continued support. As you go to the polls to vote for the tax levy that allows us to keep our pool open and our parks maintained, **please remember that this is a replacement levy and will not be an increase in your property taxes.** Please contact us at tekoaparks@gmail.com if you have any questions or concerns.

We also welcome Sunni Prince to our Board of Commissioners. Sunni will be replacing Fran Martin who served for 10+ years and to whom we are so grateful for all her hard work and commitment. Thank you to Fran and welcome aboard, Sunni!

PUBLIC NOTICE: The Tekoa Parks and Recreation District will have a public hearing for our **2024 Final Budget** and for our **2024 Tax Levy Certification**. These public hearings will take place at our regularly scheduled business meeting on Tuesday, November 21, 2023, at 6:00 P.M., at Tekoa City Hall. All citizens are welcome to attend.

Whitman County Hospital District

Whitman County Hospital District #4 will hold a public hearing for our **2024 Final Budget** and a public hearing for our **2024 Tax Levy Certification** on November 7, 2023, 6:30 P.M., at Tekoa City Hall. All citizens are welcome to attend.



HEALTHY Tekoa News!

We need you! The 2023 Tekoa Community Survey ends on November 15, and we need 20 more to reach 100. Please fill out the anonymous survey online or pick up a paper copy from Éclairs or the library. bit.ly/TekoaSurvey23

We will be at Small Business Saturday at the Tekoa Community Center (by Empire Theater) for **FREE** Family Crafts. Come visit our table on Saturday, November 25, from 10-2 P.M. Shop local and play local! There is a lot going on that day. You can get connected with **HEALTHY Tekoa** Tuesday, November 14, at 9 A.M., at the Tekoa School District Office and on Zoom. Email jolson@tekoasd.org for the meeting link. Join us and be part of positive change in our community.

TEKOA CITY HALL

Please note that the week of October 25, the blue cardboard recycling bin was moved to the southeast side of city hall and the public works shop. You will now see that it is enclosed in a fence. We will be unlocking the gate during regular business hours: Monday-Friday, 7:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. We are hoping to stop some of the illegal dumping and other problems that have been happening.

EMPIRE THEATRE

The **FREE** movie this month will be on **Small Business Saturday**, November 25, at 2:00 P.M. It will be a Christmas movie, of course, but there are so many to choose from, the title has not been decided yet. Concessions (popcorn, assorted candies, pop, and water) will be available for purchase and donations are always appreciated.

Tekoa Library Happenings

The Tekoa Library was gifted with over 200 used children's books that are in excellent condition. I have one free holiday-themed book per family, as supplies last. All the others are for sale to raise money for a Lego Club. The sale will run all month long and includes books for adults, movies, and puzzles as well. Also, take note that the town's Gingerbread Contest will start in December this year (rather than on Small Business Saturday) and will be held at the library. Stay tuned for more information. For info. on Kids Club, Teen/Tween Club, Books & Bunco, Storytime, and Crafters Circle, follow Tekoa Library on FB or visit our website: www.whitcolib.org, or call Shelly at the library 509-284-5657.

