



MINUTES

**WICKENBURG COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, June 2, 2025 - 5:30 P.M.
155 N. TEGNER - COUNCIL CHAMBERS
WICKENBURG, ARIZONA 85390**

- A. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Bratcher called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM
- B. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - Led by Kathleen Crutchfield, Grants Administrator
- C. **INVOCATION** - Led by Pastor Vince Barringer, Redeemer Lutheran Church

D. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor BG Bratcher
Councilmember Kristy Bedoian
Councilmember Shawn Clark (Via Zoom)
Councilmember Margaret Nyberg (Via Phone)
Councilmember Rebecca Rovey

Absent: Vice Mayor Brian Jones
Councilmember Art Rubash

Staff Present: Troy Smith, Interim Town Manager
Trish Stuhan, Town Attorney
Tim Suan, Deputy Town Manager/Economic Development
Amy Brown, Town Clerk
Les Brown, Police Chief
Robert Martinez, Finance Director
Ed Temerowski, Fire Chief
Herschel Workman, Public Works Director

E. MAYOR & COUNCILMEMBERS REPORT ON CURRENT EVENTS

- Mayor BG Bratcher attended several meetings at the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) including Transportation Policy Committee, Transportation Review Committee, and Regional Council. She attended a Valley Metro meeting. The City of Surprise hosted herself and the Town Manager to discuss the BNSF project as well as a large solar facility proposed for Morristown. She thanked the Veteran's Club at Wickenburg Ranch, American Legion, and Pastor Duane Middleton for the Memorial Day events. She also attended the opening ceremony for the American Legion baseball with seven teams.

F. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- Interim Town Manager Troy Smith reported that there was a question on the debt service for the North Fire Station and when the final payment will be for that, which is in 2027. There was a press release written today regarding the Department of Labor workforce that will be in town from June to August with migrant workers for the Aguila farms who will be supervised by the Department of Labor. The Zoning Code has one area to review and finalize, then public meetings for the approval will be in the fall. The Lewis Addition Roads have four properties remaining to sign the easements. Tegner Street will be repaved from US-60 to Frontier Street starting on June 27th with the project expected to last 4-6 weeks. The town has developed a webpage for information on the project at www.wickenburgaz.gov/tegner. The 4th of July Spectacular event is coming soon with activities starting at 6:00 pm and fireworks at 9:00 pm. The summer recreation program is online, or paper copies are at town hall. The Home Health Aide class has been cancelled, and the Electronic Health Records Management certification class has been moved back to start on June 23rd.

G. **FINAL CALL** for Request to Speak Cards to be turned into the Town Clerk.

H. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

- Jeremy Nunn, In-Town Resident and business owner, stated that the paving of Tegner Street will be tough on the businesses, but he appreciated the town providing all the information to the businesses including the map.

I. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. Action on the Consent Agenda -

MOVED BY Councilmember Rebecca Rovey to approve items a, b, and c of the consent agenda

SECONDED BY Councilmember Kristy Bedoian

VOTE: 5 – 0 (Yes – Mayor Bratcher, Councilmembers Bedoian, Clark, Nyberg, and Rovey)

- a. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 19, 2025

By a 7-0 vote under the Consent Agenda, Council moved to approve the minutes of May 19, 2025.

- b. Consideration and Action to Accept Grant Funding in the amount of \$173,476.00 from the State of Arizona Office of the Governor for the Arizona Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (AEECBG) for LED Lighting

Kathleen Crutchfield, Grants Administrator, reported in her Council routing form that in Fall 2024, town leadership directed staff to pursue grant funding opportunities to improve energy efficiency in municipal buildings and promote healthier work environments. In response, staff submitted an application to the Arizona Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (AEECBG).

The Arizona EECBG Program supports eligible local governments in developing and implementing strategies that reduce fossil fuel emissions, lower overall energy use, and improve energy efficiency across sectors such as transportation and buildings. The program also aims to build a clean, equitable energy economy by prioritizing disadvantaged communities and advancing workforce equity, in alignment with the Justice40 Initiative.

Staff applied to the Arizona Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (AEECBG) to fund the replacement of existing light fixtures in town facilities with high-efficiency LED lighting.

The town's application includes funding for the following projects:

- **Municipal LED Lighting Upgrades:** Replacement of existing light fixtures with energy-efficient LED lighting in town-owned buildings.
- **Park Improvements:** Installation of LED lighting at Sunset Park sports courts.
- **Community Engagement:** An LED bulb giveaway program for residents, scheduled to begin in October 2025 to coincide with National Energy Efficiency Month.

The public outreach component is a required element of the grant. The town will conduct a public awareness campaign in the Fall of 2025, including an LED bulb distribution at community events and Town Hall, to highlight the positive impact of small, everyday energy-saving choices.

There is no local match required. All eligible project costs will be reimbursed through the grant. No funding from the town's general fund is anticipated.

On April 29, 2025, the Town of Wickenburg was officially notified that it had been awarded the Arizona Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program in the amount of \$173,476.00.

Staff recommends approval of the grant award and authorization to proceed with project implementation.

By a 7-0 vote under the Consent Agenda, Council moved to accept the grant funding from the State of Arizona Office of the Governor for the Arizona Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant award of \$173,476.00 for LED lighting.

- c. Consideration and Action Approving an Airport Hangar Lease Agreement with Dallas C. Gant, Jr.

Herschel Workman, Public Works Director, reported in his Council routing form that the Town of Wickenburg owns and operates the Wickenburg Municipal Airport and routinely leases airport property for aeronautical purposes in alignment with FAA regulations and Town policy. Dallas C. Gant, Jr. has previously leased hangar space at the Airport under agreements dated September 26, 1989, July 11, 2011, and September 26, 2009. This new lease agreement supersedes those prior agreements and outlines the terms for continued use of approximately 57,562 square feet of hangar space (Hangars A, B, and C) as defined in Exhibit A of the agreement. The lease term is five (5) years beginning May 2, 2025, with an option to extend it for an additional five (5) years. Rent will be paid quarterly as outlined in the agreement, and the lessee is responsible for maintenance, insurance, and compliance with all applicable laws and airport regulations.

By a 7-0 vote under the Consent Agenda, Council moved to approve the Airport Hangar Lease Agreement with Dallas C. Gant, Jr. and authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement.

2. Presentation and Action Regarding the Town of Wickenburg Transportation Plan in Partnership with Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) for \$15,000

Tim Suan, Deputy Town Manager, stated that the town is seeking Council approval to partner with the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) to develop a comprehensive Transportation Master Plan. While the total cost of the plan is \$290,000, MAG has proposed funding \$275,000 of that amount, leaving just a \$15,000 investment from the town. This plan is not only a great financial deal, but also a long-term roadmap to improve safety, accessibility, and infrastructure. It will recommend upgrades to signage, lighting, and pedestrian crossings; introduce a new roadway classification system to improve design and operations; support growth planning and economic development; and strengthen our eligibility for future transportation grants.

John Bullen, Chief Transportation Officer at MAG, stated that this project came about due to Ed Zuercher, Executive Director at MAG, talking to town leadership about what MAG can do to help the town with a transportation plan. MAG is a metropolitan planning organization designated by the United States Department of Transportation to carry out the transportation planning and programming for Maricopa County and parts of Pinal County. MAG sets priorities for projects and their implementation for 27 cities and towns, 3 native nations, and 2 counties over 10,600 square miles.

Tim Strow, Major Projects Manager at MAG, first provided an update on a few other projects in the area for transportation. The US-60 (Grand Avenue) corridor study from Loop 300 to SR-74 is looking at the transportation needs in that area especially at the 163rd Avenue interchange. This project includes Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), BNSF Railway, Maricopa County Department of Transportation (MCDOT), City of Peoria and City of Surprise. The corridor planning study is expected to be done by the end of the year. The SR-74 corridor study from I-17 to US-60 is assessing the existing and future travel demands on this road and surrounding roadways including the intersection with Lake Pleasant Parkway. This plan is also expected to be completed by the end of the year.

The Wickenburg Transportation Master Plan serves as a long-term (20-year) roadmap for the Town of Wickenburg, guiding investments and policies to improve mobility, safety, and accessibility for all residents. The last transportation study in the Wickenburg area was the Hassayampa Framework Study that was completed in 2008 to look at possible routes for I-11. This Transportation Master Plan will evaluate existing and future roadway network, transit feasibility, and develop a roadway classification system, and include cost estimates. This will also look at possible options to connect Wickenburg to the Valley Metro System. The Roadway Classification System will cover the following:

- Manage congestion
- Right-size roadway widths and lanes
- Design for safer vehicle speeds
- Design intersections to improve safety and enhance traffic operations
- Support economic growth and land use planning

The public outreach will include the following:

- Public meetings
- Online Interactive comment map
- Survey
- Stakeholder meetings
 - ✓ Town of Wickenburg Staff
 - ✓ Maricopa and Yavapai Counties
 - ✓ Arizona State Land Department (ASLD)
 - ✓ Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
 - ✓ Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT)
- Economic Development and Transportation Advisory Committee updates
- Council updates

The next step is to develop an agreement between the town and MAG. The plan is for the consultant to be selected in August with the public meeting portion starting this fall.

Dwight Zemp, Economic Development and Transportation Advisory Committee Chairperson, reported that the committee received the presentation and recommended Council approve the project. This will provide professional guidelines for transportation in the future. In addition, this is a great deal with MAG paying most of the costs.

MOVED BY Councilmember Kristy Bedoian to approve and authorize the Town Manager to enter into an agreement with the Maricopa Association of Governments to complete a Transportation Master Plan for Wickenburg in the amount of \$15,000, pending Town Attorney approval of the final agreement

SECONDED BY Councilmember Rebecca Rovey

VOTE: 5 – 0 (Yes – Mayor Bratcher, Councilmembers Bedoian, Clark, Nyberg, and Rovey)

3. Consideration and Action on Resolution No. 2373, Adopting the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Consolidated Fee Schedule for Town Services and Use of Town Facilities

Tim Suan, Deputy Town Manager, reported that the proposed changes to the fee schedule, including revisions to the 25% discount policy, were first presented to the Council on March 3, 2025. The fee schedule was reviewed again during the April 7, 2025 budget workshop, with no comments or concerns raised. With no outstanding concerns, the item was placed on the May 19, 2025 consent agenda for approval but was tabled to allow further discussion specifically on the 25% discount policy.

In 2018, the Town Council approved a 50% discount on town services for local non-profit organizations to support community events. This discount was reduced to the current rate of 25% in 2021. The eligible discounted services include police presence, road closures, barricades, and parks staff support (e.g., trash setup, chalking, and event logistics). In 2024, the town awarded sponsorships to the following local organizations to help with the costs of their events and to cover the costs paid to the town:

- \$65,000 to the Chamber of Commerce
- \$5,000 to the Webb Center for the Performing Arts
- \$4,000 to the Desert Caballeros Western Museum

These organizations, who were awarded town sponsorship funding, utilize the 25% discount on applicable services.

Interim Town Manager Smith stated that staff is recommending doing away with the 25% discount to cover costs as most of the organizations receive funds from the town to pay for their service costs.

Councilmember Clark stated that the chair settled his questions regarding the costs and sponsorships.

MOVED BY Councilmember Rebecca Rovey to approve Resolution 2373 adopting the 2025-26 consolidated fee schedule

SECONDED BY Councilmember Kristy Bedoian

VOTE: 5 – 0 (Yes – Mayor Bratcher, Councilmembers Bedoian, Clark, Nyberg, and Rovey)

- J. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** - (Council May Vote to Go Into Executive Session Pursuant to A.R.S §38-431.03(A)(3) to Receive Legal Advice from the Town Attorney on Any of the Above Agenda Items.)

K. **SCHEDULING OF FUTURE COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS**

- Councilmember Nyberg requested an item to discuss political signs downtown.

L. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED BY Councilmember Rebecca Rovey to adjourn at approximately 6:15 PM

SECONDED BY Councilmember Kristy Bedoian

VOTE: 5 – 0 (Yes – Mayor Bratcher, Councilmembers Bedoian, Clark, Nyberg, and Rovey)

BG Bratcher, Mayor

ATTEST:

Amy Brown, Town Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Amy Brown, the duly appointed and qualified Town Clerk of the Town of Wickenburg, do hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Town Council of Wickenburg, Arizona held on June 2, 2025. I further certify the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Amy Brown, MMC
Town Clerk