

MINUTES OF THE AVONDALE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF AVONDALE, ARIZONA
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER
April 07, 2025

A **Regular 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 5:30 p.m.

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

Members Present: Mayor Mike Pineda; Vice Mayor Curtis 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; Liz Barker Alvarez, Intergovernmental Affairs Administrator; Kirk Beaty, Public Works Director; Barbara Coppage, City Auditor; Memo Espinoza, Police Chief; Joel Evans, Facilities Director; Craig Jennings, Judge; Corey Larriva, Parks and Recreation Director; Chris Lopez, Neighborhood and Family Services Director; Andy Mesquita, Human Resources Director; Kimberly Moon, Engineering Director; Jodie Novak, Development Services Director; Abril Ruiz-Ortega, Court Administrator; Larry Rooney, Fire Chief; Jeffrey Scheetz, Chief Information Officer; Pier Simeri, Marketing and Public Relations Director; Jennifer Stein, Economic Development Director; and Renee Weatherless, Finance and Budget Director.

Audience: Approximately 50 members of the public were present.

1. ROLL CALL BY THE CITY CLERK

2. PRESENTATION ITEMS (DISCUSSION ONLY)

a. AVONDALE FIRE AND MEDICAL CITIZEN'S ACADEMY

The following 2025 Fire and Medical Citizen's Academy graduates were recognized for completion of the program. This item was for discussion only.

- Brian Carillo
- Anthony Davidson,
- Amanda Duncan-Billiman
- DeAnn Franklin
- Anthony Helman
- Walter Gonzalez
- Mike Martin
- Joanne Spina
- Jessica Valdez

b. PROCLAMATION – MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

City Council presented a proclamation recognizing April 2025 as the Month of the Military Child to celebrate and recognize City of Avondale employees who have served or are currently serving our nation as a member of our military while also being a parent or who have a partner who is serving or has served. This item was for discussion only.

c. PROCLAMATION – NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

City Council presented a proclamation recognizing April 6th - 12th, 2025 as National Victims' Rights Week, focusing on the theme of "Kinship" to promote victim support and healing. This item was for discussion only.

d. PROCLAMATION – NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK AND 2025 BOOKMARK CONTEST

City Council presented a proclamation recognizing April 6th - 12th, 2025 as National Library Week, celebrating the valuable role libraries, librarians, and library workers play in transforming lives and strengthening our communities. Additionally, City Council recognized the following winners of the 2025 Bookmark Contest. This item was for discussion only.

- Grades K - 3: Grayson Muntz, Age 7
- Grades 4 - 8: Melanie Fimbres, Age 13
- Grades 9 - 12: Gurlee Kaur, Age 15

e. PROCLAMATION – WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

City Council presented a proclamation to Valley of the Sun United Way, First Things First, and Arizona Association of Education of Young Children recognizing April 5 - 11 as the Week of the Young Child. The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration that focuses public attention on the needs of young children and their families and recognizes the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs. This item was for discussion only.

f. PROCLAMATION – NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK

City Council presented a proclamation recognizing April 13th - 19th, 2025 as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week to honor and celebrate the crucial work of public safety telecommunicators, individuals who serve as the first point of contact for citizens during times of crisis. This item was for discussion only.

g. PROCLAMATION – COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES VOLUNTEER WEEK

City Council presented a proclamation recognizing April 5 - 11, 2025 as CASA Volunteer Week honoring Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) who are trained volunteers, appointed by a judge to advocate for the best interests of children living in foster care, ensuring their voices are heard, and their needs are met in court proceedings, placement decisions, and other critical areas. This item was for discussion only.

3. UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES

Cesar Romero submitted a request to speak; however, they were not present during the meeting.

Teresa Desanti noted a Fire and Medical Department pickup truck responded to her neighbor's home over the past weekend and she requested a response as to why a fire engine was not the type of vehicle to respond to the call. She noted her neighbor had an incident that resulted in surgery.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Items on the consent agenda are of a routine nature or have been previously studied by the City Council at a work session. They are intended to be acted upon in one motion. Councilmembers may pull items from consent if they would like them considered separately.

Mayor Pineda asked if any Councilmember wished to have an item removed from the Consent Agenda. Having no requests from Council, motion was made by Councilmember Conde, seconded by Councilmember Nielson, to approve the Consent Agenda.

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

a. MINUTES

City Council approved March 4, 2025, and March 5, 2025, City Council meeting minutes.

b. RESOLUTION 1015-0425 - FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF GLENDALE, THE CITY OF PEORIA, THE CITY OF SURPRISE, THE CITY OF AVONDALE, THE CITY OF EL MIRAGE, AND MARICOPA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT FOR THE GLENDALE REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING CENTER

City Council adopted Resolution 1015-0425, approving the first amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement amongst the City of Glendale, the City of Peoria, the City of Surprise, the City of Avondale, and the Maricopa County Community College District, which adds the City of El Mirage to the partnership for the management of the Glendale Regional Public Safety Training Center and authorized the Mayor or City Manager, City Attorney and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents.

c. RESOLUTION 1016-0425 - PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD BYLAW CHANGES

City Council adopted Resolution 1016-0425, amending the bylaws of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to update meeting frequency requirements and authorized the Mayor or City Manager, City Attorney and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents.

d. RESOLUTION 1017-0425 - TITLE VI IMPLEMENTATION PLAN RELATING TO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

City Council approved Resolution 1017-0425, adopting the City of Avondale Title VI Implementation Plan relating to public transportation to ensure compliance with the applicable requirements and be entitled to receive federal funds for the transit program, and authorized the Mayor or City Manager, City Attorney and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents.

e. ORDINANCE 2011-0425 - AMENDMENT OF AVONDALE CITY CODE, CHAPTER 21, ARTICLE I, SECTION 21-2 - RELATING TO OBSTRUCTION OF STREETS OR SIDEWALKS

City Council adopted Ordinance 2011-0425, amending Avondale City Code, Chapter 21 (Streets and Sidewalks), Article I (In General), Section 21-2 (Obstruction of Streets or Sidewalks) which will allow for enforcement of urban camping restrictions in public spaces and authorized the Mayor or City Manager, City Attorney and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents.

f. ORDINANCE 2012-0425 - AMENDMENT OF AVONDALE CITY CODE, CHAPTER 15, ARTICLE I, SECTION 15-11 - C.4 - RELATING TO NOISE AND PETS

City Council adopted Ordinance 2012-0425, amending Avondale City Code, 15-11 C.4 Noise (Pets) and authorized the Mayor or City Manager, City Attorney and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents.

g. ORDINANCE 2013-0425 – ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY FOR PUBLIC USE – PUBLIC PARK

City Council adopted Ordinance 2013-0425 authorizing the acquisition of real property by Quiet Title, and authorized the Mayor or City Manager, City Attorney and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents.

h. ORDINANCE 2014-0425 – ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY FOR PUBLIC USE – FIRE STATION AND A PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY

City Council adopted Ordinance 2014-0425, authorizing the acquisition of real property by Quiet Title, and authorized the Mayor or City Manager, City Attorney and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents.

i. ORDINANCE 2015-0425 - REAL ESTATE PURCHASE FOR WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

City Council adopted Ordinance 2015-0425, authorizing the acquisition of real property for water system use as a water production, treatment, storage and pressure boosting pump station site; authorized the necessary award authority, budget

transfers, and the creation of a capital improvement project; and authorized the Mayor or City Manager, City Attorney and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents.

j. MAP OF DEDICATION FOR PRIME DATA CENTER – SIERRA ESTRELLA AVONDALE BOULEVARD – APPLICATION PL-24-0304

City Council approved a request by William Ziegler of Olsson, Inc., on behalf of 11753 Lower Buckeye Property LLC, for approval of Application PL-24-0304, a Map of Dedication for Prime Data Center – Sierra Avondale Boulevard located generally north of Broadway Road and west of Avondale Boulevard, and authorized the Mayor or City Manager, City Attorney and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents.

5. REGULAR AGENDA

a. RESOLUTION

City Staff presented the Citizen Bond Committee's recommendation and City Council considered a request to approve the Citizen Bond Committee's recommendation and adopt Resolution 1018-0425, ordering and calling a special bond election to be held on November 4, 2025, and authorize the Mayor or City Manager, City Attorney and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents.

Katie Gregory, Assistant City Manager, provided an overview of the purpose, role, timeline, proposed projects, and recommendations of the Bond Committee. The Citizen Bond Committee is comprised of nine members appointed by the City Council who were charged with evaluating, advising, and making recommendations to the City Council regarding the use of General Obligation Bond (GOB) funds for Capital Projects. Members of the Citizen Bond Committee were recognized.

The Citizen Bond Committee had four engaging meetings, beginning in December and each meeting provided a review of pertinent information for preparing a recommendation. The key objective was to identify a financing plan that did not increase the City's property tax rate and recommend a ballot question for City Council's consideration. A bond consultant presented statistically valid survey results in March that were utilized in formulating a recommendation.

Paul Bentz, Senior Vice President of Research and Strategy at Highground Public Affairs, Inc. conducted bond polling that provides an understanding of what voters are thinking as well as accurate and reliable survey results to aid in making decisions. The results from the 400-person live call survey conducted between February 10 and 13, 2025 were reviewed and discussed. It was noted the margin of error is 4.9 percent.

Generally, only seventy percent of the adult population are registered to vote in the State of Arizona. During an off-cycle election less than thirty percent of voters turn out, with over half being fifty or older. These factors, among others, were taken into consideration when collecting survey data. It was noted; seventy percent of the residents feel the City is headed in the right direction which represents trust in the City government.

An overview of the results was provided, noting that a Likert scale was used to rank survey responses. People are generally happy with their municipal services. The three most popular projects are shade structures at park amenities across Avondale, building a joint police and fire station in Southern Avondale, and developing and renovating neighborhood parks. Constructing a covered Pickle Ball facility fell below the means score as residents did not find this a priority. The one thing A ballot test was conducted to gain a starting point on where people will vote. The park proposals had fifty-six percent yes vote and public safety proposals had fifty percent yes votes. Both are at or above fifty percent threshold and are viable.

In response to Councilmember Garcia's comment, Mr. Bentz explained every zip code was used but the list will be double checked.

Katie Gregory, Assistant City Manager, reviewed and discussed the projects selected as priorities by the Citizen Bond Committee. There are four projects identified as priorities within Parks, Recreation, and Libraries that include new and expanded park shade, park and parking improvements, trail system improvements, and Civic Center Library improvements. There are five projects identified as priorities within Public Safety that include the Southern Avondale Fire/Police Substation, new Public Safety headquarters, Police Firearms Training facility, Police Station expansion, and City Court office expansion.

In response to Councilmember Garcia's question, Ms. Gregory concurred if the bond passes these are the targeted projects to be funded and completed over a ten-year period and changes cannot be made. However, the ballot questions are broad and allow some flexibility should there be extra funding available for very similar projects.

Robert Baer, Budget Manager, presented an overview of the slightly complicated property tax in Avondale. The property tax is based on the limited assessed valuation of a home and can only increase by five percent yearly. Residential property has an assessment ratio of ten percent.

There are two types of property tax in the City of Avondale with the Primary Property Tax going into the General Fund and supporting the day-to-day City operations. The Secondary Property Tax can only be used to repay GOB debt. The combined tax rate according to the city's financial policy cannot exceed \$2 per \$100 of assessed valuation. The current property tax rate is \$1.45 per \$100 of assessed valuation. The breakdown of the tax bill shows that seventy-five percent of the property tax goes towards the schools.

Mr. Baer reviewed comparable data showing Avondale has the second lowest debt per capita city within the Phoenix Metropolitan area. If the recommendations are approved by voters, the property tax rate will remain level throughout the next ten years. Approximately \$20 million of GOB would be issued every two years to ensure the rate remains stable.

In response to Councilmember Garcia's question, Mr. Baer explained if the ballots were not approved the property tax rate would decline as current approved projects are completed.

Katie Gregory, Assistant City Manager, reviewed the Citizen Bond Committee's charge of looking at projects, discussing priorities, and presenting a financing plan to forward to the City Council. The cost of projects and overall bond packages were reviewed. Voters are not asked to approve specific projects, rather they are asked to provide authorization to spend the GOB funds.

Prior to issuing bond debt, the recommendation is presented to the City Council to determine when and how it gets spent. At this time, the City Council will discuss their priorities and provide approval to add the GOB to the approved budget. The recommendation is presented to the City Council a second time for approval to issue the debt.

The Citizen Bond Committee's recommended questions are:

1. Parks, Recreation, and Libraries Improvement Bonds. In the amount of \$68 million. The purposes are listed.
2. Public Safety Improvement Bonds. In the amount of \$55 million. The purposes are listed.

Should the City Council approve the call for an election the next steps are:

- Inform Maricopa County of the need to hold an election in November 2025
- Develop informational and educational ONLY materials to distribute to the public
- Use the time prior to the election to discuss with residents what is in the package.
- The last date to submit any publicity pamphlet arguments is July 9, 2025
- The vote by mail election would open on October 8, 2025, and close on November 4, 2025.

Natosha Edmonds, Chair of the Citizen Bond Committee, shared the experience of being appointed to the first Citizen Bond Committee and the processes they went through to prepare the final recommendations this evening.

Councilmembers thanked the Citizen Bond Committee members and staff for their presentations and dedication in preparing the recommended ballot questions. Mayor Pineda shared that "*words matter*" and will be an important part of the educating the residents. In addition, he commended the present and past Councils for being good stewards of the citizens tax dollars. Vice Mayor Nielson commented on the importance of educating the residents to understand there is no impact on the tax rates.

In response to Vice Mayor Nielson's questions, Ms. Gregory explained how inflation has been considered in the projects and if the funding runs out before completing all the proposed projects, they will prepare another prioritization plan and funding

sources. Mr. Corbin added that the city is aware the funding assigned would not cover every project and would require a combination of funding. Ms. Sarmiento explained the process of submitting ballots at the last minute, noting there will be a ballot drop box at the City Hall.

Councilmember White moved to approve the Citizen Bond Committee's recommendation and adopt Resolution 1018-0425, ordering and calling a special bond election to be held on November 4, 2025, and authorizing the Mayor or City Manager, City Attorney and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents; Councilmember Solorio seconded the motion.

Upon vote, the motion was carried 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

b. PUBLIC HEARING

City Council held a public hearing and considered a request to adopt Ordinance 2016-0425, approving a request by Wendy Riddell of Berry Riddell, LLC, to rezone approximately six and a half (6.59) gross acres located west of the northwest corner of 4th Street and Lower Buckeye Road and authorize the Mayor or City Manager, City Attorney and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents. The rezoning would modify the existing General Industrial (A-1) zoning that limits the use to a mini-storage warehouse with ancillary recreational vehicle (RV) storage to A-1 zoning with revised conditions to allow for light industrial development.

Christina LaValle, Senior Planner, provided an overview of rezone request for SJ Acquisitions Industrial Development, Application PL-24-0201. The property was annexed into the City in 1960, and is in the historic Avondale infill area, west of the northwest corner of 4th Street and Lower Buckeye Road. The property is vacant with abandoned outbuildings and limited site improvements and is currently zoned General Industrial (A-1), limited to mini-storage warehouse with ancillary recreational vehicle (RV) storage. The General Plan designation is industrial

The request is to modify the existing zoning to General Industrial with revised conditions to allow for light industrial development. A site plan design will be required to evaluate the site and buildings. In accordance with the City's Industrial Design Guidelines for Employment Districts, when adjacent to residential zoning district, 75-foot building setbacks, 35-foot landscape buffer setbacks, and 8-foot solid block walls are required. Additionally, the building must have the look and feel of an upscale office building with a mix of materials and building articulations.

Staff analysis finds the rezone with revised conditions supports the goals of the General Plan by allowing a wider range of employment uses and diversified employment opportunities. In addition, the rezone supports the Specific Area Plan encouraging revitalization, investment and development of underutilized infill sites.

A neighborhood meeting was held on February 11, 2025, at the Aqua Fria High School with two attendees aside from the applicant's team and City staff. Primary discussion related to future road improvements on Lower Buckeye Road. One phone call was received in opposition due to a concern that future development would block the view of the mountains.

A public hearing was conducted before the Planning Commission on March 19, 2025, where questions were asked regarding the definition of light industrial development and the type of activities that would occur in the north portions of the site. Staff's response noted that light industrial activities involve manufacturing and assembly of prepared materials as opposed to working with raw materials and such fabrication must occur indoors. Staff noted the conceptual site plan does not show buildings in the northern portions, but that area may be used as outdoor storage. The Planning Commission voted 5-0 to recommend approval of the rezone request and forward this recommendation to City Council.

Mayor Pineda opened the public hearing and did not receive any requests to speak. Mayor Weise closed the public hearing and opened the floor for comments from Council.

Mayor and Councilmembers were given an opportunity to comment and ask questions. In response, Ms. LaValle clarified the eight-foot block walls will be around the perimeter on the property line except for the side facing Lower Buckeye Road. The 75-foot setback would apply to the building itself from the eight-foot block wall creating a no-build zone. The applicant provided a traffic impact statement that was reviewed by the Traffic Engineer who did not recommend a deceleration lane. Part of the development requires the applicant to complete half street improvements, provide sidewalks and right-of-way landscaping. Councilmember Conde expressed concern about disturbing residents and asked City Manager Corbin if upon the building becoming occupied for it to be monitored. Mr. Corbin advised that can be done with the through Code Enforcement. He also noted that the plan also requires the applicant to add lighting to the Elm Street side and the current expectation is low traffic, but it will be monitored. The renderings presented are like the industrial neighbors on Eliseo Felix Jr Way and the City's storage facility that will be built to the west will be a similar two-story building. Once the applicant submits a design it will go through the review process to ensure it fits in the neighborhood and is respectful. This proposal is being developed with the expansion of Lower Buckeye Road in mind. Mayor Pineda commented on residents welcoming this opportunity.

Councilmember Weise moved to adopt Ordinance 2016-0425, approving application PL-24-0201, SJ Acquisitions Industrial, a request to rezone approximately six and a

half (6.59) gross acres located west of the northwest corner of 4th Street and Lower Buckeye Road. The rezoning would modify the existing General Industrial (A-1) zoning that limits the use to a mini-storage warehouse with ancillary recreational vehicle (RV) storage to A-1 zoning with revised conditions to allow for light industrial development, subject to seven (7) conditions of approval; Councilmember Solorio seconded the motion.

1. Development and use of the site shall conform to the SJ Acquisitions Industrial Development Project Narrative date stamped January 29, 2025, including a list of prohibited uses, and the Conceptual Site Plan date stamped February 18, 2025, except as modified by these stipulations.
2. All developments shall be completed in accordance with the City of Avondale General Engineering Requirements (GER) Manual and the City of Avondale Supplement to MAG Uniform Specifications and Details unless a standards deviation has been approved.
3. All required off-site improvements shall be completed in the first phase of development and prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy or Certificate of Completion.
4. Adjacent to Elm Lane, streetlights shall be installed, and all existing driveways must be removed and replaced with a vertical curb, gutter, and sidewalk in the first phase of development.
5. No access to the site shall be allowed from Elm Lane except for a secondary point strictly for emergency access. Emergency access must be gated with a knox box available for use by emergency vehicles only.
6. Power lines less than 69kV shall be converted underground in the first phase of development and prior to issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy or Certificate of Completion.
7. The development shall be subject to the requirements of Zoning Ordinance Section 11, Required Public Art for New Planned Area Developments (PAD), Commercial, Office, Employment and Municipal Construction.

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

c. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF THE CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED BUDGET

City Council received a general overview of the City Manager's proposed budget for fiscal year 2026 (FY2026). This item was for discussion only.

Renee Weatherless, Finance and Budget Director, reviewed and discussed the FY2026 City Managers Recommended Budget. Draft budgets have been presented and discussed with the City Council in January, February, and March and included the proposed utility rates which are included within this recommended budget. The recommended budget package includes a General Fund Forecast, supplemental and CIP project details, as well as authorized positions and state budget forums.

This presentation will cover changes from the last version presented in March.

- Carryover of Appropriation – means we are trueing up the estimates of what is going to be spent this year and what will be carried over.
- Concert Mercado Series was moved from ongoing to one-time funding in FY26
- Litchfield Park Police Officer start date was adjusted to January 1, 2026
- There is a \$100,000 increase for Project Management Services in IT
- A Fleet Services Preventative Maintenance Tech position is funded
- Adjustments were made to CIP between the Access Portal for Permitting Software and Special Events
- Adjustments were made to the CIP report, the total project budgets were corrected including Old Town Phase IV, Intersectional Improvements, Avondale BLVD and MC-85 as well as Dysart Road Water line and pressure reducing valves.

The General Fund forecast is updated to affirm the recommended budget is structurally balanced with revenues exceeding expenses, due to reduced gaps and surplus from the loss of the Residential Rental Sales Tax revenue. Potential revenues from the Data Center projects are not included in the forecast. One-time expenditure peak carries over into FY26 for projects to be finished. The General Fund Forecast Fund Balance after stabilization and capital reserve has a projected balance of \$103.6 million at the end of FY2025. The forecasted General Fund balance in FY2030 is \$4.6 million, a positive balance beyond the reserves.

Additional changes include

- An FTE for Business Development Manager and \$1.2 million appropriated for the economic opportunities fund and business attraction.
- The Youth Summer Camp will be an ongoing funded expense
- The Parks Supervisor and Administrative Assistant position was funded in FY25 and will carry over into FY26. Inflationary increases for utilities and operational expenses were added.
- Public Safety has two FTE Police Officers called over hires who are funded from vacancy savings. The Forensic Interviewer and Clinical Supervisor are positions at the Family Advocacy Center. The Community Services Officer, a

Fire Fleet Technician and some overtime for training were included in the budget.

- \$200,000 is budgeted for the Contribution Assistance program along with Special Event Software and improvements to the planning and permitting software.
- Funding for WeRide Program for inflationary cost and maintaining current levels of service. In addition to funding for the Senior Service Bus, AI software, and a Traffic Control Inspector.
- 20.5 FTEs, a 2% merit increase, and a 3% COLA along with increases related to the compensation study are incorporated in the FY26 budget.

Next Steps:

- The Tentative Budget be presented for adoption in May.
- The proposed utility rates included in the tentative budget will be presented for adoption. Note: the tentative budget sets the expenditure limit for the City.
- The Alamar Community Facilities District (CFD) Tentative Budget will be presented for adoption
- A Final Budget hearing and Adoption will be held in June for the City and Alamar CFD.
- Chief Financial Officer designation, Pension Fund name policy and City's Financial Policy.
- The property tax levy will be set later in June.

6. SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS FROM MAYOR, VICE MAYOR, AND COUNCILMEMBERS

- Councilmember White shared information from attending the Women in Transportation Scholarship event on Saturday.
- Councilmember Weise shared information about participating in cleaning up at Donnie Hale Park.
- Councilmember Garcia discussed the various events she attended and participated in, including clean-up at Donnie Hale Park, the Civic Center drop-off, and the STEAMfest.
- Mayor Pineda shared information from the Cesar Travis Dinner that supported the West Valley Foundation, clean-up at Donnie Hale Park, and the Resource Fair with Neighborhood and Family Services. In addition, he recognized Avondale Toyota for the free car show that benefited the West Side Recreational Program run by Judge Guzman.

7. 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 7:56 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 7th day of April 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