

TOWN *of* **PARADISE VALLEY**



**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
6401 E. LINCOLN DRIVE
PARADISE VALLEY, ARIZONA 85253
MINUTES
THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2025**

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Mayor Stanton called to order the Town Council Meeting for Thursday, May 22, 2025 at 2:00 PM in the Town Hall Boardroom, 6401 E. Lincoln Drive, Paradise Valley, AZ 85253.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

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

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Town Manager Andrew B. Ching
Town Attorney Andrew McGuire
Police Chief Freeman Carney
Town Clerk Duncan Miller
Community Development Director Chad Weaver
Public Works Director Isaac Chavira
CFO Leslie DeReche
Planning Manager Paul Michaud
Town Engineer Shar Johnson
Capital Projects Manager Sam Kayat

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 25-121** **Discussion, authorized by A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(1), regarding annual Town Attorney services review and discussion or consultation with the Town Attorney, as authorized by A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(4), regarding the Town Attorney services contract.**
- 25-122** **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).**

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).

3. STUDY SESSION ITEMS

25-117 Discussion of Zoning Code Analysis Update

Community Development Director Chad Weaver provided background on the evolution of the Town's Zoning Code since its adoption in 1961 through today comprising approximately 140 text amendments. He said it is good practice to periodically review the Code for compliance with state statutes and identify opportunities to improve clarity. In consequence, Michael Baker and Associates was retained to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the existing zoning code to identify inconsistencies, conflicts, and duplications. Based on the initial findings and recommendations from the consultant, he recommended that the Town proceed with the next phase of the contract to 'clean up' the Zoning Code to codify recent changes in state statute, incorporate best practices, and reorganize, refine, and clarify existing language to make it easier for staff, developers, and residents to understand.

The Council discussed potential substantive text amendments including rooftop decks, how natural grade is calculated, sport courts/pickleball courts, incorporating the Hillside Safety Code in the Zoning Ordinance, and construction staging area regulations. It was suggested that a Statement of Direction process be used to fully define the scope of code changes to be considered.

There was Council support for scheduling a vote at the next meeting on a contract with Michael Baker International, Inc to prepare recommended updates to the Zoning Code. The Town Council directed that periodic Council "check ins" be included in the review and update process.

25-119 Discussion of the Doubletree Ranch Road Entryway Project Update

Mr. Weaver updated the Town Council on the Doubletree Ranch Rd Entryway project which is now at the 90% design plan stage. He said utility coordination and clearances were in progress. Minor adjustments were made to the fence pilasters to accommodate Arizona Public Service access requirements. The amended intergovernmental agreement with the City of Scottsdale has been drafted and reviewed by both parties. The construction cost estimate was updated from \$616,000 at the 60% design stage to \$636,000 at the 90% design stage. The revision reflected refinement in design, materials, and scope as the project nears its final stages.

There was consensus to schedule the intergovernmental agreement with Scottsdale at the next meeting.

25-128 Discussion and Possible Direction to Staff regarding Ordinance 2025-03, Amending Chapter 2, Article 2-2, Section 2-2-2 of the Town Code relating to the Annual Process for Selection of the Vice Mayor

Town Attorney Andrew McGuire summarized a proposed ordinance to provide a process for the selection of the vice mayor on a rotational basis. Currently, the vice mayor is elected by the Town Council at the first meeting in January of each year. The proposed ordinance would modify the process to provide that the person selected to serve as Vice Mayor would be the most tenured Council Member who has not previously served as the Vice Mayor within the prior four years. If the most-tenured member does not wish to serve, the Vice Mayor position would be filled by the next-most-tenured Council Member who is willing to serve. In the event more than one Council Member has the same number of years served on the Town Council, the most-tenured member will be the one who received the highest number of votes for the position of Council Member, calculated at the first election at which that member was elected.

The Council discussed and debated the merits of the ordinance and whether it was needed.

Staff was directed to consider the following scenarios and bring back a revised ordinance for further discussion:

- What happens if a member has already served twice?
- What happens when there is an appointed Council Member?
- What if a Council Member is under criminal investigation?
- Should there be a Council confirmation vote or veto option?
- If two Council Members have the same tenure, should the determining factor be based on who received the most votes at the first election or most recent election? Is there an alternative to this process such as which member has not served recently.

A request was also made to revise the Code section to use gender neutral language.

25-126 Discussion of 2025 Community Services Funding Recommendations

Town Clerk Duncan Miller summarized the Fiscal Year 2025 Community Services Funding Program recommendations. He said the Town Council budgeted \$65,000 for the Program. At the March 27th Council meeting, staff was directed to conduct a needs assessment to identify services and programs benefitting underserved populations in the Town or broader community. An advisory group comprised of the Town Manager, Town Clerk, Community Resource Officer, and Code Enforcement Officer met to discuss options and developed the following recommendations:

Agency	Amount
Central AZ Shelter Services	\$35,000
Duet: Partners in Health & Aging	\$ 5,000
AZ Friends of Foster Children	\$15,000
SUSD Foundation – Food Assistance	\$ 5,000
Voices for CASA Children	\$ 5,000
	<u>\$65,000</u>

He summarized the missions of the organizations and the specific initiatives to be funded.

There was Council consensus to schedule the proposed Community Services funding agreements for a

vote at the next meeting.

Council Member Moore departed the meeting at 3:59 PM.

A motion was made at 4:05 PM by Vice Mayor Andeen-Keller, seconded by Council Member Pace, to go into executive session to discuss item 25-121. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Absent: 1 - Council Member Moore

Mayor Stanton recessed the meeting at 5:25 PM.

4. BREAK

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
Vice Mayor Ellen Andeen-Keller
Council Member Christine Labelle
Council Member Karen Liepmann
Council Member Julie Pace
Council Member Anna Thomasson

Council Member Scott Moore was not present

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Town Manager Andrew B. Ching
Town Attorney Andrew J. McGuire
Police Chief Freeman Carney
Town Clerk Duncan Miller
Community Development Director Chad Weaver
Public Works Director Isaac Chavira
CFO Leslie DeReche

7. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Cherokee Elementary School students Tushar, Sneha, Pia, Vani, and Vian Gohel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

8. PRESENTATIONS**25-125 Celebration of the Town of Paradise Valley's 64th Anniversary**

Mayor Stanton announced that the Town of Paradise Valley was incorporated 64 years ago this month. Council Member Liepmann, who serves as liaison to the Historical Advisory Committee, introduced Committee Chair Catherine Kauffman and Committee members Julie Garrison and Beth Wickstrom. They distributed cupcakes with the Town Seal printed on them to mark the occasion.

25-134 Recognition of National Public Works Week

Mayor Stanton presented a proclamation declaring May 18 – 24, 2025 as National Public Works Week in Paradise Valley. Members of the Public Works Department present to receive the proclamation included: Public Works Director Isaac Chavira, Public Works, Superintendent Robert DeSerano, Facilities Technician Eric Shurtleff, Lead Facilities Technician John Fraley, Technician Steve Saraydar, Public Works Technician Jose Campos, Public Works Technician Jesus Chavez, and Lead Technician Roberto Olivas.

9. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Residents Joy MacLean, Paul Dembow, Sandra Toubassi, Robert Sterrett, Michele Phillips-Baransky, Jini Simpson, and Bill MacLean commented on what they perceived as incivility demonstrated by a Councilmember and introduction of party politics in Town elections. They encouraged the Council to enforce rules of civility and decorum.

Resident Lou Baransky addressed the Town Council regarding the FY2026 budget and suggested the Council scrutinize certain budget line items.

10. CONSENT AGENDA

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

25-124 Minutes of Town Council Meeting May 8, 2025

25-129 Discussion and Possible Action to Adopt Resolution 2025-06 Designating the Town's Filing Agent for the Annual Expenditure Limitation Report for FY 2025-2026

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2025-06 designating a Chief Fiscal Officer for the submission of the annual expenditure limitation report.

Staff Contact: Duncan Miller, 480-348-3610

25-110 Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Second Amendment to Town Manager's Employment Agreement

Recommendation: Authorize the Mayor to execute the Second Amendment to the Town Manager's Employment Agreement, Contract No. CON-23-060-TMG-A2.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Andeen-Keller, seconded by Council Member Pace, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Absent: 1 - Council Member Moore

11. PUBLIC HEARING**25-136 Discussion and Possible Action to Adopt Resolution 2025-04
Approving the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026**

CFO DeReche presented the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2025/26. She stated that the Final Budget is a result of Management and Town Council's collective efforts to identify, communicate, and fund priorities for the operating and capital budgets during the upcoming fiscal year. Discussions regarding the development of the Final Budget for FY2026 were held on March 7, March 27, April 10, and May 8, 2025. She recommended that the Council adopt Resolution 2025-04 approving the FY2026 Final Budget in the amount of \$61,326,804.

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

12. SPECIAL MEETING**25-131 Discussion and Possible Action to Adopt Resolution 2025-04
Approving the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026**

Mayor Stanton recessed the regular meeting and convened a special meeting.

A motion was made by Council Member Thomasson, seconded by Vice Mayor Andeen-Keller, to adopt Resolution 2025-04 Approving the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-26. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Absent: 1 - Council Member Moore

Mayor Stanton reconvened the regular meeting.

13. ACTION ITEMS**25-130 Discussion and Possible Action to Adopt Resolution 2025-05
Amending the Town of Paradise Valley Master Fee Schedule**

CFO Leslie DeReche presented a recommendation to amend the Court Appointed Attorney Fee in the Master Fee Schedule from \$250 to a range of \$0.00 - \$400 as determined by the judge based on a financial affidavit.

There were no public comments and no further Council discussion.

A motion was made by Council Member Pace, seconded by Council Member Labelle, to adopt Resolution 2025-05 amending the Town of Paradise Valley Master Fee Schedule. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Absent: 1 - Council Member Moore

14. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

25-091 Consideration of Requests for Future Agenda Items

Town Manager Ching summarized the future agenda schedule.

15. MAYOR / COUNCIL / MANAGER COMMENTS

Council Members provided comments and updates on current events.

16. ADJOURN

A motion was made at 7:17 PM by Council Member Pace, seconded by Council Member Liepmann, to adjourn. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Absent: 1 - Council Member Moore

Mayor Stanton adjourned the meeting at 7:17 PM

TOWN OF PARADISE VALLEY

SUBMITTED BY:

Duncan Miller, Town Clerk

STATE OF ARIZONA)

:ss.

COUNTY OF MARICOPA)

CERTIFICATION

I, Duncan Miller, Town Clerk of the Town of Paradise Valley, Arizona hereby certify that the following is a full, true, and correct copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Paradise Valley Town Council held on Thursday, May 22, 2025

I further certify that said Municipal Corporation is duly organized and existing. The meeting was properly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Duncan Miller, Town Clerk