

**TOWN**  
*of*  
**PARADISE VALLEY**



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**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
**6401 E. LINCOLN DRIVE**  
**PARADISE VALLEY, ARIZONA 85253**  
**MINUTES**  
**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2026**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**

Mayor Stanton called to order the Town Council Meeting for Thursday, February 12, 2026 at 3:00 PM in the Town Hall Boardroom, 6401 E. Lincoln Drive, Paradise Valley, AZ 85253.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**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  
Human Resources Director Gina Monger  
Public Works Superintendent Chris Martinez  
Management Analyst Amy Rebenar

**2. STUDY SESSION ITEMS**

**26-021      Annual Review of Investment Portfolio and Investment Policy**

Annette Gaston, Director at PFM Asset Management, the Town's investment management consultant, summarized the Town's investment portfolio for the quarter ending December 31, 2025. She presented a cash flow analysis and historical portfolio balances. Based on the analysis she recommended investing excess liquidity in longer-term assets.

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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](http://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).

Ms. Gaston suggested potential updates to the Town's investment strategies to reflect current language in state statute including changes to Section 2 Government Sponsored Entities, Section 4 Local Government Investment Pools, and Section 9 Municipal Bonds.

CFO Leslie DeReche stated she will bring back recommended changes to the Town's Investment Policy at a future Council meeting.

The Council expressed concern that the Town has approximately \$95 million in cash in a single account. It was suggested that a provision be added to the Investment Policy to trigger an automatic review of the Town's asset allocation if cash reaches a certain level. There was also Council interest in receiving investment portfolio updates annually.

### **26-039                      Discussion of Permanent Base Adjustment and Capital Projects Accumulation Fund Ballot Measures**

CFO Leslie DeReche summarized the Arizona Constitutional amendment approved by the voters in 1980 known as the Arizona Expenditure Limitation Law. Its purpose is to control local government expenditures and limit future spending to inflation and population changes, with certain exclusions. There are options to adjust the expenditure limit, subject to voter approval, including a Permanent Base Adjustment and creating a Capital Projects Accumulation Fund. Voters previously approved permanent base adjustments in 2000, 2006, and 2016 and a Capital Projects Accumulation Fund in 1993 that expired in 2004.

She stated that the Town's annual budget is approaching the expenditure cap. The Town's population has remained constant which has retrained the expenditure cap. However, inflation, service level needs, and capital project expenses have increased.

Based on the Council's discussion at the January 22<sup>nd</sup> Study Session, Resolution 2026-01 was drafted to seek voter approval to increase the Town's expenditure limitation by \$20 million from \$48,281,082 to \$68,281,082. The additional expenditure authority would be used for public safety and street improvements. This action would not improve any new or additional taxes.

Ms. DeReche explained that another option to adjust the expenditure limit is to create a voter-approved Capital Projects Accumulation Fund which would allow the Town to accumulate excess revenue to pay for capital projects and land expenditures including streets, sewer systems, and other capital improvements. The revenue and expenditures would be excluded from the expenditure limitation.

The Council debated the purpose and need for one or both of the expenditure limit adjustments. The direction from the previous Study Session was to place the ballot measure(s) on the July 21<sup>st</sup> election, but

the Council discussed moving the election to November when the voter turnout is greater.

### **26-040 Discussion of Fiscal Year 2025/26 Pavement Preservation Program**

Public Works Superintendent Chirs Martinez presented a mid-year review of the Fiscal Year 2026 Pavement Preservation Program. He explained the Program milestones including pre-construction coordination, engineering, and public outreach. He provided an update on the projects scheduled for this year including

#### **Work Completed:**

- Scottsdale Rd – mill/overlay, concrete and ADA improvements
- Tatum Blvd – Microseal
- District 2 – Crack seal & Sealcoat
- Local Repairs in District 11 & 15

#### **Planned Work:**

- District 6 – mill/overlay
- Doubletree Ranch Rd – Spot Repairs

He recommended that the Town:

- Continue budgeting approximately \$3.05 million a year over 5 years
- Perform Pavement Condition Analysis Survey every 3 years
- Utilize Contracted services to perform cores prior to maintenance
- Utilize Contracted services to perform Quality Assurance/Testing during construction

### **26-029 Discussion of Statement of Direction for Phoenix Country Day School (3901 E Stanford Drive) Intermediate Special Use Permit Amendment (SUP-25-06)**

Senior Planner George Burton summarized a request submitted by Rose Law Group P.C., on behalf of Phoenix Country Day School located at 3901 E Stanford Drive, for an Intermediate Special Use Permit amendment (SUP-25-06) 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.

He explained that the renovated baseball field would remain in the current location on the west side of campus south of the existing maintenance buildings. Construction of the new Wellness Center would be located east of the baseball field and south of existing Middle School Classroom Building. One digital sign

would be constructed in the north parking lot on Stanford Drive. The other digital sign will be placed in the east parking lot adjoining 40th Street.

Mr. Burton summarized the draft Statement of Direction (SOD), which provides general guidelines and project parameters to focus the Planning Commission’s review of the Special Use Permit amendment. The SOD directed the Commission to concentrate on visible, audible, and operational impacts on the neighbors and to complete their review by April 21, 2026.

Jordan Rose responded to questions related to the new digital signage.

Mayor Stanton recessed the meeting at 5:35 PM

**3. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**26-034            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).**

This item was not considered.

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

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT**

Town Manager Andrew B. Ching  
Town Attorney Andrew J. McGuire  
Town Clerk Duncan Miller  
Commander Joseph DiVenti  
Community Development Director Chad Weaver  
Public Works Director Isaac Chavira  
CFO Leslie DeReche

## 7. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Stephanie Tippett, City of Scottsdale Parks and Recreation Manager for the McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## 8. PRESENTATIONS

### **26-022 Presentation by the Scottsdale Railroad & Mechanical Society regarding The Roundhouse & Splashpad Project at the McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park**

Mayor Stanton stated that the Town has a long history of partnering with the City of Scottsdale and the Scottsdale Railroad & Mechanical Society to enhance the amenities at the railroad park which includes helping to finance The Roundhouse & Splashpad Project. He introduced Bill Scarbrough, President of the McCormick-Stillman Railroad and Mechanical Society, who presented an update on the completion of the Roundhouse project.

### **26-037 Discussion and Possible Action to Recognize 6022 N 51st Place as a Historic Property in the Town of Paradise Valley**

Historical Advisory Committee Chair Catherine Kauffman presented the Committee's recommendation to recognize the Simpson home located at 6022 N 51<sup>st</sup> Place as an official historic property in the Town of Paradise Valley.

The Town Council approved the Historical Advisory Committee's recommendation by unanimous consent.

On behalf of Mayor Stanton, Council Member Andeen-Keller read a proclamation recognizing the addition of the home to the Historic Property Program and Mayor Stanton presented owners with a bronze plaque to mount on the property.

### **26-038 Discussion and Possible Action to Recognize 4015 E. Lincoln Drive as a Historic Property in the Town of Paradise Valley**

Historical Advisory Committee Chair Catherine Kauffman presented the Committee's recommendation to recognize the Simpson home located at 4015 E Lincoln Drive (Christ Church of the Ascension) as an official historic property in the Town of Paradise Valley.

The Town Council approved the Historical Advisory Committee's recommendation by unanimous consent.

On behalf of Mayor Stanton, Council Member Andeen-Keller read a proclamation recognizing the addition of the home to the Historic Property Program and Mayor Stanton presented owners with a bronze plaque to mount on the property.

## 9. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Resident Paul Dembow addressed the Council regarding the stalled Five Star Development project and Town leadership.

## 10. CONSENT AGENDA

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

**26-035 Minutes of Town Council Meeting January 22, 2026**

**26-042 Discussion and Possible Action to Approve a Linking Agreement with Weems Asphalt through 1 Government Purchasing Alliance for Doubletree Ranch Road Repairs**

Recommendation: Approve the Linking Agreement (CON-26-040-PBW) with Weems Asphalt for roadway repairs on Doubletree Ranch Road in the amount of \$131,231.93 and authorize the Town Manager to execute the agreement.

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

**Aye:** 7 - Mayor Stanton  
Vice Mayor Labelle  
Council Member Andeen-Keller  
Council Member Liepmann  
Council Member Moore  
Council Member Pace  
Council Member Thomasson

## 11. PUBLIC HEARING

There were no public hearings.

## 12. ACTION ITEMS

**26-024 Discussion and Possible Action to Approve a Construction Contract for Doubletree Ranch Road Entryway Improvement Project**

Community Development Director Chad Weaver presented a contract with Hunter Contracting Company to construct aesthetic enhancements to the entryway at Doubletree Ranch Road and Scottsdale Road including a 5-ft high, decorative metal screen wall at the northwest and southwest corners of Doubletree Ranch Rd and Scottsdale Rd, retexturing and painting the existing walls at both corners, and enhancing the landscape along the walls fronting Scottsdale Rd. Additionally, the project includes the relocation of the Town's entry monument to the proposed new median. All improvements would be located in

Scottsdale and Paradise Valley rights-of-way.

He updated the Council on the project's milestones accomplished since the May 22, 2025 Council meeting when this project was last discussed:

1. Final design phase is complete, and the project is ready to advance to the construction phase.
2. The Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the Town and the City of Scottsdale was executed by both parties.
3. The City of Scottsdale approved the proposed final improvement plans for work to occur within the city-owned parcel.
4. Hunter Contracting Company selected to perform the construction of the project.

There were no public comments.

**A motion was made by Council Member Moore, seconded by Council Member Liepmann, to approve Contract CON-26-039-ENG with Hunter Contracting Company in the amount of \$570,797 for the Doubletree Ranch Road Entryway Improvement Project and authorize the Town Manager to execute the agreement. The motion carried by the following vote:**

- Aye:** 5 - Mayor Stanton  
Vice Mayor Labelle  
Council Member Liepmann  
Council Member Moore  
Council Member Thomasson
- Nay:** 2 - Council Member Andeen-Keller  
Council Member Pace

**26-043                    Discussion and Possible Action to Adopt Resolution 2026-01  
                                  Calling for an Election to Permanently Adjust the Expenditure  
                                  Base of the Town of Paradise Valley and Associated Actions**

CFO Leslie DeReche presented Resolution 2026-01 calling for an election to permanently adjust the Town's state-mandated expenditure limit by \$20 million.

Town residents Bryan Brady, Ken Barnes, Jini Simpson, and Lou Baransky spoke in opposition to the Resolution.

The Council debated past and projected capital project expenditures and the need for one or both the expenditure limit adjustments.

**A motion was made by Council Member Pace, seconded by Vice Mayor Labelle, to adopt Resolution 2026-01 with an amendment moving the election date to November 3, 2026. The motion carried by the following vote:**

- Aye:** 5 - Mayor Stanton  
Vice Mayor Labelle  
Council Member Andeen-Keller  
Council Member Liepmann  
Council Member Pace
- Nay:** 2 - Council Member Moore  
Council Member Thomasson

**26-044            Discussion and Possible Action to Adopt Resolution 2026-02  
                         Calling for an Election to Authorize the Creation of a Capital  
                         Projects Accumulation Fund for the Town of Paradise Valley and  
                         Associated Actions**

Ms. DeReche presented Resolution 2026-02 seeking voter approval to create a Capital Projects Accumulation Fund which would allow the Town to accumulate revenue to fund capital improvements. The revenue and expenses would be excluded from the Town’s state-mandated expenditure limit.

Resident Bryan Brady asked for clarification of the revenue source.

Ms. DeReche stated that the accumulated revenue is revenue over budgeted expenses in a fiscal year. It would not create any new or additional taxes.

**A motion was made by Council Member Pace, seconded by Council Member Liepmann, to adopt Resolution 2026-02 with an amendment moving the election date to November 3, 2026. The motion carried by the following vote:**

- Aye:** 7 - Mayor Stanton  
Vice Mayor Labelle  
Council Member Andeen-Keller  
Council Member Liepmann  
Council Member Moore  
Council Member Pace  
Council Member Thomasson

**13. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**26-036            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 8:35 PM by Council Member Pace, seconded by Council Member Liepmann, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

- Aye: 7 - Mayor Stanton
- Vice Mayor Labelle
- Council Member Andeen-Keller
- Council Member Liepmann
- Council Member Moore
- Council Member Pace
- Council Member Thomasson

Mayor Stanton adjourned the meeting at 8:35 PM

TOWN OF PARADISE VALLEY

SUBMITTED BY:

  
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 Duncan Miller, Town Clerk

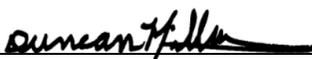
STATE OF ARIZONA        )  
   :SS.  
 COUNTY OF MARICOPA    )

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, February 12, 2026.

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.



  
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 Duncan Miller, Town Clerk