



City of Prescott

City Council - Voting Meeting

March 11, 2025 | 3:00 PM
201 N Montezuma Street
City Council Chambers, 3rd Floor
Prescott, AZ 86301

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Goode called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Pro Tem Cantelme announced that the city's Household Hazardous Waste pickup event is happening now. Citizens can register online at prescottrecycles.com. Additionally, she added that the downtown bollard installations will be taking place through mid-April in various locations.

3. INVOCATION – Deacon Mark Weber with Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Parish

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Councilman Moore

5. ROLL CALL

Phil Goode - Mayor
Connie Cantelme - Mayor Pro Tem
Lois Fruhwirth - Councilwoman
Ted Gambogi - Councilman
Brandon Montoya - Councilman
Eric Moore - Councilman
Cathey Rusing - Councilmember

6. PRESENTATIONS

A. Presentation from AmeriCorps Civil Conservation Core Prescott.

Recreation Services Director Joe Baynes introduced Ellen Bashor and the Civil Conservation Core to provide a presentation to Council regarding the ongoing projects and impacts of their work in the Prescott Community.

Team Leader Elias provided a review of AmeriCorps NCCC (National Civilian Community Core) who go around in groups of 6-12 individuals between the ages of 18-26 years old that travel to communities for 3 months to conduct projects in communities.

Prescott Projects:

* Invasive Species removal and wildfire prevention (Acker Park, Willow Creek and Butte Creek)

* Erosion Control (Goldwater Lake and Acker Park, Peavine Trail, Adult Center and Penn-Eastwood Basin)

- * Work with Rangers at Community Nature Center, Abia Judd Elementary and Granite Mountain Middle School, Watson and Kuebler Park
- * Trail Maintenance (Willow Creek and Peavine Trail)

7. OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

**MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER RUSING TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA
ITEMS 8.A. THROUGH 8.F.; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MONTOYA: PASSED
(7 - 0)**

- A. Approval of Appointment of Members to the Airport Advisory Committee, Board of Adjustment, Building Safety Advisory & Appeals Board, Fire Board of Appeals, Pedestrian Bicycle & Traffic Advisory Committee, Prescott Preservation Commission, Tourism Advisory Committee; and Approval of Appointment of Chair & Vice Chair for the Airport Advisory Committee, Chair & Vice Chair for the Board of Adjustment, and Vice Chair for the Prescott Preservation Commission.
- B. Approval of Night Work for Pavement Management Projects on Gurley Street, Whipple Street, Willow Creek Road and Montezuma Street between March 17 and May 31, 2025.
- C. Approval of Applications & Acceptance of Two (2) Arizona Governor's Office of Highway Safety Grants for Federal Fiscal Year 2026 as Follows: 1) \$46,767 for DUI Enforcement Overtime, Materials and Supplies; and 2) \$72,185 for Selective Traffic Enforcement Program Overtime, Materials and Supplies Including the Purchase of an All Traffic Solutions ATS-5 Speed Trailer. Both Grants are Fully Funded by the Arizona Governor's Office of Highway Safety.
- D. Approval of City Contract No. 2024-179A1, an Amendment to City Contract No. 2024-179 with VARI Sales Corporation Using OMNIA Partners Cooperative Purchasing for the Purchase of Furniture for Revenue Services and Community Development in the Amount of \$75,055.20. Funding is Available in the General Fund and Enterprise Funds.
- E. Approval of City Contract No. 2023-210A8, an Amendment to City Contract No. 2023-210 with Fann Contracting for the SR89 Effluent Pipeline Repairs Contract Ratification in the Amount of \$156,916.50. Funding is Available in the Wastewater Fund.
- F. Approval of City Contract No. 2025-144 with Phil Long Ford for the Purchase of Two (2) 2025 Ford Maverick XL AWD Hybrid Trucks for Use by Citizens on Patrol in the Amount of \$65,100 Plus Any Local Arizona Tax Invoiced Using the Interlocal Purchasing System #240901. Funding is Available in the General Fund.

9. LIQUOR LICENSE

- A. Public Hearing and Consideration for a New Series 19 Remote Tasting Room Liquor License Application from Kenneth Wyatt Knock, Applicant, for Granite Mountain Distillery LLC. Location: 125 N Cortez Street.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER RUSING TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING; SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM CANTELME: PASSED (7 - 0)

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER RUSING TO APPROVE ITEM 9.A.; SECONDED BY COUNCILWOMAN FRUHWIRTH: PASSED (7 - 0)

10. REGULAR AGENDA

- A. Discussion, Consideration & Possible Action Regarding a Petition Received by the Council at the January 28, 2025 Voting Meeting and Submitted by Ralph Hess.

City Clerk Sarah Siep and City Attorney Joseph Young stated that there is no presentation from staff on this item. This proposal would amend code and make it inconsistent with state law, staff recommends denial of the petition.

Councilmember Rusing commented that the General Plan has been reviewing the proposed draft, and she feels that there were pro-growth amendments that were made to the General Plan after the dissolution of the Charter Review Committee and asked if that is why the petition was submitted.

General Plan Chair Terry Sapio responded that Councilmember Rusing was incorrect in her statements regarding acreage requirements for major plan amendments and clarified that the 40-acre stipulation is part of the current requirement for a major plan amendment and has been in the General Plan for the last 23 years. However, the General Plan Committee has made a proposal to update the 2025 General Plan by having two trigger level, one for 10-acres and one for 20-acres and a specific number of homes in the surrounding area in order to accommodate economic development opportunities. No major plan amendments have taken place since 2002. Under state law a major plan amendment goes through the usual process and ultimately requires a two-thirds majority to be approved. Council's approval of this petition would bring a major halt to economic development in Prescott, and the change proposed by the Committee would not accelerate growth in the area.

Mr. Young added that the major plan amendment triggers wouldn't be changed it would just require a vote for approval.

Petitioner Ralph Hess addressed the Council regarding concerns of Prescott citizens and elected officials that the General Plan in previous years lacked enforceability. The General Plan Committee voted 9-1 to recommend that the Charter Review Committee discuss the proposal, which it was not, so he has now petitioned the Council. In his experience, he has never heard of staff wanting to take anything to the voters.

Councilman Montoya asked staff to address Economic Development opportunities requiring major plan amendments. If it is something that will really stop economic development, he is not in favor of that.

Community Development Director Chelsea Walton responded that it is difficult to know, but in the overall Prescott map evaluation there are not a lot of large parcels, but things like shopping centers in areas like North Prescott would trigger that.

Councilman Gambogi stated that a plan is marching orders. Prescott works on putting together its General Plan itself and invites a broad range of residents for input while other communities just hire out consultants to do their work. It has been a lot of work to put this plan together over the last few years.

MOTION BY MAYOR GOODE TO DENY CITIZEN PETITION; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MONTOYA: PASSED (7 - 0)

- B. Public Hearing for the Alternative Expenditure Limit "Home Rule" Ballot Proposition.

Finance Director Mark Woodfill provided a presentation to the Council for the public hearing for the "Home Rule" option, which comes before voters every four years. Under home rule, the expenditure limitation is set each year during the budget process to meet the needs of each individual community. In 1989 the city processed its first Home Rule adoption. Estimated spending is based on the adopted budget and increased forward for operating expenses.

Councilwoman Fruhwirth commented that she would prefer to have any funding for a possible future branch library out of the estimates within this five-year capital plan. She discussed the language in the ballot title and "no" vote descriptor are not as clear as she would like them to be.

City Attorney Joseph Young responded that legally the Council can add more than we have, but it does have to be neutral and factual. He has reluctance to not using the League language because deviations from that would be frowned upon by any outside agency.

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM CANTELME TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING; SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER RUSING: PASSED (7 - 0)

- C. Adoption of Resolution No. 2025-1913 Updating the City's Pension Funding Policy.

Finance Director Mark Woodfill provided a presentation to Council regarding the annual update of the city's pension funding policy. He reiterated the recommended changes that he proposed on Tuesday, February 25 regarding unencumbered General Fund operating surplus annually and exclude operational surpluses from Prop478.

Councilwoman Fruhwirth thanked staff for the information available to council regarding the impacts of this in past years, she discussed the language that states "Council's PSPRS funding ration goal is 100% (fully funded) by June 30, 2026" and her thoughts that maintaining at 100% would be nearly impossible

when the council is not in control of all the drivers.

Mr. Woodfill responded that 100% is a goal that he thinks the city can achieve, would ever actuarial be at 100% not necessarily but ultimately it is up to the Council.

Mayor Goode commented that this is a good way to maintain full funding in pensions.

MOTION BY COUNCILMAN GAMBOGI TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2025-1913; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MOORE: PASSED (7 - 0)

- D. Presentation, Discussion & Possible Action Regarding Approval of the Update Vision & Mission Statements for the City of Prescott.

City Manager Dallin Kimble provided a presentation to the Council regarding the draft Vision and Mission Statements proposed and reviewed since December 2024. He reviewed the draft statements, the vision is the destination or where the city is headed, and the mission statement is how the city will work to get there.

Councilmember Rusing commented that she is in support of the vision and mission statement.

Councilwoman Fruhwirth agreed. She commented that she would like everyone to feel included and not just families or businesses.

Mr. Kimble responded that "individuals, families and businesses" could be added to the Vision statement.

MOTION BY COUNCILMAN GAMBOGI TO APPROVE VISION & MISSION STATEMENTS WITH THE WORD "INDIVIDUALS" ADDED; SECONDED BY COUNCILWOMAN FRUHWIRTH: PASSED (7 - 0)

- E. **GPA22-001:** Discussion, Review & Approval Regarding the Updated City of Prescott 2025 General Plan. Applicant: City of Prescott; Community Development.

Community Planner Tammy Dewitt provided a presentation to Council regarding the updated 2025 General Plan.

Enforceability of a General Plan:

* Growing Smarter Legislation passed in 1998 and Growing Smarter Plus in 2000

* Purpose to assist communities in developing strategies for dealing with growth

* Implementing the measure would lead to better planned growth and would protect the state's cultural and natural resources from unmanaged sprawl

* Reformed the planning process in three ways

- Increased the required level of public participation in the development, approval and amendment of the General Plan

- Increased the scope of a General Plan by requiring new growth-related elements and detailing aspects of those elements

- Strengthened the implementation power of a General Plan by requiring that

future rezoning comply with the plan and that major plan amendments be presented at an annual public hearing and receive two-thirds approval by the governing body

Five Phases Beyond the General Plan:

- * General Plan Update
- * Yearly Implementation and Strategic Plan
- * Update Commercial Corridor Study
- * Update and/or create new Community and Neighborhood Plans
- * Other plans that come out of the General Plan

Required Elements per ARS9-461.05:

- * Land Use
- * Circulation (Transportation)
- * Open Space
- * Growth Areas
- * Environmental Planning
- * Cost of Development
- * Water Resources
- * Once at 50,000 - add conservation, recreation, more extensive transit plan/bicycle routes, public services and buildings, housing, conservation, safety, energy, neighborhood preservation and revitalization
- * Voluntary Elements - economic development, tourism, healthcare, dark sky community, tree city USA, climate, digital connectivity, youth programs, art/culture/events/museums

Section - Introduction:

- * Non-discrimination language - presented by the MLK Committee, language was tweaked several times by the General Plan Committee to what it is in the proposed draft; the group has proposed an additional revision: "As such, it is intended that people of all ages, races, national origins, sexual orientations, genders, religions and disabilities can make use of Prescott's land and amenities without facing discrimination or harassment. This goal is consistent with the plan's section 'Prescott's Vision', which includes the 'Ethic of equality and respect for all community members'."
- * Potential Options for Council Direction: 1) approve language as is, 2) approve to revise language as proposed or another suggestion discussed, 3) approve to revise as proposed or with other language discussed and move to community quality section, or 4) move to remove language from the plan

Councilwoman Fruhwirth commented that she appreciates the MLK group being willing to work with staff and revise the language. She feels that the revised language presented today fits in line with the adoption Vision/Mission statements and is in support of it. She is concerned about moving the language to a different section due to the flow of the document.

Councilman Moore commented that he feels the revised language should be moved to the Quality of Life section and is in favor of keeping it in the Plan.

Councilmember Rusing stated that she is in support of including a non-

discrimination statement in the General Plan and is in favor of option three.

Mayor Pro Tem Cantelme echoed Councilman Moore's comments that this language should be in the quality of life section.

Mayor Goode stated that he feels this should not be included in a land use planning document. He also read from a January Presidential Executive Order and feels that any reference to gender in opposition to that order. It is controversial and unnecessary. He feels it should be removed.

Councilmember Rusing asked the City Attorney to address the Mayor's concerns.

City Attorney Joseph Young responded that by the way the executive order is worded it does not apply to the city. However, the language regarding gender ideology promotion is difficult to determine how that could be interpreted and enforced.

Councilman Moore stated that this language says a lot about the community and who Prescott is.

Councilmember Rusing stated that she doesn't see any connection between funding the airport and this language being in the General Plan.

Councilwoman Fruhwirth added that gender ideology is different from the term "genders". The revision of the language made it tie into land use.

Councilman Moore echoed Councilwoman Fruhwirth's comments. HUD guidelines discuss nondiscrimination. It is appropriate for this document to have this language included.

Section - Vision Statement:

* Potential Options for Council Direction: 1) approve vision statement as is (from previous General Plan), 2) approve vision statement be changed to statement approved at today's meeting, 3) approve vision statement and add mission statement, both as approved today

Councilmember Rusing stated that she is in support of adding the new vision statement to the General Plan, as well as the mission statement.

Councilman Gambogi concurred.

Councilman Moore concurred.

Council consensus on option three.

Proposed Additions for Introduction Section:

* Add land use map and where the definitions of the land use designations are in the plan

* Add list of what is required to be in the Plan (required at 50,000 and voluntary)

- * Remove "confusing chart" on page 20

Councilmember Rusing asked if the paper version could have larger maps, and asked if there is a water service area map in the plan.

Ms. Dewitt responded that there is a water use map on page 32 of the General Plan, and it is the most current and up-to-date map.

Introduction:

- * What is the General Plan
- * Vision
- * Process and structure of Plan
- * Physical Setting and History (required)
- * Existing conditions and trends (required)
- * Demographics (required)
- * Regional Population Changes (required)

Livability Goals:

- * Resiliency & Sustainability
- * A Community Connected
- * Great Places & Neighborhoods
- * Economic Competitiveness & Prosperity
- * Community Quality

Section - Resiliency & Sustainability:

- * Introduction
- * Land Use (required)
- * Prescott Fire Department (required at 50,000)
- * Environmental Planning (required)
- * Water Resources (required)
- * Climate (volunteer)
- * Energy (required at 50,000)
- * Comments Received
 - Page 23 Resiliency land use goals and strategies will be moved into the housing section where they belong
 - No mention of Prop478 in the General Plan - seven strategic issues on page 25 of the plan, Item 5 will include language related to Prop478 and will add additional information to the sales tax section as well
 - Page 33 - reference to table/table has been removed
 - Page 38 - will work with Water Resources to reword and bring back proposed changes to section
- * Possible Options for Council Direction: 1) move to approve sections as presented, 2) move to approve sections as presented with discussed updates and/or modifications, or 3) move to approve with certain sections removed

Mayor Goode commented that he doesn't feel the city should include elements for a population over 50,000 and added that he has a problem with the term "climate disruption".

Chair Sapio commented that the climate section has created some controversy.

He doesn't feel they spent enough time on it, but it does impact other areas of the plan.

City Manager Dallin Kimble responded that the definition of climate disruption is: "significant harmful changes in climate patterns and weather processes that disrupt normal ecosystems and lead to extreme weather events, biodiversity shifts and challenges for human societies". In a General Plan you are considering how significant storms/events would affect future planning.

Councilwoman Fruhwirth stated that it is clear that we need to work on sustainability and resiliency given our surrounding environment. She finds that if "climate" is hot button topic she doesn't want to risk everything else we need if it would hold up the rest.

Councilman Gambogi commented that he is in favor of all seven sections.

Councilmember Rusing said that it is critical to keep resiliency and sustainability in the General Plan as she feels it is important to planning.

Councilman Moore agreed with Councilman Gambogi.

Councilman Montoya agreed keep all seven.

Council consensus, with Mayor Goode and Councilwoman Fruhwirth dissenting, to keep all seven elements for the section.

Mayor Pro Tem Cantelme stated that she agrees the language should be changed to "climate extremes".

Section - A Community Connected:

- * Transportation Planning/Circulation (required)
- * Open Space (required)
- * Wildlife Corridors (required at 50,000)
- * Digital connectivity (voluntary)
- * There were no comments from the Council regarding these sections
- * Possible Options for Council Direction: 1) move to approve sections as presented, 2) move to approve sections as presented with discussed updates and/or modifications; or 3) move to approve with specific sections removed

Council consensus to keep section as is.

Section - Great Places & Neighborhoods:

- * Land Uses & Growth (required)
- * Planning Hierarchy (required)
- * Future land use designations and map (required)
- * Historic Preservation (required)
- * Recreation (required at 50,000)
- * Pedestrian and Bicycle Circulation (required at 50,000)
- * Dark Sky Community (voluntary)
- * Tree City USA (voluntary)

The future land use map was discussed in great detail at all levels of this process. The following language will be added for clarification: "these are land use designations and not zoning. See page ___ of the General Plan for Explanation of the Land Use Designations (add link to General Plan)". Low to medium density is 1-7 units per acre, and the Committee determined not to add very low residential back into the plan.

* Possible Options for Council Direction: 1) keep the future land use map as recommended by the General Plan Committee and P&Z without very low density, or 2) add very low density, allowing 1-unit per acre as discussed, and update the land use map/Major Plan Amendment table

Councilmember Rusing stated that she feels Very Low Density should be added.

Councilman Gambogi is in favor of keeping the map as is without very low density.

Councilwoman Fruhwirth is in favor of Option 2, Councilman Montoya is in favor of Option 1, Councilman Moore is in favor of Option 1, Mayor Goode is in favor of Option 2 and Mayor Pro Tem Cantelme is in favor of Option 2.

Option 1: 3 members of Council

Option 2: 4 members of Council

Staff discussion regarding the tree city elements and dark sky community.

Overall Council consensus for Option 2 and adding very low density back into the map/update Major Plan Amendment table. All members of the Council are in favor of keeping in all elements for this section.

Section: Economic Competitiveness & Prosperity:

- * No comments from Council on this section
- * Land Use (required)
- * Economic Development & Tourism (voluntary)
- * Sustaining a Business-Friendly Environment (voluntary)
- * Ensuing a Strong Tax Base (voluntary)
- * Quality Jobs: Maintaining a Strong Employment Sector (voluntary)
- * Growth and Cost of Development (required)
- * Workforce Housing (required at 50,000)
- * Prescott Regional Airport (required)

Council consensus to leave all elements in this section.

Section: Community Quality:

- * Prescott Police Department (required at 50,000)
- * Education (required at 50,000)
- * Library (required at 50,000)
- * Community Center (required at 50,000)
- * Art, Culture, Events and Museums (voluntary)

* Healthcare (voluntary)

* Comments Received from Council

- Page 127 Youth Programs: add YMCA with the youth programs offered
- Page 128 Performance Venues: add Ruth Street Theater
- Page 129 Healthcare: update YRMC to Dignity Healthcare

Councilwoman Fruhwirth commented on education and childcare being a huge part of the quality of life, but there are no elements that speak to early childhood and she would like to see this included.

Staff responded they can add that information.

Councilman Moore reiterated that he believes non-discrimination should be included in this section.

Ms. Dewitt continued with a review of the major plan amendment process as set by ARS 9-461.06. In 2002 Council adopted Resolution No. 3449 regarding what would constitute a Major Plan Amendment.

* 40 acres or more in size, with 400 or more homes within 1/4 mile

* 160 acres or more in size, with 200 or more homes within 1/4 mile

* 640 acres or more in size, with 50 or more homes within 1/4 mile

* Staff reviewed land within the community to determine how best to trigger major plan amendments (very low density being added back in will require an adjustment to the chart). This was out for the 60-day public comment period, good response to this proposal.

Councilmember Rusing asked if the open space amendment is adopted by the voters could the column be updated.

Ms. Dewitt responded that if the zoning was changed, and it went to the Council and was approved, then it would be voted on.

Mr. Young responded that this doesn't need to be changed; the Charter would supersede this anyway.

Ms. Dewitt continued with a review of the Implementation chart which will also be included in the General Plan.

Mayor Goode opened the floor to public comment.

Member of the public Ralph Hess addressed the Council regarding his comments related to very low density and is pleased that the Council is in favor of reinstating it back into the General Plan. He added that there should be a minor addition related to that because there is a gap in the land use map for anything less than 1-unit per acre, so equal to or less than 1-dwelling unit per acre.

Member of the public James Helbling addressed the Council representing the MLK Committee. He thanked Councilwoman Fruhwirth for meeting with the group. The city's vision statement references "all" community members, and that

is currently not the case with this he hopes it gives hope to those that are not.

Member of the public Patrick Grady addressed the Council applauding city staff and the committee for their work on this aspirational General Plan that had significant community engagement. He stated that he is pleased to see an Implementation Plan included in the Plan. The climate and energy sections are the only voluntary plan that some members have said should not be included in the Plan. Several members of Council authorized the Quad City Collaborative to move forward with a climate profile and action options. There was no opposition at that time to this nor was there any opposition from the city.

Member of the public Greg Murray addressed the Council and echoed him Mr. Grady's comments and stated that he wished more people would participate to see the dedication/time/effort public servants put forward. He expressed his support of leaving all elements in the General Plan as proposed by staff, it meets state requirements and gives guidelines to the community and serves as an aspirational document for people considering moving here. There is a lot of baloney coming from both the left and the right regarding gender, he hopes that the Council isn't diverted by that. Gender is different than gender ideology.

Member of the public Sherrie Hanna addressed the Council as a longtime resident of Prescott, when things are put in they think if it is in the General Plan it has to be done. Her concern is in the non-discrimination language, and it is an unnecessary inclusion and should go by the statute based on population. People think that when you disagree with them you are discriminating against them, but that is not the case. This statement does not belong in the General Plan.

Councilman Gambogi commented on walking the talk, we call ourselves "everybody's hometown" and if that is the case, then everyone gets a say whether you agree with them or not. He thanked the community for their input, have to incorporate everybody's thoughts.

Councilmember Rusing stated that many of President Trump's Executive Orders will be going to the supreme court for review and the Council needs to decide if they will keep the non-discrimination in and if it will be in the introduction or a different section. She feels it should be included in the introduction.

Councilman Moore commented that the Community Quality section addresses the library, community center, youth programs, art, culture, events, museums and healthcare, non of which have to do with land use. He feels strongly that there should be an anti-discrimination clause because it affects the community quality for everyone.

Non-Discrimination Language Proposal:

- * Mayor Goode - remove
- * Councilman Montoya - approve revised language, no strong opinion on location within the Plan (either way is fine based on the majority of Council)
- * Councilman Moore - revised language, Community Quality is his preference
- * Councilwoman Fruhwirth - revised language, prefers in Introduction for location
- * Councilmember Rusing - revised language, in the introduction

- * Mayor Pro Tem Cantelme - revised language, in Community Quality
- * Councilman Gambogi - revised language, introduction

Option #2 is overall consensus.

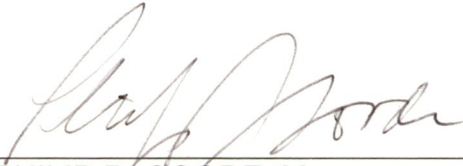
Ms. Dewitt added that all proposed changes will be brought back at the March 25 Meeting for final review of the draft with corrections for consideration; create Executive Summary of Plan after adoption by Council to be included.

This item was for discussion only, no formal action was taken.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Quote: "Patience and perseverance have a magical effect. Before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish." - John Quincy Adams

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Goode adjourned the meeting at 5:55 p.m.



PHILIP R. GOODE, Mayor

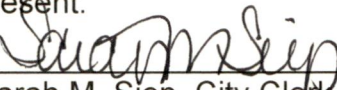
ATTEST:



SARAH M. SIEP, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Voting Meeting of the City Council Voting Meeting of the City of Prescott, Arizona held on March 11, 2025. I further certify the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.



Sarah M. Siep, City Clerk

