

# City of Prescott

## City Council - Voting Meeting



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April 28, 2026 | 3:00 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 3:00 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. INTRODUCTIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Pro Tem Fruhwirth announced upcoming community events taking place over the next month including: 1) April 29 Miller Valley Road & Grove Avenue Sidewalk Improvements Community Meeting; 2) The Highlands Center Plant Sale taking place April 30 through May 2; 3) May 2 Shred-a-Thon Event; and 4) May 6 EyeOnWater Workshop.

She invited the public to stop by and say hello this Saturday, May 2 when she and City Clerk Sarah Thornhill will be at the Prescott Farmer's Market from 7:30 am - 12 pm, and shared that May 3-May 9 is Municipal Clerks Week and a wonderful time to recognize the important role our City Clerk's Office plays in supporting a transparent and effective local government.

Looking ahead, Mayor Pro Tem Fruhwirth announced the "Prescott Freedom Festival" celebrating the nation's 250th Anniversary on July 4 at Pioneer Park beginning at 3 p.m. As part of the celebration, the city is hosting a logo design contest for a commemorative event t-shirt, and community members are invited to submit their original designs to [parks.programming.staff@prescott-az.gov](mailto:parks.programming.staff@prescott-az.gov) by May 15 for consideration.

**4. INVOCATION - Rabbi Susan Schanerman with Temple B'rith Shalom**

**5. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Mayor Rusing**

**6. PROCLAMATIONS**

- A. General U.S. Grant Camp #3 - America250  
Mayor Pro Tem Fruhwirth presented the Proclamation.
- B. Economic Development Week - May 4-8  
Councilman Grady presented the Proclamation.

**7. PRESENTATIONS**

- A. Presentation to Matt Gonzalez the 2025 Firefighter of the Year.  
Fire Chief Holger Durre introduced 2025 Firefighter of the Year Matt Gonzalez and shared with the council and members of the public his dedication to the community and department.
- B. Light the World Magic Giving Machine Report for 2025 Event  
Kyle Carter Representative for the Light the World Giving Machine organization, provided a presentation and recap of the 2025 event with over \$60,000 of donated items from citizens of the Prescott community. This event allows local charities to provide many needed items to those in need. He presented checks to the local organizations who received contributions from the event.
- C. Council Recognition - Dennis Houser Day  
Councilmen Gambogi and Garing presented the Recognition to Mr. Houser.

**8. OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

A. Donna Whitmore addressed the Council regarding the Workforce Housing Plan and the issues that she sees with it. She stated that in the plan only 18 units are set aside for workforce housing and more for low income which opens the city up to working with developers that will seek relaxed restrictions related to subsidized housing. She added that the Woda Cooper contract is concerning to her, and there a number of unanswered questions related to it's approval. Things like downpayment assistance, public-private partnerships are much more helpful for the issues that working residents are facing with home purchases.

B. James Riddle addressed the Council regarding the Penn-Eastwood Project which negatively impacted his property. He stated that Fann Contracting installed "homemade" materials to do the job and stated that they should not be allowed to fix the issues. He requested a moratorium on all contracts with the company until they pay for the issues.

C. William Hall addressed the Council regarding the Anti-Discrimination language proposals for the City Charter. He asked who has been harassed, refused service or been verbally abused because of how they look or dress. All people should be treated with respect, no matter what.

**9. CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION BY MAYOR RUSING TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 9.A. THROUGH 9.G.; SECONDED BY COUNCILWOMAN FREDERICKSON: PASSED (7 - 0)**

- A. Approval of Meeting Minutes from the April 9, 2026 Open Meeting Law Training, the April 14, 2026 Executive Session, the April 14, 2026 Study Session, the April 14, 2026 Voting Meeting, and the April 21, 2026 Special Study Session.
- B. Adoption of Resolution No. 2026-1979 Updating the Council Rules of Procedure to Include a Council Virtual Attendance Policy.
- C. Approval of City Contract No. 2026-084A1, an Amendment to City Contract No. 2026-084 with Fann Environmental, LLC for Five (5) Project Improvements to the Sundog Wastewater Treatment Plant in the Amount of \$601,301.00. Funding is Budgeted & Available in the Wastewater Fund.
- D. Approval to Auction Items at Surplus Auction.
- E. Approval of City Purchase Order No. 2260609 with Safeware, Inc. Utilizing the Cooperative Contract #159469 with OMNIA for the Purchase of a Portable X-Ray Scanner Used to Detect Explosive Devices in the Field in the Amount of \$87,382.69. Funding is Budgeted & Available Through Public Safety Sales Tax Initiative Funds.
- F. Approval of City Contract No. 2026-191 for the Purchase of One (1) EZ Liner Model TSALC023 (Arapahoe) Truck Mounted Striping Machine from EZ Liner & Arrow Striping Equipment Using Sourcewell Contract No. 050625-EZL, in the Amount of \$467,585.40. Funding Is Available in the Streets Fund.
- G. Approval of City Purchase Order No. 2260612 with Arizona Furnishings Utilizing the Cooperative Contract #CTR067398 with the State of Arizona for the Purchase of Office Furnishings for the Library's Technical Services Workroom in the Amount of \$66,778.96. Funding is Budgeted & Available through Yavapai County Free Library Tax Levy Contribution.
- H. Adoption of Resolution No. 2026-1982 Dissolving the Workforce Housing Committee.

Councilman Ruby pulled this Item from consent for further discussion, stating that he wanted to thank the individuals who served on the Committee over the last several years. He added that he doesn't think the work of the Committee is actually done because the issue of workforce and affordable housing is not going away. It is critical that there are opportunities for young families to come to our community.

**MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM FRUHWIRTH TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2026-1982; SECONDED BY MAYOR RUSING: PASSED (5 - 2) COUNCILMAN GAMBONI AND COUNCILMAN RUBY DISSENTING**

- I. Approval of City Contract No. 2026-192 with HR Green for Professional Services for the General Plan Updates as Recommended by the Council Subcommittee for General Plan Review.

Mayor Rusing pulled this Item from consent for further discussion. She stated that the consultants have extensive expertise in this area and she is looking forward to working with them.

Councilman Grady concurred and commented that after speaking with them at the Subcommittee Meeting he was very impressed with the work they do and felt that a consultant would be helpful in getting a proposed general plan approved.

Councilwoman Frederickson echoed the other Council comments and pointed out an error in one of the line item dollar amounts in the memo, but overall the amount was correct.

HR Green Senior Project Manager Ed Boik addressed the Council regarding the agreement. He stated that it is important to ensure that the General Plan aligns with Arizona Revised Statutes and the document is clear which they will be focused on.

Mayor Pro Tem Fruhwirth commented that she was very excited to see HR Green selected, particularly because she was so pleased with the Chino Valley General Plan, which they worked on. Her only concern is the addition of the 50,000 population elements, to her knowledge the city is not yet there.

Mr. Boik responded that most communities look ahead because this is a 10-year plan, so adding that additional 50,000 language is good but not required.

Councilman Gambogi asked what the total cost of the contract was, and what the top three cities the consultant have worked with. He stated that what is happening is the Council is disregarding the work of a Committee, staff and feedback of the community to spend this amount of money, and it is inappropriate.

Planner Alex Bramlette responded that the contract is for \$164,400.

Mr. Boik responded and stated that working with the City of Buckeye was very fulfilling because they were going through a similar experience as Prescott.

Councilman Grady asked what version will be used as a starting point. He stated that he feels the March plan was most appropriate. Additionally, Councilman Ruby stated that he feels this is an exercise in redundancy, and feels it should only go the voters before a consultant is hired.

Ms. Bramlette responded that the Subcommittee determined to move forward with the June 2025 version of the General Plan.

**MOTION BY COUNCILMAN GRADY TO APPROVE CITY CONTRACT NO.**

**2026-192; SECONDED BY MAYOR RUSING: PASSED (5 - 2) COUNCILMAN GAMBONI AND COUNCILMAN RUBY DISSENTING**

- J. Approval of City Purchase Order No. 2260613 for Reimbursement to Keystone at Prescott, LLC, in the Amount of \$111,347.53 for 18-inch Ductile Iron (DIP) CL350 Water Line Construction (City Contract No. 2023-003). Funding is Available in the Water Fund.

Mayor Rusing pulled this Item from consent for further discussion. She stated that the city is doing a major water and sewer project to get service to Section 33, which is part of the AED annexation, in order to move density out of the heart of the Dells.

Public Works Director Gwen Rowitsch reviewed the map approved for the project, and stated that the reimbursement is for the construction of the pipe as agreed upon.

**MOTION BY MAYOR RUSING TO APPROVE PURCHASE ORDER NO. 2260613; SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM FRUHWIRTH: PASSED (7 - 0)**

**10. CONSENT ORDINANCE**

- A. Adoption of Ordinance No. 2026-1942 Authorizing the Granting of a Utility Easement to Arizona Public Service Company.  
City Attorney Joseph Young stated that this an easement for APS to underground utilities at the old city hall project site.

**MOTION BY COUNCILMAN GAMBONI TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 2026-1942; SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM FRUHWIRTH: PASSED (7 - 0)**

**11. REGULAR AGENDA**

- A. **WSA26-007:** A Water Service Application Submitted by Michael Taylor Architects. Location: 130 N Cortez Street, APN 113-15-105A.

Water Resources and Environmental Services Manager Brian Ruiz provided a presentation to the Council regarding the water service application for an existing four-story building that will be for 3,000 sq feet on the first floor, six apartments on the second and third floors and a private residence on the fourth floor. Demand is estimated at 0.89 AFY, with retail at 0.02 AFY for a total of 0.91 AFY. There is no proposed outdoor water usage for this property. Given the historical nature of the building and its location, even though this could have gone through administratively staff felt it appropriate to forward to Council. The Water Issues Subcommittee unanimously recommended forwarding to the Council for approval.

Mayor Rusing asked if this would be vacation rentals or long-term apartments, and added that she thinks this is a good project for downtown.

Collin Lovdahl with Michael Taylor Architects addressed the Council and

commented that he misspoke, these are apartments and were appropriately applied for as such.

Councilman Ruby stated that he is relieved these are apartments and thanked the applicant for taking the project on.

**MOTION BY COUNCILMAN GAMBOGI TO APPROVE WSA26-007;  
SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM FRUHWIRTH: PASSED (7 - 0)**

**12. QUARTERLY COUNCIL LIAISON BCC UPDATES**

City Clerk Sarah Thornhill provided an update provided by Councilman Gambogi regarding PBTAC's January and February meetings. The Committee is looking at issues and potential changes in and around the following areas: Senator Highway, Willow Creek, Park Avenue, Mt. Vernon, Yavapai College and street light improvements. She also provided the following upcoming meeting schedule, which are subject to change:

- \* May 4 - Charter Review Committee
- \* May 6 - Mayor's Veterans Commission
- \* May 8 - Prescott Preservation Commission
- \* May 11 - Pedestrian, Bicycle & Traffic Advisory Committee
- \* May 13 - Tourism Advisory Committee
- \* May 19 - Airport Advisory Committee
- \* May 20 - CDBG Citizens Advisory Committee
- \* May 21 - Board of Adjustment
- \* May 28 - Planning & Zoning Commission
- \* May 28 - Civic Enhancement Committee

Councilman Ruby discussed the CDBG Citizens Advisory Committee's approval of funding for organizations for the upcoming Plan Year. He added that the Civic Enhancement Committee denied an application for a peace pole that will likely be coming back in a different form.

Ms. Thornhill addressed questions related to the Art Donation Policy.

Council Garing discussed the Airport Advisory Committee, who in recent months, discussed tenant access and exit of the hangars which are currently being looked at. The Veteran's Commission is looking at finding ways to locate veterans who are unaware that they are eligible for benefits to get them registered, which helps bring funds to our local center. They are also setting up meetings with HOA's to get information about these programs to veterans.

Mayor Pro Tem Fruhwirth commented that the Tourism Advisory Committee received twenty-five applications for TAC Grants for the upcoming fiscal year which they will review and make recommendations for the Council to vote on and approve. She added that the America250 Commission has upcoming events as well, including a time capsule placement in the Courthouse Plaza area.

Ms. Thornhill reiterated that the Council will receive and vote on recommendations from both TAC and CEC for their upcoming fiscal year grant funding in June.

Councilwoman Frederickson stated that the Prescott Preservation Commission has reviewed Doc's BBQ wall and are addressing the work that was done without formal approval.

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

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Rusing adjourned the meeting at 4:30 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 28, 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