

MINUTES OF THE AVONDALE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF AVONDALE, ARIZONA
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER
February 18, 2026

A **Work Session 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 4:30 p.m.

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; Nicholle Harris, City Attorney; and Marcella Sarmiento, City Clerk*.

**Marcella Sarmiento was present for Agenda Item 2. Parliamentary Procedure Training.*

Audience: No members of the public were present.

1. ROLL CALL BY THE CITY CLERK

2. PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE TRAINING

City Council participated in Parliamentary Procedure Training facilitated by Nicholle Harris, City Attorney. This item was for discussion only.

The purpose of parliamentary procedure is to ensure fairness and order, give everyone a voice, keep meetings efficient, and protect minority rights. Parliamentary procedure is outlined in the City Council Rules of Procedure and Robert's Rules of Order, as amended (Robert's Rules).

Ms. Harris provided the proper steps to adopting a motion.

- Seek recognition from the chair or the chair asks for motion
- Verbalize the motion
- Second the motion
- Chair verbalizes the motion
- Debate the motion
- Vote on the motion
- Chair announces the vote

In response to questions by City Council, she confirmed the Chair is permitted to make a motion and all motions should have a second. The action of making a motion and a second shows that at least two members support the discussion and it does not necessarily show support for the item. If the motion does not gain a second, the motion dies and that should be the end of the debate.

Mr. Corbin asked City Council to notify staff when they have a desire to pull an agenda item from the Consent Agenda prior to the meeting to assist staff in meeting preparations. Ms. Harris clarified that a majority vote of City Council is four members, a 2/3 vote is five members of City Council, and a 3/4 vote is six members of City Council.

Ms. Harris reviewed examples of a main motion and examples of amending a pending motion.

3. EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE TRAINING

City Council participated in Effective Governance Training facilitated by Matt Lehrman, Social Prosperity Partners. This item was for discussion only.

Mr. Lehrman clarified that Mr. Corbin and Ms. Harris were there to observe and would not be participating in the exercises and discussions. The training is exclusively for the City Council.

Mr. Lehrman explained that City Council's authority is collective by design and meant to be exercised together through deliberation and decision, not by one member acting alone. Mr. Lehrman explained the goal of the training is to demonstrate, through a series of interactive exercises, how Councilmembers can effectively work together as a governing body.

Mr. Lehrman led the City Council through a series of questions and exercises to identify how the City Council currently engages with each other and City staff. Mr. Lehrman explained the differences between the City Council's role of determining the "what" and City staff's role of executing the "how." Mr. Lehrman also identified and explained the City Council's various types of leadership styles and how they interact with one another.

City Council participated in an exercise where they identified potential challenges the City and City Council may face in the future. Mr. Lehrman shared his observation that City Council's answers to the questions and their subsequent discussions revealed their differences in interpretation, as well as perspective. Mr. Lehrman reminding the City Council that effective governance begins with a shared understanding of the question or issue itself.

Mr. Lehrman ended the training with a series of questions to assist the City Council in identifying priorities for the City. Mr. Lehrman discussed the differences between ongoing, strategic, and immediate priorities. He stressed the importance of assigning goals to the appropriate category and conveying the same to City staff. Mr. Lehrman encouraged the City Council to focus on identifying three immediate priorities for City staff. After further discussion, housing, public safety, and economic development were identified as immediate priorities for the City Council.

Mr. Lehrman concluded the training by reminding the City Council that effective governance is an ongoing exercise. He encouraged each Council member to use the tools and insight provided as they move forward in their respective roles.

Councilmember Solorio asked if Mr. Lehrman provides “strategic planning” for councils. Mr. Lehrman shared that he has assisted councils with their strategic planning process and would be available to assist as the City Council and Mr. Corbin desire. Council members individually expressed their appreciation for the training.


4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, Councilmember White moved to adjourn; 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 8:32 p.m.


[Mike Pineda \(Apr 7, 2026 17:44:09 PDT\)](#)
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 18th day of February 2026. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that the quorum was present.


Marcella Sarmiento, City Clerk

April 6, 2026
Date Approved by City Council


Nicholle Harris, Attorney