

MINUTES OF THE AVONDALE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF AVONDALE, ARIZONA
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER
March 31, 2025

A **Special Meeting** of the City Council of the City of Avondale, Arizona was convened at 11465 West Civic Center Drive in open and public session at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Mike Pineda led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silent reflection.

Members Present: Mayor Mike Pineda; Vice Mayor Curties Nielson; Councilmembers Tina Conde, Jeannette Garcia, Gloria Solorio, Shari Weise, and Max White.

Members Absent: None.

Other Municipal Officials Present: Ron Corbin, City Manager; Tracy Stevens, Assistant City Manager; Katie Gregory, Assistant City Manager; Dale Nannenga, Deputy City Manager; Nicholle Harris, City Attorney; Marcella Sarmiento, City Clerk; Memo Espinoza, Police Chief; Jeffrey Scheetz, Chief Information Officer; and Pier Simeri, Marketing and Public Relations Director.

Audience: Approximately 20 members of the public were present.

1. ROLL CALL BY THE CITY CLERK

2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING COUNCILMEMBER GARCIA'S CONDUCT

City Council discussed Councilmember Garcia's conduct and considered an enforcement course of action as authorized by the City Charter and the City Council Code of Conduct.

Councilmember Conde thanked the residents for sharing their comments. She explained City Council received an opportunity to speak to Councilmember Garcia regarding her actions. She suggested moving forward with a clean slate to continue to make lives better for the residents of Avondale.

Councilmember White moved to reprimand Councilmember Garcia for violating the City Council Code of Conduct and adopted the Statement of Reprimand dated March 31, 2025; Councilmember Solorio seconded the motion.

Upon vote, the motion was carried 6 to 1.

Councilmember Conde	Aye
Councilmember Garcia	Nay
Councilmember Solorio	Aye
Councilmember Weise	Aye
Councilmember White	Aye
Vice Mayor Nielson	Aye
Mayor Pineda	Aye

Mayor Pineda read the following Statement of Reprimand into the public record.

Pursuant to the City of Avondale Charter (the "City Charter") and the City Council Code of Conduct (the "Code of Conduct") the City Council has adopted rules governing the conduct of its council members. The City Council is responsible for enforcing compliance with such rules. The City Charter provides that the City Council is the exclusive judge of the qualifications of its members.

The Code of Conduct, Paragraph 3 addresses the conduct of members and states:

The professional and personal conduct of members must be above reproach and avoid even the appearance of impropriety. Members shall refrain from abusive conduct, harassment, personal charges or verbal attacks upon the character or motives of other members of Council, boards, commissions, the staff or public. Members shall demonstrate civility and respect at all times. This remains true in both public and private encounters as members should be aware that the public nature of the office they hold means they are always on display.

On October 14, 2024, you became a member of the City Council subject to these rules. Prior to taking office and since that time you have maintained a personal social media account on "X" formerly known as Twitter. On February 16, 2025, you made the following post on X:

"Hey pedo, @tomhanks,

"Not ALL #MAGA hat wearing patriots are white."

"In fact, most racism comes from the elite Democrats, you a**hole."

*The term "pedo" is commonly viewed as a short term for pedophile. Even accepting your explanation that you meant to refer to "fart" does not change the nature of the post. Further, you referred to Mr. Hanks as an a**hole. This statement, as a whole, was a personal charge or verbal attack upon the character of a member of the public. Your conduct was abusive and harassing. Instead of demonstrating civility and respect to the public, the post caused other members of the public to question the compliance of the City Council with its Code of Conduct.*

The City Council has discussed with you the importance of our Code of Conduct and the civility that we must show the public. Your conduct in making this social media post impacts the respect that the public has for this City Council as a body. Members of this City Council do not make personal charges and verbal attacks upon the public.

Therefore, on behalf of the City Council, this formal reprimand is being issued to you finding that your above social media post violated the City Council Code of Conduct.

3. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, Councilmember White moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting; Councilmember Garcia seconded the motion.

Upon vote, the motion was carried unanimously 7 to 0.

Councilmember Conde	Aye
Councilmember Garcia	Aye
Councilmember Solorio	Aye
Councilmember Weise	Aye
Councilmember White	Aye
Vice Mayor Nielson	Aye
Mayor Pineda	Aye

The meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.


Mike Pineda (Apr 29, 2025 10:29 PDT)

Mike Pineda, Mayor

CERTIFICATION AND ATTESTATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Avondale held on the 31st day of March 2025. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that the quorum was present.



Marcella Sarmiento, City Clerk

April 21, 2025

Date Approved by City Council