

# City of Prescott

## City Council - Study Session



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April 14, 2026 | 1:00 PM  
201 N Montezuma Street  
City Council Chambers, 1st Floor  
Prescott, AZ 86301

### MINUTES

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rusing called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

#### 2. ROLL CALL

Cathey Rusing - Mayor  
Lois Fruhwirth - Mayor Pro Tem  
Mary Frederickson - Councilwoman  
Ted Gambogi - Councilman  
Jim Garing - Councilman  
Patrick Grady - Councilman  
Jay Ruby - Councilman

#### 3. DISCUSSION

- A. Presentation & Discussion Regarding the Annual Departmental Overview of the Prescott Police & Fire Departments Including Goals & Objectives, Accomplishments, and Public Safety Infrastructure Tax Projects.

Police Chief Amy Bonney began the presentation to the Council regarding the Prescott Police Department. She recognized the department command staff and leadership. The Department Mission is to provide the highest level of service in collaborative effort with our community to protect life, property and the rights of all people. She added that the Department just received its renewed accreditation, additionally the Regional Communications Center is accredited and most recently the Property and Evidence Facility became accredited.

##### By the Numbers:

- \* Total Calls for Service - 48,731
- \* Officer Count - 80
- \* Citations - 8,054
- \* Arrests - 2,444

She reviewed the Department's budget and budgeted personnel.

##### Animal Control:

- \* Two staff members
- \* Animal Cruelty - 79
- \* Animal Bites - 114
- \* Dog Barking - 165

K9 Unit:

- \* Cooper & K9 Officer Alltop - total deployments 39
- \* Benny & Bob and K9 Officer Million - total deployments 41

Patrol:

- \* Total calls for service - 44,896
- \* Down 30 seconds in response times
- \* Total arrests made - 2,054
- \* Reports Generated
  - 678 Sex Offender Checks
  - 354 Lost and Found Reports

S.W.A.T:

- \* Total Deployments - 35
- \* Call Outs - 31
- \* Special Events - 5
- \* Scene Mapping - 8

Traffic Safety Section:

- \* Traffic collisions investigated - 1,029
- \* Parking citations - 3,599
- \* Parking warnings - 774
- \* Citations – 4,455
- \* Warnings - 7,158
- \* Traffic stops - 8,990
- \* DUI arrests - 268
- \* Speed & Aggressive Driving Details - 17
- \* DUI Task Force - 15
- \* Began last year with a commercial vehicle enforcement position

Investigations:

- \* Search Warrants - 48
- \* Arrests - 46
- \* Sex Crimes
  - 22 sexual assault
  - 50 other sex offenses
  - 19 child sex exploitation

Community Services:

- \* Bike patrols - 19
- \* Presentation & Community Education Events - 30
- \* Special Event details - 25
- \* School Resource Officers
  - Prescott High School
  - Granite Mountain Middle School
  - Mile High Middle School

Records, Property & Evidence:

- \* Records Overview
  - 3,668 PRRs

- 303 Online Reports Submitted
- 1,730 Criminal History Inquiries
- \$8,599 fees collected
- 458 hours of redactions for 71 body cam footage requests
- \* Property & Evidence
  - 20,421 items held
  - 1,656 evidence requests
  - 47,012 total item requested
  - 1,232 items destroyed
  - 622.5 pounds of drugs incinerated

#### Training, Recruiting & Community Outreach:

- \* 4,210 hours of training hours
- \* 14 officers hired
- \* 10 professional staff hired
- \* Six testing processes
- \* 22 officers tested
- \* 12 recruitment social media posts
- \* 574 social media posts
- \* \$13,000 raised through Pink Patch events
- \* 16 neighborhood block watch presentations
- \* Two citizen academies
- \* 11 Pink Patch Events
- \* 61 total community events

#### Prescott Regional Communication Center:

- \* Operating Budget - \$4,885,083
- \* Budgeted Personnel 36, current personnel is 26
- \* Dispatch Services & Programs
  - Police: Prescott PD, Prescott Valley, Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe, and Yavapai College Police
  - Fire: Prescott Fire, CAFMA, Groom Creek Fire District, Walker Fire Protection Association, Skull Valley Fire District, and Yavapai County Fire Consortium (Williamson Valley, Bagdad, Mayer, Congress, Crown King, Southern Yavapai and Yarnell)
  - EMS Transport: Copperstate Ambulance
- \* Largest regional communication center in Yavapai County
- \* 195,311 calls handled inbound/outbound

#### Innovations in Policing:

- \* Leica RTC360 Laser Scanner
- \* Less Lethal Capabilities
- \* SRO/K9 Team
- \* Commercial Vehicle Officer

#### Public Safety Tax Initiative & Strategic Results:

- \* Land has been acquired for new police facility
- \* 15% design on the new building is done
- \* Expanded staffing programs with new police aid position and cadet program
- \* Improved service delivery and response through patrol realignment and

upgraded technology

- \* Maintained high standards and readiness with re-accreditation, stronger policies and specialized deployment
- \* Strengthened community trust and engagement through outreach programs and events
- \* Enhanced public safety with targeted DUI enforcement and high-visibility patrols
- \* Expanded youth and school engagement with school-based K-9 and education efforts

Councilman Gambogi complimented the Department for their work and being present without being loud.

Councilman Garing stated that he is impressed with the Prescott Police Department.

Councilman Grady asked about bike patrols and overall community services.

Chief Bonney responded that policing on bicycle is an effective way to address issues in downtown, as well as direct interaction with the public.

Mayor Rusing asked if the department shares the incinerator, and asked if the Chief has any suggestions related to better retention.

Chief Bonney responded that it is shared. Work-life balance and family is important, so the Department is working on creative solutions to create that for their officers and staff. Will continue to work to be competitive with other departments.

Mayor Pro Tem Fruhwirth broke down the numbers provided by Chief Bonney and highlighted how busy the department really is.

Councilwoman Frederickson asked if the accreditation for Property & Evidence looked forward to the new facility.

Chief Bonney responded that it did not, but the Department's policies and practices are sound and ensure success. Additionally, when the next accreditation cycle comes, they will likely be in the new facility.

Councilman Ruby commented that people do feel safe in this community. He asked what percentage of officers are able to or do own homes in Prescott.

Chief Bonney responded that she doesn't have those numbers. However, most owned prior to 2010 and a vast majority cannot afford to live in Prescott if they didn't already.

City Manager Dallin Kimble added that citywide, only 40% of city employees live within the city limits.

Fire Chief Holger Durre continued by providing a presentation regarding the

Prescott Fire Department. He began by recognizing command staff and administrative staff.

Department Overview:

- \* Total employees - 93
  - Seven in Office of the Chief
  - Five in Community Risk Management
  - 59 in Emergency Operations
  - Two in Essential Services
- \* Operating budget - \$17,987,497
- \* Capital budget - \$26,942,550
- \* Current stations - 5 (one new station coming)
- \* 42 square miles of service area

Division Overviews:

- \* Core Identity - community first, courage, grit & duty, driven by excellence
- \* Vision - we are a community partner that instills pride, supports our people, leads the region and proactively solves public safety challenges
- \* Mission - we enhance the quality of life in Prescott by mitigating the community's risk through service, excellence and compassion
- \* Values - integrity, professionalism, compassion, trust, collaboration, leadership, competence, innovation, ownership and fun

Office of the Chief:

- \* Grants - secured several grants
- \* Innovation Technology - implemented the Honeywell G2 fire station alerting system to reduce response times
- \* Fire Station Progress - initiated funded fire station projects with land procurement and design
- \* Succession - promoted new Operations and Battalion Chief
- \* Data Analytics - implemented a data dictionary and expanded dashboards for consistent data analysis
- \* Compliance and Recordkeeping - transitioned to new Records Management System and new National Emergency Response Information System for reporting
- \* Achieved re-accreditation - using a joint Community Risk Assessment/Standards of Cover (CRA/SOC)

Emergency Operations:

- \* Percentage of firefighters working no more than 400 hours overtime annually - 80.7%
- \* Percentage of responses provide within turnout time benchmarks - 81%
- \* Number of aircraft rescue firefighting calls for service provided (commercial and general) - 33
- \* Percentage of cardiac arrest patients discharged from hospital with no neurological deficits - 11.3%
- \* Optimized response - implemented regional tiered dispatching and EMD with PRCC to provide immediate caller instructions and optimize unit deployment
- \* EMS and clinical excellence - established integrated cardiac arrest survival tracking with YRMC/AMR; launched national CQI chart review system;

graduated six paramedics

- \* Health and safety culture - achieved 100% NFPA 1582 medical compliance; provided esophageal cancer screenings; conducted third-party air quality testing and adopted on-scene decontamination policies
- \* Leadership development - redesigned captain's meetings
- \* Community engagement - delivered coordinated cross-training with regional community partners

#### Community Risk Management:

- \* Code and policy modernization - adopted the 2024 Fire Code and updated the fee schedule, aligning regional development and enforcement with ARS
- \* Emergency preparedness - launched new citywide emergency notification system, finalized the 2025 Continuity of Operations, Debris Management and emergency operations plans through a new Emergency internship
- \* Wildfire resilience - conducted extensive technical research and stakeholder engagement in preparation for the 2024 International WUI Code adoption
- \* Operational growth - hired a new Plans Reviewer/Inspector using Prop478 funding and implemented a rapid refueling process at PRC for defense and emergency aircraft
- \* Strategic partnerships - strengthened regional collaboration with YCOEM, PVOEM, CAFMA and YCCA to enhance community risk mitigation and resource sharing

#### Essential Services:

- \* Fleet and infrastructure - commissioned nine new apparatus, and an SCBA compressor; ordered six additional units and finalized the design/procurement phase for a new training tower
- \* Facility health and safety - installed direct exhaust capture systems department-wide and air curtains at Station 73 & 74; relocated turnout storage to eliminate contaminant exposure in apparatus bay
- \* Recruitment and academy - tripled initial applicant counts through process adjustments and conducted two joint recruit academies for 15 personnel; implemented the comprehensive 2025 Training Plan
- \* Succession and leadership - finalized departmental "acting books" and certified 11 Acting Engineers and seven Acting Captains; launched the first formal organizational succession planning documents for resource development

#### 2026 Strategic Plan Update:

- \* Community and internal stakeholder feedback completely updated
- \* Updated Council Strategic Plan integrated
- \* Strategic Issues - all strategic results have been updated, goals and objectives have been added
- \* 2026 marks transition away from startup-style urgency to institutional stability
- \* Maturing into structure by replacing single points of dependency with coordinated process
- \* Milestones - goal completion at 70%, workforce evolution (40% of current workforce did not work in the department in 2023; 25 new positions were allocated) and operational success (progress with a 46% reduction in "force hires" and a 10% decrease in the impact of low-acuity calls)

Strategic Issues:

- \* Response, growth and infrastructure
- \* Resource and workforce stability
- \* Community wildfire risk
- \* Training and professional development
- \* Organizational communication
- \* Service delivery evolution

Strategic Result Updates:

- \* Reducing Risk (expand wildfire focus)
- \* Infrastructure Improvements (increased scope)
- \* Organizational Capacity (increased scope)
- \* Workforce Development
- \* Strategic Communication (increased scope)
- \* Performance Management

Critical Issues Ahead:

- \* Strengthening organizational capacity
- \* Employee development and training
- \* Strategic communications
- \* Wildfire risk adaptation

Standards of Cover Overview:

- \* First in the nation joint CRA/SOC
- \* Used in PFD and CAFMA successful accreditation applications
- \* More accurate representation of the closest-unity automatic aid system
- \* Unified response goals
- \* Enhanced coordination of capital improvements
- \* Significant force multiplier and cost savings

Response Time Overview:

- \* In city limits - fourteen minutes for moderate risk EMS, and eleven minutes for moderate risk fire suppression

Featured Program - Joint CRA/SOA:

- \* Innovative approach to CRA/SOA - developed in partnership with CAFMA
- \* Key Benefits - coordinated and efficient emergency response, tiered dispatching for optimal resource use, improved response times for community assistance
- \* Agencies agreed on response time targets and coordinated policies
- \* Led to successful independent peer reviews and accredited status

Featured Program - Station Alerting:

- \* Transition from manual legacy processes to a high-speed, automated internet-based network
- \* Key Capabilities - sub-second speed, automated voice alert and crew wellness
- \* Strategic benefits - faster response, dispatcher focus and precision
- \* Current status - optimization

Councilman Garing congratulated Chief Durre on having all of his positions filled.

Councilman Grady thanked the Department for their focus on being fire wise and preparation.

Chief Durre responded that the department is very proactive. However, neighborhoods have to be organized and there are a number of residences that are not covered by HOAs that is important for the department to look at.

Mayor Pro Tem Fruhwirth expressed her concern regarding the statistic on cardiac arrest going in the wrong direction and appreciates that the Department is focusing on that issue. She added that fire risk response time is making a big difference.

Councilwoman Frederickson asked if the department interacts with APS regarding their efforts to protect the community from wildfire.

Chief Durre responded that they are in ongoing communications with APS regarding their efforts to ensure that citizens are well-informed and prepared.

Councilman Ruby asked what kind of impact it would have on the department culture to have employees be able to live in the community.

Chief Durre responded that it would make a significant impact.

Finance Director Lars Johnson continued the presentation with an update on the Public Safety Tax Initiative (Prop478) summary. The tax became effective on July 1, 2025, details are all tracked individually and are available to view on the OpenGov Budget platform on the city website. Anticipate spending \$9.4 million in FY26 on capital projects and for the FY27 proposed budget \$37,423,000. Mr. Johnson also reviewed current capital estimates.

Mayor Pro Tem Fruhwirth commented that from a tax revenue standpoint, the city is exceeding what it had promised with regard to the tax.

Mr. Johnson confirmed and added that this is a big picture 10-year program and there are a number of variables to consider as well. Council has a number of options related to debt funding over the course of the next several fiscal years as well.

Member of the public Ken Fidyk addressed the Council regarding seeing a random polling of the departments about whether they would like to see more money versus focus on workforce housing.

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

#### **4. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Rusing adjourned the meeting at 2:51 p.m.

*Cathey Rusing*

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CATHEY RUSING, Mayor

ATTEST:

*Sarah M. Thornhill*

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SARAH M. THORNHILL, 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 April 14, 2026. I further certify the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

*Sarah M. Thornhill*

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Sarah M. Thornhill, City Clerk