



Town of Wickenburg

MINUTES

WICKENBURG COMMON COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

**Monday, August 4, 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 5:32 PM

B. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - Led by Van Merrill

C. **INVOCATION** - Led by Pastor Cynthia Clark, Seventh Day Adventist Church

D. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor BG Bratcher

Councilmember Kristy Bedoian

Councilmember Shawn Clark

Councilmember Margaret Nyberg

Councilmember Rebecca Rovey

Councilmember Art Rubash

Absent: Vice Mayor Brian Jones

Staff Present: Troy Smith, Town Manager

Trish Stuhan, Town Attorney

Tim Suan, Deputy Town Manager/Economic Development

Steve Boyle, Community Development Director

Amy Brown, Town Clerk

Les Brown, Police Chief

Robert Martinez, Finance Director

Tarah Mayerhofer, Human Resources Director

Ed Temerowski, Fire Chief

Herschel Workman, Public Works Director

E. **MAYOR & COUNCILMEMBERS REPORT ON CURRENT EVENTS**

- Councilmember Art Rubash reported that the American Legion baseball won the championship, and the youth soccer had 200 kids sign up for their season.
- Councilmember Shawn Clark thanked the town for the work on Tegner Street and had attended a prayer meeting with the kids going back to school.
- Councilmember Margaret Nyberg thanked the town for all the summer activities, hopes the Wednesday market will continue in the downtown, and enjoys the jets flying over Wickenburg as that is the sound of freedom.

- Councilmember Rebecca Rovey reminded everyone that school is back in session.
- Mayor BG Bratcher thanked staff for all their work.

F. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- Town Manager Troy Smith reported that the town received the final version of the zoning code with it now in legal review and the town will be hiring a consultant soon to conduct the public input aspect of this plan. The public works department has started working on the roads in the Lewis Addition and there is still one easement that is pending. Fire Station 751 is remodeled and staff is back in the building with an open house planned soon. Tegner Street was repaved and opened ahead of time. Striping will still take place on August 5th and 6th, then the project will be complete. Constellation Road mill and fill will begin August 25th. The multi-use path will receive pavement work September 15-18. There are several recreation activities in August including open swim, lap swim, water aerobics, martial arts classes and book club at the library.

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

H. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

I. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. Action on the Consent Agenda -

MOVED BY Councilmember Shawn Clark to approve items a and c of the consent agenda

SECONDED BY Councilmember Rebecca Rovey

VOTE: 6 – 0 (Yes – Mayor Bratcher, Councilmembers Bedoian, Clark, Nyberg, Rovey, and Rubash)

- a. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of the Regular and Special Meetings of July 7, 2025

By a 6-0 vote under the Consent Agenda, Council moved to approve the minutes of July 7, 2025.

- b. Consideration and Action Approving Resolution No. 2378 Adopting the Primary Property Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2025-26

Robert Martinez, Finance Director, reported in his Council routing form that the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Final Budget was previously approved in the amount of \$87,974,166 which includes a primary property tax levy of \$615,000. Per the Council's direction, the proposed property tax rate will drop to .3997, which will result in a levy of \$615,000.

On July 07, 2025, Council approved the property tax levy and adopted the Final Budget. At this time, the Council needs to adopt the rate.

Mayor Bratcher asked about the emergency clause. Troy Smith, Town Manager, stated that this resolution is for the primary property tax rate and levy that was approved in the budget. This will actually reduce the property tax rate, so if not approved with the emergency clause to meet the county deadline, then the property tax rate will actually be higher.

MOVED BY Councilmember Kristy Bedom to approve item b of the consent agenda

SECONDED BY Councilmember Margaret Nyberg

VOTE: 6 – 0 (Yes – Mayor Bratcher, Councilmembers Bedom, Clark, Nyberg, Rovey, and Rubash)

- c. Consideration and Action on the Renewal of Two Existing Contracts and Approval of Four New Contracts for Judges Pro Tempore, with no Changes to the Current Terms, to Provide Coverage for the Wickenburg Town Court in the Absence of the Town Magistrate and to Enable Court Participation in Two Veteran Events

Rosa Garcia-Marquez, Court Administrator, reported in her Council routing form that Town Code Article 6-5 Judges Pro Tempore allows the Town Magistrate to recommend a list of qualified and competent Judges Pro Tempore for the Council's approval. The Council may appoint them on a temporary full-time or part-time basis to cover the court when the Presiding judge is not available. A copy of the Town Code is included in the packet.

In the renewal process in 2023, the contracts were renewed with an increase from \$60.00 to \$70.00 plus mileage. The \$60 rate was below the average pay rate of \$63 among the 12 courts surveyed in Maricopa County at that time. The request was made in order to obtain and keep the best qualified Judge Pro Tempores, as it is hard to find qualified candidates that are willing to drive to Wickenburg.

The list is updated every two years to ensure that there is coverage when needed, if the Presiding Judge is away on mandatory training, is sick, or has a vacation day. The Honorable Teresa Hunt and Mayra Galindo are recommended for renewal of their contracts. New contracts are being recommended with the Honorable Hunter Lewis, Jerry Landau, Maria Maurer, and Tara Parascandola.

The Wickenburg Town Court is requesting the approval of the assigned judges for the following two events: Stand-Up for Veterans hosted by the Glendale City Court and the Stand Down Event hosted by Maricopa County, to be approved as Pro Tempores for these events only. The names of the

judges are not available in advance, as this is a volunteer-based event and assignments are confirmed closer to the month of the event. Once the names are known, the Wickenburg Town Court will issue an Administrative Order that states the names of the volunteer judges.

This request was first submitted in 2019. At that time, the Wickenburg Town Court only participated in the Glendale City Court Event. In 2021, Council approved the Maricopa County event, but the court was unable to attend due to the pandemic.

The primary benefit of participating in these events is for the veteran, who may qualify if they have a pending case with the Wickenburg Town Court that does not involve mandatory sentencing, ex: jail time, ordered to pay restitution. Some of the benefits include:

- Access to limited medical and dental services
- Access to legal aide
- Access to AZ MVD
- Other services provided by participating groups ex: free haircuts, free clothing and shoes.

The Glendale event is held in October. The Maricopa County event is held in March. I have attached the 2024 flyer for reference for both events.

Staff is recommending Council approve the renewal of the two existing contracts and approval of the four new contracts with a pay rate of \$70 an hour, to include mileage at the current rate. The contracts are for a period of two years, with dates of August 4, 2025, to August 4, 2027, and approval to assign the volunteer judges as pro tems per veterans' event.

By a 6-0 vote under the Consent Agenda, Council moved to approve the renewal of two existing contracts and approval of four new contracts for Judges Pro Tempore, and to enable court participation in two Veteran Events.

2. Public Hearing on a New/Location/Owner Transfer Liquor License Application, Series #7 for a Beer and Wine Bar for The Range Boss Golf Simulators, located at 2019 W. Wickenburg Way, Applicant Jared Michael Repinski, and Forward a Recommendation to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control

Amy Brown, Town Clerk, reported that The Range Boss Golf Simulators has applied for a Series #7 liquor license for a Beer and Wine Bar at 2019 West Wickenburg Way. This location was posted for the required twenty days and forwarded to the police and community development departments. There were no issues reported. This license allows the retailer to serve beer and wine, primarily by individual portions, to be consumed on the premises and in the original container for consumption on or off the premises.

Public Hearing Opened at 5:46 pm by Mayor Bratcher

Public Hearing Closed at 5:46 pm with no comments

MOVED BY Councilmember Rebecca Rovey to forward a recommendation to the Arizona Department of Liquor License & Control to approve Jared Michael Repinski's application for a new/location/owner transfer, Series #7, for The Range Boss Golf Simulators

SECONDED BY Councilmember Margaret Nyberg

VOTE: 6 – 0 (Yes – Mayor Bratcher, Councilmembers Bedoian, Clark, Nyberg, Rovey, and Rubash)

3. Presentation and Discussion Regarding the Bi-annual Grant Update

Kathleen Crutchfield, Grants Administrator, provided her bi-annual grant update to the Council. The town applies for grants to attract external funding, advance community goals, reduce local financial burdens and enhance public services and infrastructure for residents.

The current grants that have been applied for that we are still know if we have received include the following:

Grant	Project	Grant Request
BNSF	Upgrades to Coffinger Park: Scoreboard, infield work, backstop (total project estimate: \$24,000)	\$9,999
Tohono O'odham 2025	Utility Task Vehicle (UTV) and trailer equipped for medical response and search-and-rescue in rugged, remote desert areas	\$84,000
FAA/AIP– T-Hanger Reconstruction	Phase 2 of the Apron Reconstruction-Repaving between existing hanger	\$730,692
FAA/AIG – T-Hanger Reconstruction	Phase 2 of the Apron Reconstruction-Repaving between existing hanger	\$467,369
Ft McDowell Yavapai Nation – First Responders	Various First Responder (Police & Fire) equipment	\$207,350

Grant	Project	Grant Request
Ft McDowell Yavapai Nation – Recreation	BOGA Boards for Water Yoga classes	\$8,000
Gila River Indian Community Grant	Various First Responder (Police & Fire) equipment	\$259,000
Maricopa County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	El Pajarito Waterline Project	\$340,000
Assistance Fire Fighter Grant (AFG)	Two - Off-Road vehicles for remote desert terrain rescues	\$170,000
Prop 302 Tourism Grant	Tourism Marketing	\$35,220
	Total – If Fully Awarded:	\$2,311,630

The grants awarded to the town include the following:

Grant	Award Amount
State of Arizona Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant	\$173,476
CDBG – Santa Cruz Waterline	\$400,000
First Things First Family Resource Center – FY 25 \$125,000 and FY27 \$250,000	FY26 \$250,000
Prop 302 Tourism Grant	\$28,436
Arizona US 93 Corridor Improvements	\$26,000,000
Arizona Sports and Tourism – The Quick Grant	\$4,812
	\$26,856,724

The town also has a few grants that are run by the town. The Bed Tax Marketing Grant is for \$10,000. The 2024 awardees were the Historic Wickenburg Downtown Merchants Association, Wickenburg Art Club and Friends of Music. The Commercial Façade Grant is for \$25,000 with the Pony 2nd Hand Store and D&A Investments receiving the grants in 2024. The town also has a utility assistance program for \$10,000. The town did conduct a Grants 101 training to local non-profit staff covering the basics of grants, applications, budgeting, and tips for success. This was a great opportunity to share knowledge and help them strengthen future grant applications.

In 2025, the challenges included the Grant Program freeze in Winter 2025 and then un-freeze. New grant opportunities have been slow to restart since the freeze with a reduction in funding from the federal level and increased competition for any available funds.

In the future the town will monitor opportunities for grants in the following areas:

- Unfunded CIP Projects
- Recreation
- Parks
- Public Safety
- Community Services
- Potential new Notice of Funding Opportunities

4. Consideration and Action to Approve Resolution 2383, Designating a Portion of the Downtown as a Sign Free Zone Pursuant to A.R.S. 16-1019(F)

Steve Boyle, Community Development Director, stated that at the Town Council study session held on June 16, 2025, staff, in coordination with the Town Attorney, provided an overview of this provision. During the discussion, several Council members expressed interest in designating portions of the downtown area as a tourism zone. Staff presented a range of potential zone options, with the downtown area receiving the most support.

In response, staff has prepared a proposed map outlining the boundaries of a potential tourism zone. If established, this designation would prohibit the placement of political signs within the public right-of-way in the identified area. However, political signs would still be allowed on private property with the property owner's permission. Below is the map of the proposed tourism zone:



Councilmember Clark asked if this is required by the state. Director Boyle stated that it is an option that the state allows, but it is not a requirement.

Councilmember Nyberg thought that the downtown looks tacky with the political signs and it is also a safety issue with not being able to see clearly down the street with all the signs in the way.

Mayor Bratcher asked about the proposed tourism zone and if it does anything else. Director Boyle stated that it is only to control political signs in the town right-of-way which is 71 days prior to the election until 15 days after the election.

Councilmembers Bedoian, Nyberg and Rovey requested it only be on Tegner, not the rest of the downtown.

MOVED BY Councilmember Margaret Nyberg to approve Resolution 2383 to Establish a Sign Free Zone Pursuant to A.R.S. 16-1019 with it limited to Tegner

SECONDED BY Mayor Bratcher

VOTE: 2 – 4 (Yes – Mayor Bratcher and Councilmember Nyberg) (No - Councilmembers Bedoian, Clark, Rovey, and Rubash)

5. Consideration and Action to Approve Ordinance 1243 Establishing Procedures for Reviewing Funding Requests from Non-Profit Organizations

Tim Suan, Deputy Town Manager, reported that at the May 16, 2025 study session, the Wickenburg Town Council reviewed and discussed a draft ordinance outlining procedures for providing public funds to nonprofit organizations. Council provided feedback on the proposed framework and directed staff to revise the draft and seek additional input.

The town currently provides funding to several nonprofit organizations that offer services benefiting the Wickenburg community. However, there is no formally adopted process in place. The proposed ordinance is intended to streamline the funding process for both non-profits and staff, ensure objective evaluation of requests, and provide clear legal guidance.

The ordinance ensures compliance with the Arizona Constitution's Gift Clause, which prohibits the use of public funds as gifts or subsidies to private organizations. Any funding request must demonstrate a valid public purpose and provide a measurable return of value to the town.

In July 2025, staff conducted a series of outreach activities to review the proposed ordinance and gather stakeholder feedback. The process began with a presentation and solicitation of input during the Town Grant Information Session on July 8. On July 9, the Economic Development and Transportation Advisory Committee reviewed the draft ordinance during its regular meeting, which included an opportunity for public comment. Committee members expressed support, emphasizing the ordinance as a necessary step to promote transparency, establish consistent standards, and formalize the funding process as the town continues to grow. Additional presentations were provided during workshops held on July 16 and July 21 with organizations receiving Bed Tax Funds. All feedback collected through these efforts is included in the attachments.

Key elements of the ordinance include the following:

- Non-profit organizations must submit a written request outlining the amount requested, the intended use of funds, the public purpose served, and the benefit to the town
- Town staff will review each request for compliance and schedule it for Town Council consideration at a public meeting
- If approved, the non-profit must sign an agreement that includes use of funds for the approved purpose, quarterly reporting, audit rights for the town, and return of funds if the terms are violated

This ordinance will not affect any existing agreements or contracts currently in place. Sample funding applications from other government agencies with established procedures were included in the packet.

MOVED BY Councilmember Kristy Bedoian to approve Ordinance No.1243 establishing procedures for the allocation of public funds to organizations

SECONDED BY Councilmember Art Rubash

VOTE: 6 – 0 (Yes – Mayor Bratcher, Councilmembers Bedoian, Clark, Nyberg, Rovey, and Rubash)

6. Presentation Regarding the Selected Vendor for Media Planning and Purchasing Services

Tim Suan, Deputy Town Manager, reported that in April 2025, the Town of Wickenburg issued RFQ 25-02 seeking qualified firms to provide Media Planning and Purchasing Services in support of the Fiscal Year 2026 tourism campaign. As part of the selection process, a review committee evaluated all submitted Statements of Qualifications, conducted interviews, and selected a vendor based on experience, qualifications, and strategic approach.

The selected firm will assist with the development and execution of a targeted Media Plan to promote Wickenburg as a tourism destination, with Proposition 302 grant funds anticipated as the primary funding source. If the town is awarded the grant, funds are estimated to be around \$30,000 for FY26. The vendor, Wasatch Mountains Media is present virtually at this meeting to introduce their team, provide an overview of their approach, and answer questions from the Council.

Ann Steward from Freeport-McMoRan, stated that she was part of the selection committee to choose this vendor. It was a very organized process and it critical to make sure the town is marketed correctly.

Maya Kwiedacz, Town of Wickenburg Intern, presented the guide for the marketing approach. The strategic objectives include the following:

- Strengthen Wickenburg's Brand Presence
- Increase Overall Visitation to Support the Local Economy
- Boost the Average Length of Stay for Visitors
- Enhance Visitor Engagement through Targeted Outreach

The target markets were developed by talking to local businesses, dude ranches, hotels, and tourist attractions along with some data to see where people come from who visit Wickenburg. In the future, we can look at people who are already visiting the west valley to try to draw them into Wickenburg. Below are the target markets:

- Western United States
 - ✓ Wyoming, Montana, Wisconsin, and Idaho
- Neighboring States

- ✓ Nevada, California, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah
- Arizona
 - ✓ Phoenix, Peoria, Prescott, Tucson, Flagstaff, Sedona, and Scottsdale
- International
 - ✓ Canada, Mexico, United Kingdom, Germany, France, and Australia

The messaging strategy will include:

- Call to Action:
 - ✓ *“Discover Wickenburg – where the spirit of the West comes to life”*
- Key Messaging Pillars:
 - ✓ Authentic Western heritage
 - ✓ Outdoor recreation and adventure
 - ✓ Vibrant arts, events, and cultural experiences
- Mission Alignment:
 - ✓ Market Wickenburg as a destination for exploration and immersive experiences
 - ✓ Highlight Western heritage and unique charm

The performance metrics to find out if the marketing is working will include:

- Ad Performance: Impressions and Click-Through Rates
- Visitor Engagement: Tourism Traffic Growth
- Economic Impact: Local Lodging Tax Revenue

Steve Hamilton, Economic Development and Transportation Committee member (EDTAC) and In-Town Resident, stated that his experience is in the travel industry. The EDTAC committee approved the marketing plan at their last meeting. He was on the selection committee, and they will make sure the tourism message is explained to support local businesses. The focus is on an authentic, high quality, western experience. This marketing is paid for by the Proposition 207 funds from the Arizona Office of Tourism.

Nick Giustino, Wasatch Mountains Media from Utah, was excited to be chosen as the selected vendor for the town's media planning and purchasing. Their goal is to attract the right visitors who will become repeat visitors. They want to tell Wickenburg's story. There will be a live dashboard as well as tracking sales tax revenues. Data will be used to target and retarget people who have viewed information about Wickenburg in the past. This will leverage the history and events to promote visiting Wickenburg.

Tim Suan, Deputy Town Manager, stated that this will kick off at the EDTAC meeting on September 10th for next fiscal year.

Councilmember Rubash wanted to make sure that the identity as the Team Roping capital is not lost in the marketing.

7. Consideration and Action to Approve the Qualified Vendors List (QVL) for Auto Body and Repair Services and Contracts with Devries Custom Coachworks, Rush Truck Centers of Arizona and Don Sanderson Ford

Herschel Workman, Public Works Director, reported that periodically, the town's vehicle fleet necessitates repairs, encompassing auto body work. Recognizing that the cost of such repairs can exceed \$5,000, and to adhere to Town Code Procurement Regulations, the town has undertaken the establishment of a Qualified Vendors list. This process involved requesting proposals from prospective bidders, who provided detailed unit pricing for various auto body repair components and labor hour rates for different tasks. After a comprehensive review and rating of these submissions, three qualified vendors were selected. Staff is now recommending the adoption of this list for a three-year period. On-call contracts with Devries Custom Coachworks, Rush Truck Centers of Arizona and Don Sanderson Ford will be executed with each selected vendor, with an annual ceiling of \$50,000 per vendor.

MOVED BY Councilmember Kristy Bedoian to approve a Qualified Vendors List for Auto Body and Repair Services and authorize the Town Manager to execute the contracts with Devries Custom Coachworks, Rush Truck Centers of Arizona and Don Sanderson Ford

SECONDED BY Councilmember Rebecca Rovey

VOTE: 6 – 0 (Yes – Mayor Bratcher, Councilmembers Bedoian, Clark, Nyberg, Rovey, and Rubash)

8. Discussion and Possible Action to Partner with a Community-Based Organization to Co-Sponsor a 9/11 Ceremony in Stone Park on September 11, 2025

Councilmember Nyberg stated that there is not an event to commemorate 9/11 in town. There is a committee of residents who have gotten together to have an event in conjunction with Rotary, American Legion, and the Elks. There will be a speaker, bag pipes and a bell. The request is to use the park, podium and speaker system. This year will be a small ceremony but next year is the 25th anniversary, so it will be a much larger event.

Town Manager Smith stated that the request is for the town to be a cosponsor of the event and to use the park, podium, microphone and sound equipment.

Mayor Bratcher wasn't comfortable with the set up of this since it is not with an official organization, yet they are working with other organizations who could take the lead. Her preference is for it to be run by a local non-profit organization.

Consensus of the Council was to have the town cosponsor this event.

9. Discussion and Direction to Staff Regarding Scheduling Council Study Sessions

Troy Smith, Town Manager, reported that there are several items that will require study sessions in the near future. To make it easier for Council to know when those study sessions are scheduled, staff would like to have a discussion on the preference of the Council for those study sessions. The thought is to schedule one per month for the remainder of 2025 and then schedule them for 2026, which will include the Budget Study Session. If the study session is not needed that month, the meeting will be cancelled.

Town Manager Smith suggested that in his discussions with the Council it sounded like the preference was on the same night before a regular Council meeting, so he is proposing the dates of September 15, October 20, and November 17 starting at 3:00 or possibly 4:00, if it is a short item. There may need to be more meetings than just these three depending on the zoning code.

Councilmember Bedoian preferred to not have another night, but keep to the same night that already has a meeting scheduled and not pack the agenda for that night.

Consensus of Council was to start with those three dates for study sessions.

10. Consideration and Action to Approve a Contract with Waste Management for Sanitation Services

Herschel Workman, Public Works Director, stated that the purpose of this item is to consider a contract with Waste Management to provide sanitation services to the Town of Wickenburg. The timeline for recycling is below:

- Curbside Recycling began in 2011 and initially generated modest revenue.
- By 2020, recycling became a cost center due to global market changes.
- In 2023, Council eliminated the \$1.50/month recycling fee and capped recycling losses at \$25,000/year.
- During the FY26 budget work session held on April 7th, Council gave staff direction to look at alternatives related to sanitation and recycling operations.
- At the June 16th Study Session, staff was directed to initiate a contract with Waste Management through a Cooperative Purchase Agreement with the City of Eloy. Cooperative Purchasing is the first choice of procurement when a formal bid is required, Per Town Code 4-4-11.

The town currently provides weekly residential and commercial trash pickup with curbside recycling offered, but it is unreliable. CR&R hauls both trash and recycling to Waste Management facilities. This agreement will cut out the middleman. CR&R have not been able to process recycling materials in 2025 due to equipment failure. Recycling is only available for approximately four months per year due to the current cap on spending for recycling that is set at \$25,000.

The town is looking at a contracted services model because of the following reasons:

- Enables the town to procure the best pricing on behalf of all residents
- Eliminates multiple service providers from contracting individually with residents
- Stability in services such as Recycling
- Reduced liability
- Economy of Scale which reduces costs over the long term – When he started a sanitation truck cost \$250,000 but it now costs \$500,000.

Waste Management is able to provide the following services:

- Direct residential and commercial curbside trash and recycling collection under a contract with the Town of Wickenburg
- Town will retain billing responsibility
- No change to rates currently being billed customers
- Additional services include:
 - ✓ Bulk Item pickups (50 monthly)
 - ✓ Enhanced Customer Service Support
 - ✓ Use of existing Town Carts

The contract with Waste Management includes the following specifics:

- 3 Year contract with Two renewable 3-year terms
- Current Start date is December 1, 2025
- Rate adjustments based on CPI-U, subject to Council Approval
- Waste Management may purchase Town Trucks through a separate purchase agreement
- Offer of Employment to Current Employees
- Requires fee schedule changes

Residents can expect the following if the contract with Waste Management is approved:

- Receive their bill as they currently do from the town
- Waste Management Trucks instead of Town Trucks
- Consistent recycling
- Initial use of existing cans
- Bulk Pickups & Green Waste
- Customer Service Number for Issues
- Town & Waste Management to publicize services in the coming months

Councilmember Rovey stated that the agreement with the City of Eloy just started in March of 2025 and asked what happens after the nine years is complete with this agreement. Director Workman stated that the rates can change each year but only by 2-5% and Council will have to approve any

increases. The question still to be addressed is the special event charge for sanitation containers.

Councilmember Rubash liked the idea that they would also hire the current town employees. Director Workman stated that they will have to go through their hiring process with a drug screen, but they need drivers in Wickenburg in order to service our area. The employees will get credit for their service with the town to provide the same seniority in years.

Town Manager Smith stated that the Council has the discretion to select another provider if the town doesn't like the services. This initially is a three-year contract with the option to extend. The plan is that if Waste Management increases their rates, then the town would increase the rates charged to the residents, but there is an option to keep them the same and just receive less for administrative fees.

Director Workman stated that monthly charge for residential sanitation and recycling services is \$27 with it already approved to move to \$28 next fiscal year. If the town keeps the service, as new trucks are needed, the rates will need to go to \$30 per month, with just one new truck purchased.

Clark Landrum, Waste Management representative, stated that the plan is to keep the same rates for the next eighteen months to then be on the town's fiscal year for the alignment of the fees. Waste Management has been in Arizona for sixty years with 4,000 employees. Their customer service is in Phoenix, not in California. They have just put in \$13 million into the recycling center to improve that service. Word got out about this possible contract and they have had about 75 calls already from businesses wanting to get their services. The trucks will be coming out of Surprise.

Mike Shamrell, In-Town Resident, asked about the transparency with selecting this vendor as the town's purchasing requires three quotes for any amount over \$5,000 yet this is only one quote from one company.

Councilmember Bedoian stated that the town already deals with Waste Management as they run the landfill and the recycling center, this will just get rid of the middleman. There has been a problem with recycling not being taken as recycling. This will get government out of this services as usually private companies can do it better.

Councilmember Nyberg agreed that the quality would be better because they will actually be recycling the materials.

MOVED BY Councilmember Kristy Bedoian to approve the Town Manager to execute the contract with Waste Management to provide Sanitation Services to the Town of Wickenburg, pending Town Attorney approval if there are any further changes needed

SECONDED BY Councilmember Margaret Nyberg

VOTE: 5 – 1 (Yes – Mayor Bratcher, Councilmembers Bedoian, Clark, Nyberg, and Rubash) (No – Councilmember Rovey)

11. Consideration and Action Approving a Notice of Intent to Adopt the Proposed Changes to the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Consolidated Fee Schedule for Sanitation Fees

Herschel Workman, Public Works Director, stated that with the approval of the contract with Waste Management, there are some additional services that they can offer residents and businesses that the town does not currently offer. The fees for those services need to be added to the 2025-56 Consolidated Fee Schedule in order for the town to charge those fees.

The following changes are being proposed to the fee schedule in preparation for Waste Management taking over the sanitation services:

- Removal of Towns Contamination fee of \$100
- Change in Container Exchange from \$40 to \$75 for Residential
- New fee of \$100 for Commercial Container Exchange
- New fees for Commercial Trip Charge, Relocation Charge, Removal Charge, Resume Service Fee and Reactivation Charge \$100
- New fee for Residential Overweight Charge 192 pounds for a 96 Gallon Cart \$5
- New Fee for Commercial Overweight Charge \$75
- New Fee for Residential Contamination Charge \$5
- New fee for Commercial Contamination Charge \$75
- Remainder of Fees on Schedule are New Fees for Metal Dumpsters

This is for the notice of intent to change the fees that has to be posted for sixty days before this will come back to the Council for final approval.

MOVED BY Councilmember Kristy Bedoian to approve the Notice of Intent to adopt the changes to the Town of Wickenburg Fiscal Year 2025-26 Consolidated Fee Schedule

SECONDED BY Councilmember Margaret Nyberg

VOTE: 6 – 0 (Yes – Mayor Bratcher, Councilmembers Bedoian, Clark, Nyberg, Rovey, and Rubash)

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.)

1. An executive session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3) and (A)(4) for discussion or consultation for legal advice with the Town Attorney regarding utility relief assistance and to consider its position and instruct the Town Attorney regarding assistance contracts.

MOVED BY Councilmember Rebecca Rovey to adjourn into executive session at 7:13 pm

SECONDED BY Councilmember Margaret Nyberg

VOTE: 6 – 0 (Yes – Mayor Bratcher, Councilmembers Bedoian, Clark, Nyberg, Rovey, and Rubash)

Council back in session at 7:25 PM

Mayor Bratcher stated that they didn't give direction to staff regarding utility assistance.

K. SCHEDULING OF FUTURE COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS - None

L. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY Councilmember Kristy Bedoian to adjourn at approximately 7:25 PM

SECONDED BY Councilmember Rebecca Rovey

VOTE: 6 – 0 (Yes – Mayor Bratcher, Councilmembers Bedoian, Clark, Nyberg, Rovey, and Rubash)

ATTEST:

BG Bratcher, Mayor

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 August 4, 2025. I further certify the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Amy Brown, MMC
Town Clerk