

Meeting Minutes

City Council Study Session

July 13, 2026 | 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 6:44 p.m.

Roll Call

Council Attendance

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

Appointee Attendance

John Pombier, City Manager
Tawn Kao, Acting City Attorney
Jennifer Ekblad, City Clerk

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. Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-27 Budget Amendments
Move City Council approve as presented the 25 one-time FY 2026-27 budget amendments totaling \$361,000 and 5 ongoing FY 2026-27 budget amendments totaling \$61,000, for a total of \$422,000 using Council Contingency, and authorize staff to transfer appropriation from the Non-Departmental Council Contingency to the respective departments.

Cultural Development

3. Job Order Project Agreement No. CA2501.401 with Achen-Gardner Construction, LLC, Pursuant to Job Order Master Agreement No. JOC2404.401, for California Half Street Improvements from Boston Street to Commonwealth Avenue
Move City Council award Job Order Project Agreement No. CA2501.401 to Achen-Gardner Construction, LLC, Pursuant to Job Order Master Agreement No. JOC2404.401, for California Half Street Improvements from Boston Street to Commonwealth Avenue, in an amount not to exceed \$315,273.11.

Development Services

4. Preliminary Development Plan Amendment, Mountain View Estates Housing
Move City Council approve Preliminary Development Plan Amendment PLH26-0018 Mountain View Estates Housing for housing product to be constructed on a 16-lot single-family subdivision located east of the northeast corner of Lindsay and Riggs Roads, subject to the conditions as recommended by Planning and Zoning Commission.
5. Professional Services Agreement No. DS2604.451, with Consultant Engineering, Inc., for the Construction Management Services for Fiber To The Home (FTTH) Inspections Services located Citywide
Move City Council award Professional Services Agreement No. DS2604.451 to Consultant Engineering, Inc. for the Construction Management Services for Fiber To The Home (FTTH) Inspections request Professional Services Agreement, in an amount not to exceed \$598,440.
6. Professional Services Agreement No. DS2604.452, with Horrocks, for the Construction Management Services for Fiber To The Home (FTTH) Inspections Services located Citywide
Move City Council award Professional Services Agreement No. DS2604.452 to Horrocks for the Construction Management Services for Fiber To The Home (FTTH) Inspections request Professional Services Agreement, in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,320.

Economic Development

7. Resolution No. 6016, Agreement with the Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC) Agreement, Fiscal Year 2026-27, for Regional Economic Development Services, in the amount of \$141,180, for the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027
Move City Council pass and adopt Resolution No. 6016, approving the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-27 Agreement between City of Chandler and the Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC) for regional economic development services, in the amount of \$141,180, for the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.

Fire Department

8. Purchase of Third-Party Emergency Medical Billing Services and Contingency Appropriation Transfer
Move City Council approve the purchase third-party emergency medical billing services, utilizing the City of Tempe contract T17-085-01, in the amount of \$450,000, authorize the City Manager or designee to sign a linking agreement with EMS Management & Consultants, Inc., and approve a General Fund contingency appropriation transfer to the Ambulance Fund in the amount of \$518,000.

Information Technology

9. Purchase of Additional Products and Services for the Enterprise Resource Planning Project
Move City Council approve the purchase of additional products and services for the enterprise resource planning (ERP) project, from Cognizant Worldwide Limited (Collaborative Solutions, LLC), in an amount not to exceed \$215,324, and authorize the City Manager or designee to sign the associated order form.
10. Purchase of Managed Detection and Response Services
Move City Council approve the purchase of Accelerynt managed detection and response services, from Transource Services Corp., dba Transource Computers, utilizing the Maricopa County Contract No. 240094-RFP, for the period of one year, August 1, 2026, through July 31, 2027, in an amount not to exceed \$130,000.
11. Purchase of SolarWinds Technology Monitoring Software Annual Maintenance
Move City Council to approve the purchase of SolarWinds Technology monitoring software annual maintenance from SHI International, utilizing the Omnia Partners Contract No. 2024056-02, for a period of one year, beginning August 11, 2026, through August 10, 2027, in an amount not to exceed \$157,210.
12. Purchase of Rubrik Back-Up System Support and Maintenance
Move City Council approve the purchase of Rubrik Back-Up system support and maintenance, from SHI International Corp., utilizing the Omnia Partners Contract No. 2024056-02, in the amount of \$234,300.
13. Purchase of Network Equipment - Fusion Firewalls and Routers
Move City Council approve the purchase of network equipment, fusion firewalls and routers, from Hye Tech Network and Security Solutions, LLC, utilizing the 1GPA Contract No. 22-02PV-08, in an amount not to exceed \$1,281,897.

Law

14. Litigation Against Fire Apparatus Manufacturers in the Multi-District Litigation Related to Damages Sustained from Anticompetitive Pricing Practices and Production Delays
Move City Council authorize the City of Chandler's initiation of a lawsuit against certain defendant manufacturers named in the Multi-District Litigation matter, In re: Fire Apparatus Antitrust Litigation, MDL No. 3179, relating to damages sustained from fire apparatus manufacturers' anticompetitive pricing practices, production delays and exclusive dealing requirements (the "MDL"); authorizing the Fire Chief 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 settlements with the MDL defendants; and authorizing the City Attorney and the City's outside counsel to pursue litigation related to fire apparatus antitrust claims on behalf of the City.

Management Services

15. License Series 12, Restaurant Liquor License Application for Jeffery Craig Miller, Agent, George's Breakfast And Brunch Chandler, LLC, DBA George's Breakfast & Brunch
Move for recommendation to the State Department of Liquor Licenses and Control for approval of the State Liquor Job No. 400518, a Series 12, Restaurant Liquor License, for Jeffery Craig Miller, Agent, George's Breakfast and Brunch Chandler, LLC, DBA George's Breakfast & Brunch, located at 3002 N. Arizona Avenue, Suite 18, and approval of the City of Chandler, Series 12, Restaurant Liquor License No. 312011.

Neighborhood Resources

16. Resolution No. 6022, Approving Amendment No. 1 to the Intergovernmental Agreement Between Maricopa County and the City of Chandler for American Rescue Program Act Funds and Authorizing the City Manager to Sign All Related Documents and Implement the City's Affordable Housing Projects
Move City Council pass and adopt Resolution No. 6022 Approving Amendment No. 1 to the Intergovernmental Agreement Between Maricopa County and the City of Chandler for American Rescue Program Act Funds, Authorizing the City Manager to Sign all Related Documents and Assurances on Behalf of the City of Chandler; and Further Authorizing the City Manager to Take all Action Necessary or Prudent to Implement the City's Affordable Housing Projects.

Police Department

17. Resolution No. 6025, Pertaining to the Acceptance of Financial Reimbursement From the Department of Administration in the Amount of \$202,000 for the Maricopa Region 9-1-1 Services

Move City Council pass and adopt Resolution No. 6025 accepting and approving financial reimbursement from the Department of Administration in the amount of \$202,000 for the Maricopa Region 9-1-1 Services for Fiscal Year 2026-27, utilizing the State of Arizona Contract No. CTR055782, with AT&T Corp.

18. Purchase of Armored Rescue Vehicle

Move City Council approve the purchase of an armored rescue vehicle, from Lenco Armored Vehicles, Inc, utilizing Houston Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) Contract No. AM10-23, in the amount of \$483,841.29.

Public Works and Utilities

19. Professional Services Agreement with Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc., for the Chandler Blvd (Price Rd to Dobson Rd) Preservation Improvements Design Services

Move City Council award Professional Services Agreement No. ST2604.201, CHN-0(257)D; ADOT No.: T0720 03D, to Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc., for the Chandler Blvd (Price Rd to Dobson Rd) Preservation Improvements Design Services in an amount not to exceed \$1,236,016.

20. Construction Agreement with PCL Construction, Inc., for the Reclaimed Water Conveyance Improvements, Equipping of Aquifer Storage and Recovery Wells 11 and 12 at Tumbleweed Park

Move City Council award Construction Agreement No. WW2206.401, GMP-4, to PCL Construction, Inc., for the Reclaimed Water Conveyance Improvements, Equipping of Aquifer Storage and Recovery Wells 11 and 12 at Tumbleweed Park, increasing the agreement by \$11,482,318, for a revised agreement amount not to exceed of \$27,391,597.58.

21. Professional Services Agreement with Wilson Engineers, LLC, for the Reclaimed Water Conveyance Improvements Construction Management Services, Equipping of Aquifer Storage and Recovery Wells 11 and 12 at Tumbleweed Park

Move City Council award Professional Services Agreement No. WW2206.451, Amendment No. 4, to Wilson Engineers, LLC, for the Reclaimed Water Conveyance Improvements Construction Management Services, increasing the agreement amount by \$1,355,560, for a revised agreement amount not to exceed \$3,011,950.

22. Professional Services Agreement with AMKA Services, LLC, for the Queen Creek Wastewater Force Main Study Consultant Services, Located Between the Ocotillo Water Reclamation Facility and the Airport Water Reclamation Facility Along Queen Creek Road

Move City Council award Professional Services Agreement No. WW2602.101, to AMKA Services, LLC, for the Queen Creek Wastewater Force Main Study Consultant Services, in an amount not to exceed \$319,500.

Public Hearing

23. Public Hearing for Annexation of 1 parcel totaling approximately 16.87 Acres at the Southeast Corner of Appleby Road and the Union Pacific Railroad.

Discussion

24. Discussion of Withdrawing Proposition 434 - Charter Amendment Addressing Residency Requirements for City Council Appointees and Department Directors, as Requested by Councilmember Harris

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS requested a staff presentation on the proposed ballot measure and the process leading to its consideration.

RYAN PETERS, Deputy City Manager, presented on the item. He explained that the effort to conduct a comprehensive review of the Chandler City Charter began in April 2025 when City Council met to discuss the potential charter amendments and a proposed bond election. Council reviewed charter amendments during a work session but focused on other more time sensitive charter amendment items for the 2025 general election. Council called for a resident-driven review of charter amendments that could be referred to a future election. In June 2025, Council appointed nine Chandler residents to the City Charter Amendment Resident Advisory Committee to review the charter. The committee held six substantive meetings, forwarding eight recommendations to Council. In February 2026, the committee chair presented the recommendations during a Council work session. After discussing the items in an April 2026 work session, Council chose four of the amendments for Council consideration at a regular meeting with additional revisions to the residency requirement. The proposal for the appointee residency requirement as recommended by the committee applied solely to the City Manager. Proposition 434 as approved by Council requires all Council-appointed positions to reside in the city and provides for one year to establish residency after appointment. Council directed the City Manager to set the expectation for department directors to live a reasonable distance from Chandler. On April 23, 2026 Council officially referred the four charter amendments to voters for the November 3, 2026 general election. The charter amendments include clarifying the timing of selecting the vice mayor, aligning the resign to run provision with Arizona state law, and removing the two-reading requirement for ordinances to facilitate a faster speed to business. A voter guide is available on the city's website to help voters understand each measure.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS asked for information on the options if Proposition 434 remains on the November 3, 2026 general election ballot.

TAWN KAO, Acting City Attorney, said if Proposition 434 is approved by the voters, then Council could bring back the issue if there are any terms that need to be defined in the regulation. For

example, Council could set a definition of “reasonable distance” after the election results are assessed through ordinance or by way of policy direction to the City Manager.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS asked if Council could remove this item from the November 3, 2026 general election.

JENNIFER EKBLAD, City Clerk, explained that the approved ballot language was provided to Maricopa County on June 8, 2026. However, Maricopa County noted that the Council has up until 75 days before the election, which is August 20, 2026, to withdraw a ballot measure from the election. Ms. Ekblad also confirmed that a ballot measure cannot be changed, only withdrawn at this point.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS asked if Proposition 434 sets definitions about residency and reasonable distance.

MS. KAO said Proposition 434 addresses the residency requirement for Council-appointed officials including the City Manager, City Magistrate, City Clerk, and City Attorney which is a geographical requirement. Employees would be required to live within a reasonable distance of the city, which is an accessible requirement. It does not include a definition of residency reasonable distance. Definitions of these terms could be provided in an ordinance or policy should the proposition be adopted.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS asked if the text of Proposition 434 requires a Council appointee to reside in Chandler.

MS. KAO said a Council appointee is required to reside in the city which establishes a clear requirement to live geographically within the city limits. The requirement for non-appointed employees to live within reasonable distance would be left open to interpretation which could be set by ordinance or policy.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS asked if that determination would be through the City Manager.

MS. KAO said yes, as per the City Charter, the City Manager is the supervisor of employees and department directors. The requirement could be set by policy by the City Manager through personnel rules. If City Council wanted to opt to have an ordinance to define separate requirements for certain positions, then that requirement would be entered into city code.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS asked for information on the current interpretation of the charter residency requirement.

JOHN POMBIER, City Manager, responded that under the current charter, the City Manager and all eight department directors must reside in the City of Chandler.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS asked what happens if they do not reside in Chandler.

MR. POMBIER said there is no penalty provision in the charter.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS asked to confirm that any regulation or penalty regarding this requirement would be under the City Manager's jurisdiction.

MR. POMBIER confirmed that any personnel matters for employees other than Council appointees are under the City Manager's jurisdiction.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS asked how the residency requirement is regulated under the current charter.

MR. POMBIER said if a department director does not reside within Chandler, he as the City Manager will have a conversation with that employee to ensure they reside within the city.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS asked if department directors are aware of what the charter residency requirement is.

MR. POMBIER said he has addressed this issue with his direct staff and all department directors.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS asked if Mr. Pombier felt that the issue had been resolved.

MR. POMBIER said he feels like his direct staff and department directors have a clear understanding of expectations.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS asked how City Manager will ensure compliance with the City Charter.

MR. POMBIER answered that under the current charter, he has made the expectation very clear with direct staff and department directors. If Proposition 434 is passed by voters, City Manager and City Council will examine an ordinance or policy to address department directors, the role they play within the city, and their responsibility of response time. The presence of department directors is crucial to the community.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS asked if Mr. Pombier lives in Chandler.

MR. POMBIER said yes.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS asked if Mr. Pombier believed that Mayor and City Council should live in the City of Chandler.

MR. POMBIER stated that the question was not related to the agenda item.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS asked how reasonable distance would be defined.

MR. POMBIER suggested that reasonable distance would likely be defined by time rather than by miles from the city. A policy would uphold the importance of reasonable distance and the presence expected in the community. He emphasized the importance of community involvement.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS asked if Proposition 434, if passed, removes the residency requirement for department directors, which could help the city stay competitive in recruiting employees at this level.

MR. POMBIER said it could help the city be competitive in the job market and reaffirm employees' commitment to the community.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS asked if the discussion on residency requirement had been underway for some time.

MR. POMBIER said yes, the discussion on residency requirement has been happening for years. This Council has addressed it through presentations that Mr. Peters had noted, but this discussion did not stem from any one incident or individual. This was a conversation about competitiveness and what is best for the city. Additionally, this recommendation was independently brought forth by the efforts of the City Charter Amendment Resident Advisory Committee.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS thanked staff for the presentation. He asked to confirm that personnel issues are not under the purview of the City Council.

MS. KAO said that is correct, personnel issues are not under purview of City Council.

COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS noted that if Proposition 434 does pass, the definition of reasonable distance must be addressed. He asked what the options are if the proposition was removed from the ballot at the general election.

MS. EKBLAD said if the proposition was removed from the November 2026 ballot and placed on a special election in 2027, it could be placed as part of a March or May election. To add an item on the March 2027 special election ballot, the deadline to notify Maricopa County is September 10, 2026. To add an item to the May 2027 special election ballot, the deadline to notify Maricopa County is November 19, 2026. A special election is considerably more expensive than a

