

Meeting Minutes

City Council Regular Meeting

September 18, 2025 | 6:00 p.m.
Chandler City Council Chambers
88 E. Chicago St., Chandler, AZ



Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Kevin Hartke at 6:01 p.m.

Roll Call

Council Attendance

Mayor Kevin Hartke
Vice Mayor Christine Ellis
Councilmember Angel Encinas
Councilmember Jane Poston
Councilmember Matt Orlando
Councilmember OD Harris
Councilmember Jennifer Hawkins

Appointee Attendance

John Pombier, Acting City Manager
Kelly Schwab, City Attorney
Dana DeLong, City Clerk

Invocation

The invocation was given by Pastor Ruth Escobar, Vida Abundante Church, Chandler.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Mayor Ellis.

Scheduled Public Appearances

1. Proclamation – Domestic Violence Awareness Month

MAYOR HARTKE read the proclamation and invited Michael Morris, Commissioner; Katie Cain, Victim Services Senior Program Manager; LaTisha Codkind, Chair; and Beth Brizel, Commissioner to accept.

LATISHA CODKIND, Chair, thanked Mayor Hartke, Vice Mayor Ellis and City Council for their support. Ms. Codkind noted that this year's proclamation focuses on the intersection of

technology and domestic violence, which will be highlighted at the upcoming awareness event next Tuesday.

2. Proclamation – Library Card Sign-up Month

MAYOR HARTKE read the proclamation and invited Susan Van Horne, Library Branch Manager; Deborah Moreno, Library Branch Manager; Jo-el Miller, Library Branch Manager; and Tara Anglin, Library Community Engagement Program Manager to accept.

SUSAN VAN HORNE, Library Branch Manager, encouraged community members to visit any library location, noting that a free Chandler library card is available to all Maricopa County residents, not just Chandler residents. She highlighted the upcoming launch of the new mobile library branch this winter. Ms. Van Horne invited the public to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month this Saturday at the downtown library with the Chandler Contigo event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., promising a fun experience for all.

3. Recognition: Water Festival Sponsors

MAYOR HARTKE invited Makayla Read, Water Conservation Coordinator, to accept.

MAKAYLA READ, Water Conservation Coordinator, expressed gratitude for the opportunity to recognize the 2024 Chandler Water Festival sponsors. For over 20 years, Chandler has hosted this annual event, offering a unique educational experience to approximately 1,200 fourth-grade students each year. The festival is one of the largest in Arizona, teaching students about groundwater, watersheds, the water cycle, and conservation through hands-on activities led by water professionals and community volunteers. Sponsorships play a vital role in supporting the event, helping to provide meals and snacks for over 200 volunteers. Without these dedicated volunteers, the festival would not be possible. Ms. Read thanked the 2024 sponsors and invited them to step forward for recognition: Achen Gardener Construction, Brown and Caldwell, Carollo Engineers, Entellus, Hazen and Sawyer, Jacobs, and Kitchell.

4. Recognition: HWAP Award (Healthy Arizona Worksites Program & Vitalant Blood Drive Awards)

MAYOR HARTKE invited Lisa Mainieri, Wellness & Engagement Coordinator, and Fernanda Acurio, Human Resources Manager, to accept.

LISA MAINIERI, Wellness & Engagement Coordinator, shared that the HWAP Award, Healthy Arizona Worksite Program Award, recognizes organizations for promoting wellness in the workplace. This award means that wellness efforts extend beyond the workplace and into the community. She emphasized that wellness is not treated as a standalone program but as a core part of Chandler's culture, "the Chandler way." The city integrates wellness into various initiatives, including water, facilities, and For Our City Day. Through collaboration across departments, the goal is to help employees understand how these efforts directly support their overall well-being.

FERNANDA ACURIO, Human Resources Manager, shared that the Vitalant Award primarily recognizes Lisa, as it is awarded to the coordinator responsible for organizing the effort. While hosting four or more blood drives annually is a key requirement, the award also recognizes the additional effort involved in outreach, engagement, and meeting participation goals. Lisa consistently goes above and beyond, working closely with employees, CLAW - ChanLife Ambassadors of Wellness committee to ensure strong engagement and collaboration. Her efforts help the city not only meet but exceed expectations for blood drive participation.

Consent Agenda and Discussion

City Clerk

1. Boards and Commissions Member Appointments
Move City Council approve the Board and Commission appointments as recommended.

City Manager

2. Resolution No. 5932, Authorizing a Grant Agreement and the Acceptance of Grant Funds from the Federal Highway Administration in the amount of \$560,000
Move City Council pass and adopt Resolution No. 5932, authorizing a grant agreement and acceptance of grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration Fiscal Year 2024 Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Program in the amount of \$560,000.
3. Resolution No. 5934 Authorizing the Submittal of Pass-Through Indian Gaming Applications totaling \$140,000 to Gila River Indian Community
Move City Council pass and adopt Resolution No. 5934 authorizing the submittal of pass-through Indian Gaming Revenue Sharing Grant Applications of \$20,000 from Si Se Puede Foundation for STEM Center Programming, \$20,000 from the Chandler Cultural Foundation for Connect Kids Program, and \$100,000 from Teen Lifeline for Crisis Services to the Gila River Indian Community.

Community Services

4. Sole Source Purchase of OCLC Cloud Library Services
Move City Council approve the sole source purchase of OCLC Cloud Library Services in an amount not to exceed \$140,000.
5. Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) Pre-Construction Services Agreement No. PR2401.251 with Hunter Contracting Co., for the Mesquite Groves Park – Pre-Construction
Move City Council award CMAR Pre-Construction Services Agreement No. PR2401.251 to Hunter Contracting Co., for the Mesquite Groves Park – Pre-Construction, in an amount not to exceed \$319,800.68.

6. Agreement No. CS2-595-4335, Amendment No. 4, with SiteOne Landscape Supply, LLC, for Rock, Granite, and Miscellaneous Supplies
Move City Council approve Agreement No. CS2-595-4335, Amendment No. 4, with SiteOne Landscape Supply, LLC, for rock, granite, and miscellaneous supplies, in an amount not to exceed \$845,000, for a one-year period, September 1, 2025, through August 31, 2026.

Cultural Development

7. Construction Agreement No. CA2202.501, Change Order No.1, with Arizona Public Service Company (APS), for Wall Street Overhead Power Conversion to Underground Design and Construction Services
Move City Council award Agreement No. CA2202.501, Change Order No.1, to Arizona Public Service Company (APS), in the amount of \$330,433.71, for a revised agreement amount not to exceed \$1,581,673.43. In addition, authorize an appropriation transfer of \$228,467 from General Fund, Non-Departmental Contingency Account to the General Government Capital Fund, Cultural Development Capital Cost Center, Professional Services account, Wall Street Improvements Program.

Development Services

8. Resolution No. 5938, PLH24-0030 Downtown Region Area Plan Update Replacing the Downtown-South Arizona Avenue Corridor Area Plan
Move City Council continue PLH24-0030 Downtown Region Area Plan Update to the October 16, 2025 City Council meeting as recommended by staff.
9. Resolution No. 5939, a Pre-Annexation Development Agreement between the City of Chandler and Chandler Acquisition I, LLC Pertaining to Future Annexation and Development of 23.46 Acres Comprised of Parcel Nos. 303-41-020L and 303-41-020M on the Northside of Ocotillo Road East of Arizona Avenue and West of McQueen Road
Move City Council pass and adopt Resolution No. 5939 approving the Pre-Annexation Development Agreement between the City of Chandler and Chandler Acquisition I, LLC.
10. Temporary Construction Easement, Agreement for Temporary Construction Easement and Non-Exclusive Easements for Below-Grade Building Footings between the City of Chandler and S Arizona Avenue, LLC, an Arizona Based Limited Liability Company, for the Portion of the Building Located at 141 South Arizona Avenue
Move City Council approve Temporary Construction Easement, Agreement Regarding Temporary Construction Easement and Non-Exclusive Easements for Below-Grade Building Footings between the City of Chandler and S Arizona Avenue, LLC, an Arizona Based Limited Liability Company, for the portion of the building located at 141 South Arizona Avenue provided that City execution of the two Non-Exclusive Easements shall be contingent upon the City's receipt of payment of the required one-time fees for these Easements.

Economic Development

11. Resolution No. 5930, Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement Between the City of Chandler and the Chandler Unified School District No. 80, Kyrene School District No. 28, Mesa Unified School District No. 4 and Tempe Union School District No. 213, to Collaborate on a Young Families and Young Professionals Community Attraction Campaign; and Authorizing the Acceptance of Grant Funds from the Chandler Industrial Development Authority as well as Grant Funds from Each of the Four School Districts to Pay for the Implementation and Launch of the Campaign
Move City Council pass and adopt Resolution No. 5930 approving an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Chandler and the Chandler Unified School District No. 80 (CUSD), Kyrene School District No. 28 (KSD), Mesa Unified School District No. 4 (MUSD) and Tempe Union School District No. 213 (TUHSD), to collaborate on a Young Families and Young Professionals Community Attraction Campaign; and authorizing the acceptance of grant funds from the Chandler Industrial Development Authority in the amount of \$150,000 as well as one-time grant funds of \$10,000 from each of the four school districts, totaling \$40,000, to assist with creating and implementing this multi-year community attraction campaign; and authorizing the city manager to sign and execute all documents, contracts, or agreements necessary to implement campaign.
12. Agreement No. ED3-920-4587, Amendment No. 3, for Search Engine Optimization and Pay Per Click Services
Move City Council approve Agreement No. ED3-920-4587, Amendment No. 3, with Granicus, Inc., for search engine optimization and pay per click services, in an amount not to exceed \$112,830, for the period of one year, beginning July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

Facilities and Fleet

13. Purchase of HVAC Equipment, Installation, and Services from TD Industries, Johnson Controls, Inc., Daikin Applied Americas, Inc., and Trane U.S. Inc.
Move City Council approve the purchase of heat, ventilation, and cooling (HVAC) equipment, installation, and services, utilizing multiple vendors available under the Omnia Partners Contract No. R200403, with TDI Industries, Inc., Contract No. R200402, with Johnson Controls, Inc., Contract No. R200401, with Daikin Applied Americas, Inc., and Contract No. 15-JLP-023, with Trane U.S., Inc., and the Mohave Educational Services Cooperative Contract No. 19F-SMC-0904, with Sun Mechanical Contracting, Inc., in a combined amount not to exceed \$3,645,000.
14. Purchase of Maintenance, Repairs and Purchase of Doors, Locking Systems, Door Hardware, and Operable Walls
Move City Council approve the utilization of the Mohave Educational Services Cooperative Contract No. 21H-DHP-0917, for maintenance, repairs, and purchase of bay doors, locking systems, door hardware, and operable walls, from DH Pace Company, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$550,000, for the period of one year, September 17, 2025, through September 16, 2026.

Fire Department

15. Resolution No. 5933 Authorizing the Acceptance of Gaming Revenue Sharing Grant Funds from the Gila River Indian Community for the Chandler Fire Department
Move City Council pass and adopt Resolution No. 5933 authorizing the acceptance of gaming revenue-sharing grant funds from the Gila River Indian Community in the amount of \$59,262, for the purpose of supporting the purchase of battery-operated fans for fire apparatus for the Chandler Fire Department.
16. Purchase of Chest Compression Systems and Accessories from Stryker Sales, LLC
Move City Council approve the purchase of Chest Compression Systems and Accessories from Stryker Sales, LLC., utilizing the Sourcewell Contract No. 041823-STY, in the amount of \$257,099, and authorize the Acting City Manager or designee to sign a linking agreement with Stryker Sales, LLC.

Human resources

17. Agreement No. 4802, Amendment No. 1, Employee Benefits Consulting Services
Move City Council approve Agreement No. 4802, Amendment No. 1, with The Segal Company (Western States), Inc., for employee benefits consulting services, in an amount not to exceed \$120,000, for the period of one year, beginning January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026.
18. Agreement No. 1193, Calendar Year 2026 Amendment, with Delta Dental Plan of Arizona, Inc., for Dental Insurance Benefit
Move City Council approve Agreement No. 1193, Calendar Year 2026 Amendment, with Delta Dental Plan of Arizona, Inc., for dental insurance benefit, for the period of one year, beginning January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026.
19. Agreement No. HR-948-4496, Amendment No. 2, Basic and Voluntary Life and Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance
Move City Council approve Agreement No. HR2-948-4496, Amendment No. 2, with ReliaStar Life Insurance Company, for basic and voluntary life and accidental death and dismemberment insurance, in an amount not to exceed \$960,000 per year, for the period of two years, beginning January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2027.
20. Agreement No. HR2-948-4453, Amendment No. 2, Group Medical and Pharmacy Program Administration
Move City Council approve Agreement No. HR2-948-4453, Amendment No. 2, with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona, for the administrative services agreement amendment for group medical and pharmacy program administration, for the period of one year, beginning January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026.

Law

21. Opioid Settlements

Move City Council authorize the City of Chandler's participation in any settlements with pharmaceutical companies related to the opioid epidemic and authorize the City Attorney or City Manager or his designee, after consultation with the City Attorney's Office, to complete all documentation, verify claims, and execute all releases and agreements on behalf of the city that are necessary to participate in opioid-related settlements.

22. Settlement in Andres Ramirez, Jr., et al. vs. City of Chandler, et al.
Move City Council approve the payment of the balance of its self-insured retention, in an amount up to \$1,100,000 toward the full and final settlement of all claims against the city defendants in the matter of Andres Ramirez, Jr., et al. vs. City of Chandler, et al., CV2022-008776, without admitting liability, and to authorize the City Attorney to sign any necessary documents in such forms as are approved by the City Attorney to effectuate the terms and conditions of the settlement in this matter.
23. Settlement in Wakefield vs. City of Chandler, et al.
Move City Council approve the settlement in the matter of Wakefield vs. City of Chandler, et al., in the amount of \$45,000, in full and final settlement of all claims asserted without admitting liability, and to authorize the City Attorney to sign any necessary documents in such forms as are approved by the City Attorney to effectuate the terms and conditions of the settlement in this matter.

Management Services

24. New License Series 10, Beer and Wine Store Liquor License Application for Andrea Dahlman Lewkowicz, Agent, Fortune Foods Arizona, Inc, DBA Seafood City Supermarket
Move for recommendation to the State Department of Liquor Licenses and Control for approval of the State Liquor Job No. 354035, a Series 10, Beer and Wine Store Liquor License, for Andrea Dahlman Lewkowicz, Agent, Fortune Foods Arizona, Inc, DBA Seafood City Supermarket, located at 3177 W. Chandler Boulevard, Suite 200, and approval of the City of Chandler, Series 10, Beer and Wine Store Liquor License No. 310190.
25. License Series 12, Restaurant Liquor License Application for Theresa June Morse, Agent, Best Pizza and Brew Chandler, LLC, DBA Best Pizza and Brew Move for recommendation to the State Department of Liquor Licenses and Control for approval of the State Liquor Job No. 355787, a Series 12, Restaurant Liquor License, for Theresa June Morse, Agent, Best Pizza and Brew Chandler, LLC, DBA Best Pizza and Brew, located at 290 S. Arizona Avenue, Suite B, and approval of the City of Chandler, Series 12, Restaurant Liquor License No. 310254.
26. New License Series 12, Restaurant Liquor License Application for Edgar Eduardo Cortez Gonzalez, Agent, Sol Azteca Mexican Kitchen, LLC, DBA Sol Azteca Mexican Kitchen
Move for recommendation to the State Department of Liquor Licenses and Control for approval of the State Liquor Job No. 334281, a Series 12, Restaurant Liquor License, for Edgar Eduardo Cortez Gonzalez, Agent, Sol Azteca Mexican Kitchen, LLC, DBA Sol Azteca

Mexican Kitchen, located at 70 E. Riggs Road, Suite 3, and approval of the City of Chandler, Series 12, Restaurant Liquor License No. 310284.

Mayor and Council

27. Resolution No. 5937, Setting the 2026 City Council Regular Meeting Schedule
Move City Council pass and adopt Resolution No. 5937, approving the 2026 City Council Regular Meeting Schedule.

Neighborhood Resources

28. Approval of Hotel Agreements for Operation Open Door Non-Congregate Shelter Program-Extensions with GAJANAN, LLC (\$450,000) and Metro Zona Hospitality, LLC (\$525,000)
Move City Council approve Agreement No. 4638, Amendment No. 2, with GAJANAN, LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$450,000, for the term beginning October 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, and Agreement No. 4758, Amendment No. 3, with Metro Zona Hospitality, LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$525,000, for the term beginning July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

Police Department

29. Resolution No. 5931 Intergovernmental Agreement Between Chandler PD and Maricopa County Regarding Sworn Officer and Detention Officer Training Academy
Move City Council pass and adopt Resolution No. 5931 authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Maricopa County by and through the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office; authorizing the Mayor to sign the IGA; and authorizing the Chief of Police to administer, execute, and submit the Agreement and all documents and other necessary instruments in connection with such Agreement.
30. Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) Pre-Construction Services Agreement No. PD2301.251 with Willmeng Construction, Inc., for the Forensic Services Facility
Move City Council award CMAR Pre-Construction Services Agreement No. PD2301.251 to Willmeng Construction, Inc., for the Forensic Services Facility, in an amount not to exceed \$430,547.93.

Public Works and Utilities

31. Purchase of Refrigerated Liquid Carbon Dioxide
Move City Council approve the purchase of refrigerated liquid carbon dioxide, from Reliant Gases, Ltd., utilizing City of Tempe Contract No. WUD22-135-02, in an amount not to exceed \$570,000.
32. Agreement No. WW5-885-4923, with Carbon Activated Corp., for Purchase of Activated Carbon
Move City Council approve Agreement No. WW5-885-4923, with Carbon Activated Corp., for the purchase of activated carbon, in an amount not to exceed \$380,000, for a one-year

term, September 25, 2025, through September 24, 2026, with the option of up to four one-year extensions.

33. Professional Services Agreement No. WW2402.451, with Wilson Engineers, LLC, for the 101/202 Redundant 66-inch Sewer Line Being Installed Under the Loop 202 Santan Freeway Approximately 1,800 Feet East of Price Road, Construction Management Services
Move City Council award Professional Services Agreement No. WW2402.451, to Wilson Engineers, LLC, for the 101/202 Redundant 66-inch Sewer Line Construction Management Services, in an amount not to exceed \$2,414,865.
34. Construction Manager at Risk Construction Services Agreement No. WW2402.401, with B&F Contracting, Inc., for the 101/202 Redundant 66-inch Sewer Line Being Installed Under the Loop 202 Santan Freeway Approximately 1,800 Feet East of Price Road
Move City Council award CMAR Construction Services Agreement No. WW2402.401, to B&F Contracting, Inc., for the 101/202 Redundant 66-inch Sewer Line, in an amount not to exceed \$34,649,463.94.
35. Sole Source Purchase of Analytical Equipment, Parts, and Services
Move City Council approve the sole source purchase of analytical equipment, parts, and services, from Emerson LLP, in an amount not to exceed \$325,000.
36. Agreement No. 4831, Amendment No. 1, with Tetra Tech, Inc., Paseo Vista Recreation Area and Landfill Environmental Consulting Services
Move City Council approve Agreement No. 4831, Amendment No. 1, with Tetra Tech, Inc., Paseo Vista Recreation Area and landfill environmental consulting services, in an amount not to exceed \$200,000, for a one-year period, October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026.
37. Introduction and Tentative Adoption of Ordinance No. 5135 Granting a Non-Exclusive Power Distribution Easement to Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District, at No Cost, for Electrical Facilities Relocation Required as Part of the Lindsay Road Improvement Project from Ocotillo Road to Hunt Highway
Move City Council introduce and tentatively adopt Ordinance No. 5135 granting a non-exclusive power distribution easement to SRP, at no cost, for electrical facilities relocation required as part of the Lindsay Road Improvement Project from Ocotillo Road to Hunt Highway.
38. Purchase of Streetlights, Signals, and Intelligent Transportation Systems Components
Move City Council approve the purchase of streetlights, signals, and ITS components, from CS Construction, Inc., utilizing Town of Gilbert Contract No. 323000238, in an amount not to exceed \$460,000.

39. Resolution No. 5923 Authorizing the Acquisition of Real Property in Fee or by Easement Required for the Cooper Road and Insite Way Loop Improvement Project ST2303
Move City Council pass and adopt Resolution No. 5923 authorizing the acquisition of real property in fee or by easement required for the Cooper Road and Insite Way Improvement Project ST2303; authorizing the city's real estate administrator to sign, on behalf of the city, the purchase agreements, and any other documents necessary to facilitate these acquisitions; authorizing eminent domain proceedings as needed to acquire real property rights and obtain immediate possession thereof; and, relocation assistance as may be required by law.
40. Resolution No. 5924 Authorizing the Acquisition of Real Property in Fee or by Easement Required for the Hamilton Street and Armstrong Way Improvement Project ST2301
Move City Council pass and adopt Resolution No. 5924 authorizing the acquisition of real property in fee or by easement required for the Hamilton Street and Armstrong Way Improvement Project ST2301; authorizing the city's real estate administrator to sign, on behalf of the city, the purchase agreement, and any other documents necessary to facilitate these acquisitions; authorizing eminent domain proceedings as needed to acquire the real property and obtain immediate possession thereof; and, relocation assistance as may be required by law.
41. Professional Services Agreement No. WW2206.451, Amendment No. 3, to Wilson Engineers, LLC, for the Reclaimed Water Conveyance Improvements for Long Lead Items for ASR Wells 11 and 12 Located on the Southeast Corner of Tumbleweed Park, Construction Management Services
Move City Council award Professional Services Agreement No. WW2206.451, Amendment No. 3, to Wilson Engineers, LLC, for the Reclaimed Water Conveyance Improvements Construction Management Services, in the amount of \$137,620, for a revised agreement amount not to exceed \$1,656,390.
42. Construction Agreement No. WW2206.401, Change Order No. 3, with PCL Construction, Inc., for the Reclaimed Water Conveyance Improvements to Purchase Long Lead Items for ASR Wells 11 and 12 Located on the Southeast Corner of Tumbleweed Park
Move City Council award Construction Agreement No. WW2206.401, Change Order No. 3, to PCL Construction, Inc., for the Reclaimed Water Conveyance Improvements, in the amount of \$2,327,384.58, for a revised agreement amount not to exceed \$15,909,279.58.
43. Purchase of Pavement Maintenance Materials
Move City Council approve the purchase of pavement maintenance materials, from Pavement Restoration, Inc., utilizing Pinal County Contract No. 240328, in an amount not to exceed \$470,037.
44. Agreement No. WW3-885-4614, Amendment No. 2, for Iron Salt for Odor & Corrosion Control

Move City Council approve Agreement No. WW3-885-4614, Amendment No. 2, with US Peroxide LLC, dba USP Technologies, for iron salt for odor and corrosion control, in an amount not to exceed \$600,000, for a one-year period, September 21, 2025, through September 20, 2026.

45. Construction Agreement No. WW2206.403, Change Order No. 1, with Revolution Industrial, LLC, for the Hamilton Street Reclaimed Water Transmission Main (Queen Creek Road to Ryan Road)
Move City Council award Construction Agreement No. WW2206.403, Change Order No. 1, to Revolution Industrial, LLC, for the Hamilton Street Reclaimed Water Transmission Main (Queen Creek Road to Ryan Road), in the amount of \$520,872.65, for a revised agreement amount not to exceed \$6,420,957.38.

Informational

46. Special Event Liquor Licenses and Temporary and Permanent Extensions of Liquor License Premises Administratively Approved
47. Contracts and Agreements Administratively Approved, Month of August 2025

Consent Agenda Motion and Vote

Councilmember Orlando moved to approve the Consent Agenda of the September 18, 2025, Regular City Council Meeting; with an amendment to Item No. 9, Resolution No. 5939 which was amended to include the following language in Section 1: Provided however the "Prohibited Uses" list shall include: (i) bus depots, (ii) lumber yards, (iii) wholesale ice distribution and (iv) 3rd party parcel distribution centers in excess of 400,000 square feet in aggregate, including no single parcel distribution building greater than 200,000 square feet. Second, by Councilmember Encinas.

Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Unscheduled Public Appearances

BROOK BEAL, 85 W. Teakwood Pl., Chandler, AZ, requested updates on improvements and expressed skepticism about progress regarding police presence along the canals. He observed only one volunteer responding to a rider on the canal, which he saw again later, questioning the effectiveness of educational efforts. Mr. Beal opposed the city's canal expansion plans, including additions to Western Canal and a 1.5-mile Paseo Trail extension from Riggs Road to Hunt Highway, and plans to oppose unless enforcement improves. He cited issues with ATVs, motorbikes, and pocket rockets speeding up to 40 mph, and shared he has footage of a teenage boy at 45 mph on McQueen Road, captured on his dashcam.

TOBIAS GUISTO, 822 W. Armstrong, Chandler, AZ, shared that he recently learned about the League of Arizona Cities and Towns video, in which the Chandler video team composed a song. However, the singing was performed by generative artificial intelligence. Mr. Guisto expressed his

deep disappointment with the city's actions, not only as a citizen and voter, but also as a singer and performer. He is pursuing acting in college and is worried that artificial intelligence might someday replace his career. As a graduate of Chandler High School, known for its involvement in the arts, Mr. Guisto feels that although Chandler prides itself on supporting the arts, it chose to disrespect local artists by opting for AI singing, citing cost and convenience as reasons. He also highlighted concerns about AI's environmental impact, noting Forbes' report that tech companies are increasing water usage due to AI development. Since Chandler is located in a drought-prone state affected by the severe drought of the Colorado River since 2000, he urges caution to avoid unnecessary water consumption. He emphasizes that AI could further deplete water resources worldwide. Mr. Guisto hopes the city will reconsider the use of generative AI and prioritize environmental and artistic integrity to protect the future.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS asked Acting City Manager John Pombier to explore the use of artificial intelligence in the city. He emphasized the importance of actively engaging with community members, particularly youth, to ensure that human experience is utilized to create meaningful outcomes, especially related to youth drama.

JOHN POMBIER, Acting City Manager, reported that a presentation on AI and future plans was held yesterday in his office. One initiative includes forming an advisory committee composed of local businesses and citizens to discuss policies and AI usage. It seems appropriate to consider adding a high school and college contingent to this group. Mr. Pombier emphasized that they are actively exploring these options.

BELINDA RUSSELL, 5850 W. Venus Way, Chandler, AZ, spoke as a community advocate, Mirada parent, and HOA president about concerns over the proposed Kyrene school closures and their impact on Chandler. She highlighted that Chandler would bear the largest share of closures, with three of seven Kyrene schools closing, displacing nearly 43% of Chandler's students—more than in neighboring Ahwatukee and Tempe. Ms. Russell emphasized that this is not just a school issue, but a city-wide concern. Strong neighborhood schools, such as Mirada, attract families, boost property values, and support economic growth. Closing top-performing schools could lower housing demand and property values, ultimately weakening Chandler's tax base. She also raised concerns about the district's plan to convert Manitas from an innovation academy to a traditional school, which will require significant investment, in contrast to the district's goal of saving money by closing schools. She pointed out that taxpayers will continue funding the district regardless of school closures, and Chandler risks losing out compared to neighboring areas. Ms. Russell urged consideration of how connected campuses, such as the linked middle and elementary schools, can be utilized efficiently in the future. She warned that the proposed closures threaten neighborhood stability and could drive families away from Chandler. She called on city leaders to advocate for Chandler, ensuring that fiscal responsibility, housing impacts, and neighborhood stability are carefully weighed before any final decisions are made.

MAYOR HARTKE asked staff to ensure the city receives accurate information regarding the new percentages, emphasizing the importance of having the correct data to inform the city's response.

He noted that Chandler is working to attract a younger community, and losing schools would be a setback to that goal. Mayor Hartke requested that staff provide details on where, how, and when the city can weigh in on the matter.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS shared that he attended a Kyrene School District meeting where a study group evaluated which schools might close due to declining enrollment from 20,000 to 12,000 students, resulting in excess space. He emphasized that Mirada is a top-rated school with excellent facilities and dedicated teachers. Councilmember Harris spoke with Kyrene School District President Walsh, who expressed openness to working with the city for support. He noted that Tempe councilmembers were also present at the meeting. President Walsh mentioned considering a new study to reduce the number of school closures from 10 to fewer. Following the meeting, there were about 92 public comments. Councilmember Harris encouraged continued collaboration with the district to support their decision-making, acknowledging that the city and school district are separate entities but can work together.

KELLY SCHWAB, City Attorney, stated that since the topic is not on the agenda, any further discussion would need to be scheduled as a future agenda item.

MAYOR HARTKE clarified that any comments should be directed as questions to staff.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS requested that staff contact the Kyrene School District and report back on ways the city can offer support.

COUNCILMEMBER ORLANDO shared that he has asked the city manager and team to review economic data from Economic Development and Planning & Zoning to identify additional information that could be shared with the consultant, aiming to provide a clearer perspective.

VICE MAYOR ELLIS suggested reaching out to the speaker, noting that people who are passionate about an issue often have solutions in mind as well. She emphasized that, due to limited time during meetings, it would be helpful to hear not just the problems but also the potential solutions. She added that for every problem presented, they expect to consider at least three possible solutions.

KRISTEN COX, 2208 W. Sagebrush Ct., Chandler, AZ, a resident of over 35 years and proud Arizona native, shared her deep connection to the community. Though she once considered leaving Chandler, she and her family have made it their home, raising two children here. Her brother and sister also live in Chandler, making it truly her community. She praised the city's growth and quality of life, recalling a memorable moment when her son met Mayor Hartke at the Orange Tree Park ribbon-cutting. Ms. Cox spoke in opposition to the proposed closure of three Chandler schools in the Kyrene District: Kyrene Traditional Academy, Mirada Elementary, and Pueblo Middle School. She noted that closing these schools would displace around 1,700 students, lower property values, and disrupt established neighborhoods. Though her family does not live in Mirada's attendance area, they chose the school for its strong reputation and positive enrollment trends. She urged

city leaders to support keeping these successful schools open and invited them to attend upcoming school board meetings and community hearings on October 14 and November 6. Ms. Cox also expressed concern over the data and impact assessments used in the closure decisions, warning that the effects would be felt across the community for years to come. She offered to provide more information and thanked the Council for their time and consideration.

Current Events

Mayor's Announcements

MAYOR HARTKE announced the upcoming Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods (G.A.I.N.) kickoff, an annual statewide event that promotes neighborhood watch programs and community engagement throughout Chandler. The 2025 G.A.I.N. kickoff will take place on Saturday, September 20, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the community room of the Chandler Police Department. Mayor Hartke expressed excitement to start this year's program, announcing the winners of the city's and mayor's choice awards, and encouraged residents to participate in this and future events throughout the year.

MAYOR HARTKE announced that next week the city will take part in the second annual Preston Lord Day celebration, an evening of unity, remembrance, and celebration with the community. The event will honor Preston's spirit through family, friends, laughter, and love. It will be held on Monday, September 23, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at The Stillery, located directly across the street.

MAYOR HARTKE reminded residents about the upcoming City of Chandler Special Election, which will be held on November 4. Starting September 23, an election information pamphlet will be mailed to every household with a registered voter. The pamphlet is available in English and Spanish, with a Mandarin version accessible on the City's website. He noted that October 6 is the last day to register to vote, ballots will be mailed out on October 8, and Election Day is November 4. For full details, residents can visit chandleraz.gov/specialelection.

MAYOR HARTKE wished everyone a happy fall break.

Council's Announcements

COUNCILMEMBER ORLANDO recognized the anniversary of the formation of the U.S. Air Force.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS announced the Building Better Mental Health Workshop will be held next Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the Downtown Library. The free public session will focus on reclaiming control, building strength, and setting boundaries. No registration is required attendees are encouraged to arrive early.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS announced the POW/MIA Recognition Day on September 27 and the Gold Star Mothers and Families Recognition Day on September 28. He emphasized the importance of honoring the sacrifices of service members and the families who have endured

profound loss. He encouraged the community to take time to remember these heroes and carry their memory forward with pride, gratitude, and support.

COUNCILMEMBER HAWKINS announced that the city has launched a strategic planning initiative for the Chandler Museum and is seeking community input. An online public comment form is open through October 13, giving residents the opportunity to share ideas on exhibits, programs, and events. Feedback submitted at chandlermuseum.org will help guide the museum's future offerings.

City Manager's Announcements

JOHN POMBIER, Acting City Manager, recognized Deputy City Manager and CFO, Dawn Lang for her exceptional leadership in Chandler's financial management. Under her guidance, the city has earned AAA ratings from all three major bond rating agencies and garnered national praise for its financial best practices. Ms. Lang's work has strengthened Chandler's fiscal stability and made the city a model of financial stewardship nationwide.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

ATTEST: *Dana R. D'Song*
City Clerk

Kevin Harbke
Mayor

Approval Date of Minutes: October 13, 2025

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of Regular Meeting of the City Council of Chandler, Arizona, held on the 18th day of September 2025. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

DATED this 13th day of October, 2025.

Dana R. D'Song
City Clerk

