

TOWN
of
PARADISE VALLEY



TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
6401 E. LINCOLN DRIVE
PARADISE VALLEY, ARIZONA 85253
MINUTES
THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2026

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Mayor Stanton called to order the Town Council Meeting for Thursday, May 28, 2026 at 3:00 PM in the Town Hall Boardroom, 6401 E. Lincoln Drive, Paradise Valley, AZ 85253.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Mark Stanton
Council Member Ellen Andeen-Keller
Council Member Karen Liepmann
Council Member Scott Moore attended by video conference
Council Member Julie Pace attended by video conference
Council Member Anna Thomasson

Vice Mayor Christine Labelle was not present

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Town Manager Andrew B. Ching
Town Attorney Andrew J. McGuire
Police Commander Joseph DiVenti
Town Clerk Duncan Miller
Community Development Director Chad Weaver
Public Works Superintendent Robert Deserano
Management Analyst Amy Rebenar
ASU Marvin Andrews Fellow Erin Sweeny
Community Resource Officer Vasilije Sagovnovic

2. STUDY SESSION ITEMS

**26-170 Discussion of FY 26 Community Services Funding
Recommendations**

Management Analyst Amy Rebenar presented the Fiscal Year 2026 Community Services Funding Recommendations.

Note: Minutes of Town Council meetings are prepared in accordance with the provisions of Arizona Revised Statutes. These minutes are intended to be an accurate reflection of action taken and direction given by the Town Council and are not verbatim transcripts. Video recordings of the meetings along with staff reports and presentations are available online (www.paradisevalleyaz.gov) and are on file in the Office of the Town Clerk. Persons with disabilities who experience difficulties accessing this information may request accommodation by calling 480-948-7411 (voice) or 480-348-1811 (TDD).

She discussed the background and history of the funding program. She said the Town has supported approximately 40 different community service agencies since 1985. In 2014, The Town Council adopted Resolution 1304 creating the Community Services Funding Policy. The Policy allows the Council to choose from among several options to distribute funding including:

- Staff needs assessment and recommendations to Council
- Request for proposal / application-based process
- Hybrid processes
- Council-directed program funding

In December 2025, the Council directed staff to use a hybrid model for FY26 to invite applications for funding from a narrow list of program areas.

She summarized the process that was followed:

Notice of funding opportunity was released in March. Applications collected during April. The Community Services Funding Advisory Group to the Town Manager met in early May to review and develop recommendations. The group included:

- Town Manager Andrew Ching
- Management Analyst Amy Rebenar
- Police Department CRO Vasilije Sagovnovic
- ASU Marvin Andrews Fellow Erin Sweeny
- Two Council Members (Councilmember Liepmann and Vice Mayor Labelle appointed by the Mayor)

The initial recommendations were presented at the May 14 Council Study Session. Based on Council feedback, the Advisory Group reconvened and revised the recommendations. Most funding amounts were reduced to align with original agency requests. She noted that only one organization (DUET) had previously received Town funding. Other previously funded organizations were contacted and invited to apply but no applications were received by the deadline.

| FY 2026 Community Services Funding Recommendation | | |
|--|------------------|-----------------------|
| Applicant | Request | Recommendation |
| The Aris Foundation | \$62,000 | \$50,000 |
| Phoenix Children's Hospital Foundation | \$50,000 | \$50,000 |
| Phoenix Rescue Mission | \$25,000 | \$25,000 |
| UMOM | \$20,000 | \$20,000 |
| Duet: Partners in Health and Aging | \$5,000 | \$5,000 |
| Friends of the Scottsdale Public Library | \$10,000 | \$10,000 |
| Hushabye Nursery | \$25,000 | \$25,000 |
| Valley Youth Theater | \$5,000 | \$5,000 |
| TOTAL | \$202,000 | \$190,000 |

The Council discussed the purpose and goals of the Community Services Funding program, the process followed this year, and the agencies recommended for funding. Discussion focused on:

Data & Metrics: Councilmembers expressed disappointment about the lack of measurable outcomes from agencies supported in the past, especially homelessness funding awarded through Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG). Ms. Rebenar confirmed that for the past two years \$200,000 was awarded to Community Bridges Inc (CBI) through MAG. CBI's report for FY25 funding arrived today and was not yet reviewed. In addition to performance metrics, Councilmembers questioned the direct benefit to Paradise Valley residents from the agencies recommended for funding.

Agency Selection and Process: Councilmember questioned why some historically funded organizations did not apply such as Central Arizona Shelter Services (CASS). Of the agencies recommended for funding, some Councilmembers thought (1) Hushabye Nursery was better suited for opioid settlement funds rather than community services funds; (2) Valley Youth Theater was outside the intended scope of the funding policy; (3) Aris Foundation was based too far away from Town and would have a lower return on investment.

The Council discussed revising next year's process and suggested the following:

- Identify priority needs first.
- Then issue targeted outreach to relevant agencies.
- Consider eliminating categories such as arts funding.
- Some argued Town funding should return to historic levels and focus primarily on homelessness. Others sought to continue supporting a combination of homelessness and community service programs.

The Council discussed next steps.

Councilmember Pace suggested reducing agency funding to \$95,000 as follows:

- Scottsdale Public Library – \$10,000
- DUET – \$10,000
- UMOM – \$25,000
- Phoenix Children's Hospital – \$25,000
- Phoenix Rescue Mission – \$20,000
- Valley Youth Theatre – \$5,000

Do not fund Aris or Hushabye Nursery in this cycle and focus on developing a new funding process next year.

Councilmembers Moore and Andeen-Keller expressed partial support for aspects of this alternative and, additionally, supported reducing the community services budget in future years.

Mayor Stanton identified a consensus among himself, Councilmembers Liepmann and Thomasson, and Vice Mayor Labelle (based on correspondence she sent him prior to the meeting) to move forward with the Community Services Funding Advisory Group's recommendation as presented and schedule this item for action at the June 11th meeting.

Town Manager Ching summarized that staff would proceed with the funding recommendations as presented today for formal action at the June 11 meeting. He said individual Councilmembers may make alternative motions to award funding at that time. He said staff would compile recommendations for improving next year's process.

Town Attorney McGuire confirmed that the Council may alter its policy or allocate funds differently at future properly noticed meetings. He received consensus from the Council that instead of including individual funding agreements with the June 11 Council packet, the recommended Council action would be to grant the Town Manager authority to execute final agreements with the Council-approved funding amounts.

26-164 Discussion of Town Hall Fascia Restoration Options

Public Works Superintendent Robert Deserano stated that the Town Hall fascia has been damaged over time from natural elements causing severe deterioration. Attempts to repair damaged areas have not resolved the underlying issue of water intrusion to the exposed portions of the wooden structure. In addition, the wood patio shade structure by the staff kitchen is severely weathered and has started to separate from the building.

He presented three options to address the damage:

1. Full replacement of the wood fascia, like-for-like, with steel connection plates on both sides of the beam
2. Cut back beams to original fascia, remove and replace original fascia, and add a drip edge
3. Cut back beams to original fascia, remove and replace original fascia, add metal panel fascia

The staff recommendation was to remove the outer fascia and reduce overhanging trusses and install a metal panel with drip edge mitigating water intrusion and replace the patio canopy.

There was consensus to replace the wooden fascia like-for-like. There was further direction to consult with an architect and structural engineer to consider options to prevent water intrusion by incorporating wrapped metal or composite materials while maintaining the historical design elements and building profile. Staff was asked to bring back photo simulations and design elevations showing comparisons between current conditions and the architect's / engineer's recommended replacement.

Mayor Stanton recessed the meeting at 4:45 PM.

3. EXECUTIVE SESSION

26-154 The Town Council may go into executive session at one or more times during the meeting as needed to confer with the Town Attorney for legal advice regarding any of the items listed on the agenda as authorized by A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3).

4. BREAK

DRAFT

5. RECONVENE FOR REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Stanton reconvened the meeting at 6:00 PM in the Town Hall Council Chambers.

6. ROLL CALL

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Mark Stanton
Council Member Ellen Andeen-Keller
Council Member Karen Liepmann
Council Member Scott Moore attended by video conference
Council Member Julie Pace attended by video conference
Council Member Anna Thomasson

Vice Mayor Christine Labelle was not present

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Town Manager Andrew B. Ching
Town Attorney Andrew J. McGuire
Police Commander Joseph DiVenti
Town Clerk Duncan Miller
Community Development Director Chad Weaver
CFO Leslie DeReche
Public Works Director Isaac Chavira
Senior Planner George Burton
Capital Projects Manager Sam Kayat

7. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Patsy Lowry and Ed Lowry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

8. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations

9. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no public comments.

10. CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Ching summarized the items on the items on the consent agenda.

A motion was made by Council Member Liepmann, seconded by Council Member Thomasson, to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of items 26-161 and 26-171. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Mayor Stanton
Council Member Andeen-Keller
Council Member Liepmann
Council Member Moore

Council Member Pace
Council Member Thomasson

Absent: 1 - Vice Mayor Labelle

26-155 Minutes of Town Council Meeting May 14, 2026

26-161 Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Historical Advisory Committee's Recommendation to Honor Edward F. Lowry with a Memorial Plaque

Recommendation: Approve the Historical Advisory Committee's recommendation to honor former Mayor Ed Lowry with a memorial plaque in the Town Hall Reflection Garden

A motion was made by Council Member Andeen-Keller, seconded by Council Member Liepmann, to approve the Historical Advisory Committee's recommendation to honor former Mayor Ed Lowry with a memorial plaque in the Town Hall Reflection Garden. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Mayor Stanton
Council Member Andeen-Keller
Council Member Liepmann
Council Member Moore
Council Member Pace
Council Member Thomasson

Absent: 1 - Vice Mayor Labelle

26-167 Discussion and Possible Action to Adopt Resolution 2026-07 Approving the Annual Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) Pension Funding Policy for Fiscal Year 2027

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2026-07 approving the annual PSPRS Pension Funding Policy

26-166 Discussion and Possible Action to Adopt Resolution 2026-08 Approving the Financial Management Policies

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2026-08 approving the Fiscal Year 2027 Financial Management Policies

26-165 Discussion and Possible Action to Adopt Resolution 2026-09 Designating the Town's CFO as Filing Agent for the Annual Arizona Expenditure Limitation Report (AELR) for Fiscal Year 2027

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2026-09 designating a chief fiscal officer for the submission of the annual expenditure limitation report (AELR).

26-169 Discussion and Action Authorizing a Contract Amendment to S+C Communications (Scutari and Cieslak, Inc.) for Public

Communications Services, extending the Term of the Contract to June 30, 2027

Recommendation: Approve and Authorize the Town Manager to execute an amendment to the contract with S+C Communications for public communications services extending the term of the contract to June 30, 2027.

26-171 Discussion and Possible Action to Approve a Contract Extension with HighGround, Inc for Legislative Services on Behalf of the Town

Recommendation: Approve and authorize the Town Manager to execute the first amendment to the services agreement with HighGround, Inc for legislative services extending the contract to June 30, 2027 in the amount of \$78,000.

A motion was made by Council Member Thomasson, seconded by Council Member Andeen-Keller, to approve and authorize the Town Manager to execute the first amendment to the services agreement with HighGround, Inc for legislative services extending the contract to June 30, 2027 in the amount of \$78,000. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Mayor Stanton
 Council Member Andeen-Keller
 Council Member Liepmann
 Council Member Moore
 Council Member Pace
 Council Member Thomasson

Absent: 1 - Vice Mayor Labelle

11. PUBLIC HEARING

26-153 Discussion and Possible Action to Adopt Ordinance 2026-01 Approving the Phoenix Country Day School Intermediate Special Use Permit Amendment (SUP-25-06)

Senior Planner George Burton presented an application by Rose Law Group P.C., on behalf of Phoenix Country Day School (PCDS), for an Intermediate Special Use Permit amendment (SUP-25-06) for Phoenix Country Day School located at 3901 E Stanford Drive to update/renovate the existing baseball field, construct a new Wellness Center building, and add a digital display sign in the north parking lot and the east parking lot for school use.

The Planning Commission reviewed and held a public hearing on the application and voted to forward it to the Town Council with a recommendation for approval with 19 stipulations. He summarized the stipulations.

Planning Commission Chair Pamela Georgelos explained the Commission's recommendations focusing on the stipulation related to the digital sign board and their concern for the Town's dark skies goals.

Tom Galvin, attorney with Rose Law Group, spoke on behalf of the applicant. He thanked the Planning Commission for their diligence and the Town for its consideration.

Mayor Stanton opened the public hearing. There were no public comments.
Mayor Stanton closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Council Member Liepmann, seconded by Council Member Moore, to adopt Ordinance Number 2026-01, approving an Intermediate Special Use Permit for Phoenix Country Day School to update/renovate the existing baseball field, construct a new Wellness Center building, and add a digital display sign in the north parking lot and the east parking lot for school use.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Mayor Stanton
Council Member Andeen-Keller
Council Member Liepmann
Council Member Moore
Council Member Pace
Council Member Thomasson

Absent: 1 - Vice Mayor Labelle

12. ACTION ITEMS

26-157 Discussion and Possible Action to Approve a Job Order Contract for Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation

Capital Projects Manager Sam Kayat presented a request to approve a job order contract to perform rehabilitation work on the Town's sewer infrastructure. He stated that the Town's sewer system outfalls into the City of Scottsdale wastewater system. The Town is obligated under an intergovernmental agreement with Scottsdale to conduct a detailed assessment of the sewer system every five years and make repairs based on that assessment. He explained that during the current five-year sewer CIP Rehabilitation Plan, 200 manholes were identified in need of repair, and 74 sewer pipe segments were identified in need of repair.

He stated that this contract is to rehabilitate three manholes and repair four pipeline segments totaling 1,100 feet.

He summarized the public outreach process, timeline, and budget. The FY2026 was \$525,000 and the project cost was \$279,922. The project would commence in June 2026 and be completed within 30-days.

Mr. Kayat responded to questions from the Council.

There were no public comments.

A motion was made by Council Member Liepmann, seconded by Council Member Andeen-Keller, to approve and authorize the Town Manager to Execute a Job Order Contract with B&F Contracting for Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation in an amount not to exceed \$279,922. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Mayor Stanton
Council Member Andeen-Keller
Council Member Liepmann
Council Member Moore
Council Member Pace
Council Member Thomasson

Absent: 1 - Vice Mayor Labelle

26-158 Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Construction Services Contracts for the Salt River Project Underground Utility Conversion Project on Rose Lane

Mr. Kayat presented the Rose Lane SRP utility undergrounding project. The project location was the southwest corner of Rose Lane and Palo Crisit Road and involved the removal of three utility poles. The total project cost was \$450,900 and would be funding with the Town's allocation of \$225,450 in SRP aesthetics funds with the balance being paid by the Town and resident contributions. Construction was anticipated to begin in June 2026 and be completed within four weeks.

Mr. Kayat responded to questions from the Council.

There were no public comments.

A motion was made by Council Member Thomasson, seconded by Council Member Andeen-Keller, to approve and authorize the Town Manager to execute SRP Construction Services Contract No. 4227754 in an amount not to exceed \$218,700 and SRP Construction Services Contract No. 4227757 in an amount not to exceed \$6,700 for the Rose Lane electric underground utility conversion project.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Mayor Stanton
Council Member Andeen-Keller
Council Member Liepmann
Council Member Moore
Council Member Pace
Council Member Thomasson

Absent: 1 - Vice Mayor Labelle

Council Member Liepmann and Council Member Moore departed the meeting at 6:55 PM

13. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

26-156 Consideration of Requests for Future Agenda Items

Town Manager Ching summarized the future agenda schedule.

14. MAYOR / COUNCIL / MANAGER COMMENTS

Council Members provided comments and updates on current events.

15. ADJOURN

A motion was made at 6:58 PM by Council Member Andeen-Keller, seconded by Council Member Thomasson, to adjourn. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Mayor Stanton
Council Member Andeen-Keller
Council Member Pace
Council Member Thomasson

Absent: 3 - Vice Mayor Labelle
Council Member Liepmann
Council Member Moore

Mayor Stanton adjourned the meeting at 6:58 PM

TOWN OF PARADISE VALLEY

SUBMITTED BY:

Duncan Miller, Town Clerk

