

TOWN
of
PARADISE VALLEY



TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
6401 E. LINCOLN DRIVE
PARADISE VALLEY, ARIZONA 85253
MINUTES
THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2026

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Mayor Stanton called to order the Town Council Meeting for Thursday, April 23, 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
Accounting Manager Kristine Capite
Human Resources Director Gina Monger
Public Works Superintendent Chris Martinez
Planner II Brandon McMahon

2. STUDY SESSION ITEMS

26-121 Arbor Day Tree Planting Ceremony

Mayor Stanton and the Town Council planted a tree on the Town Hall campus to commemorate Arbor Day. In addition to enhancing the Town Hall campus with landscaping, planting a tree is a requirement for our recertification as a Tree City USA. The Town of Paradise Valley has received the Tree City designation for the past 29 years.

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).

26-127 Discussion of Ascension Lutheran Church Spire Preservation

Mayor Stanton reconvened the meeting in the Boardroom at 3:15 p.m.

Town Manager Andrew Ching stated that the Ascension Lutheran Church was designed by Taliesin West Architects and constructed in 1963. One of the striking features of the church was its spire. The property was sold in 2023 to a residential development company and the church was demolished. On June 13, 2024, the Town Council adopted Resolution 2024-13 expressing support for the efforts of the Paradise Valley Historical Advisory Committee, in conjunction with a group of residents, to preserve the historic spire. The resolution authorized Town ownership and storage of the spire while a permanent location and design options were evaluated. The citizen group worked with the developers to safely remove the spire from the church and transport it to the Public Works yard.

Scott Jarson addressed the Council on behalf of the Save the Spire citizen group made up of Christine Labelle, Catherine Kauffman, Doug Jorden, John Anderson, Erik Peterson, Rod Cullum, Jordan Rose, Colleen Steinberg, and others. He presented a concept design to locate the spire at the center of the Town Hall campus in the retention basin, also known as the Reflection Garden. The overall height would be approximately 100 feet including the concrete base. The estimated cost was \$500,000. The proposal was to fully fund the project with private donations.

Town Attorney Andrew McGuire explained that the Town Hall land-use designation is Special Use Permit (SUP). The current SUP allows the Town Council to determine acceptable uses for the property. Therefore, it would be appropriate for the Town Council to adopt a resolution specifically authorizing the erection of the spire on the Town Hall campus as an acceptable use.

The Council discussed the location and height of the installation, public engagement and outreach, safety / attractive nuisance concerns, the review process, and next steps.

There was consensus for staff to draft a resolution designating the Town Hall property as an appropriate location for the spire to be discussion and consideration at the next meeting.

26-120 Discussion of Fiscal Year 2025/26 Landscape Enhancement and Revitalization Program

Public Works Director Isaac Chavira and Public Works Superintendent Chris Martinez briefed the Town Council on the Public Works Department's right-of-way landscaping responsibilities and annual maintenance program. The Department relies on the Council-adopted Visually Significant Corridors Plan to determine the plant palette for landscaping on major arterials.

Staff recommended that the Council continue to budget for revitalizing and enhancing Town median islands, utilizing contracted services to assist with maintenance and improvements, and leveraging

technology to preserve water and improve efficiency.

**26-080 Discussion of Statement of Direction (SUP-26-02) Franciscan
Renewal Center Major Special Use Permit Amendment 5802 E
Lincoln Drive (APN 169-31-020)
30 Minutes**

Planner Brandon McMahon presented a draft Statement of Direction (SOD) for a Major Special Use Permit amendment submitted by Mike Silvers on behalf of the Franciscan Renewal Center located at 5802 E Lincoln Drive for the addition of a solar panel system mounted on four new parking lot shade structures on the west/northwest portion of the property. He said the request is classified as a major amendment because the total area of the shade structures is more than a 40% increase in the existing floor area on the site.

Mr. McMahon summarized the request including the land use, height, setbacks, solar array structural materials, and landscaping. He explained that the draft SOD focuses the Planning Commission's attention on height, setbacks, and visual and auditory impacts on the neighbors. The Planning Commission shall complete its review by September 1, 2026.

The Town Council discussed the SOD and stressed the importance of neighborhood outreach.

Mr. Ching concluded that the draft SOD as provided in the study session in the Council packet would be scheduled for a vote at the May 14, 2026 Council Meeting.

26-118 Discussion of the Fiscal Year 2027 Tentative Budget

Accounting Manager Kristine Capite presented the Fiscal Year 2027 Tentative Budget. She said the proposed budget was discussed in prior study sessions held on March 12, March 26, and April 9. She reported that projected revenues were \$64,649,243, the capital project budget was \$15,916,280, and general fund expenditures (minus exclusions) were \$48,281,083. She said the budget included a one-time 3% market adjustment as recommended by the FY 2026 Classification and Compensation Study plus a 5% cost of living and merit increase.

The Council considered the proposed FY 2027 budget and focused on two items: (1) the justification for funding the currently budgeted full-time employee position planned to be transferred from the Attorney's Office to the Town Manager's Office; and (2) the cost of the recommended 3% market adjustment. Regarding the position transfer, Mr. Ching responded that the position would provide administrative assistance to Human Resources, the Clerk's Office, and the Public Works Department - none of whom have support staff. Regarding the market adjustment, there was discussion about phasing the increase over two fiscal years or delaying implementation of the increase until January 1, 2027.

Mayor Stanton recessed the meeting at 6:05 PM.

3. EXECUTIVE SESSION

26-113 Discussion of Town Manager annual performance review as authorized by A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(1) and discussion or consultation with the Town Attorney, as authorized by A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(4), regarding amendments to Town Manager employment agreement.

26-109 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 6:10 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
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Public Works Director Isaac Chavira
Human Resources Director Gina Monger
Finance Manager Kristine Capite

7. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Jonathan and Melinda Wainwright led the Pledge of Allegiance.

8. PRESENTATIONS

26-125 Recognition of National Crime Victim’s Week

Mayor Stanton presented a proclamation to Town of Paradise Valley Victim Advocate Meslissa Dodge declaring April 19 – 25, 2026 as National Crime Victims’ Rights Week in Paradise Valley.

26-122 Discussion and Possible Action to Recognize 5828 N Casa Blanca 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 Wainwright home located at 5828 N Casa Blanca Drive as an official historic property in the Town of Paradise Valley.

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

Mayor Stanton presented a proclamation recognizing the addition of the home to the Historic Property Program and a bronze plaque to mount on the property.

26-123 Discussion and Possible Action to Recognize 5200 East San Juan Avenue as a Historic Property in the Town of Paradise Valley

Historical Advisory Committee Chair Catherine Kauffman presented the Committee's recommendation to recognize the Bohnett home located at 5200 E San Juan Ave as an official historic property in the Town of Paradise Valley.

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

Mayor Stanton presented a proclamation recognizing the addition of the home to the Historic Property Program and a bronze plaque to mount on the property.

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.

26-111 Minutes of Town Council Meeting April 9, 2026

26-115 Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Pamela Georgelos to Serve as Chair of the Planning Commission

Recommendation: Approve Pamela Georgelos to serve as Chair of the Planning Commission for a one-year term.

26-116 Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Hope Ozer to Serve as Chair of the Board of Adjustment

Recommendation: Confirm the selection of Hope Ozer to serve Chair of the Board of Adjustment for a one-year term.

26-126 Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the First Amendment to Contract CON-23-022-PBW with Power Tech Contracting LLC for Maintenance, Repair, and Replacement of Traffic Signal Equipment

Recommendation: Approve Contract CON-23-022-PBW-A1 with Power Tech Contracting LLC in the amount of \$29

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

26-124 Discussion and Possible Action to Adopt Resolution 2026-04 Approving the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2026/2027 and Scheduling a Public Hearing for Consideration of Adoption of the Final Budget at a Regular/Special Town Council Meeting on May 14, 2026.

Town Manager Andrew Ching stated that the proposed Fiscal Year 2027 Tentative Budget was presented during the study session earlier in the meeting.

There were no public comments.

A motion was made by Council Member Andeen-Keller, seconded by Vice Mayor Labelle, to adopt Resolution 2026-04 approving the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 with an amendment that the recommended 3% Classification and Compensation Study market adjustment shall be effective January 1, 2027, and schedule a public hearing for consideration of the Final Budget at the May 14, 2026 Town Council meeting. 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

13. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

26-112 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.

A motion was made at 6:44 PM by Council Member Andeen-Keller, seconded by Council Member Thomasson, to go into executive session to discuss item 26-113. 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

15. ADJOURN

A motion was made at 10:15 PM by Council Member Andeen-Keller, seconded by Vice Mayor Labelle, to adjourn. 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 10:15 PM

TOWN OF PARADISE VALLEY

SUBMITTED BY:

Duncan Miller, Town Clerk

