

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON
COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF STAR VALLEY**

**Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 5:15 pm
3675 East Highway 260, Star Valley, AZ
(Star Valley Town Hall)**

The Agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- PRAYER was offered by Council Member Dueker.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- CALL TO ORDER
- ROLL CALL:

Vice Mayor McKinney X, Council Member Armington X, Council Member Binney X, Council Member Dueker X, Council Member Highstreet X, Council Member McDaniel X, Mayor Davis X. Mayor Davis and Council Member Highstreet attended telephonically.

- **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

During this portion of the meeting, members of the public may address the Town Council on items that are not on the printed agenda. Any remarks shall be addressed to the Council as a whole and not to any individual member. Speakers are limited to three (3) minutes per person unless additional time is granted by the Mayor. The Council may not discuss or act upon matters raised during public comments.

The Vice Mayor opened up this portion of the meeting for public comments. There were no comments and Vice Mayor McKinney closed the public comment portion.

- **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

All items listed under the Consent Agenda will be voted on with one motion. If discussion is desired regarding any Consent Agenda item, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and voted on separately.

A. Approval of the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on March 4, 2025.

**B. Approval of Accounts Payable from March 1, 2025 through March 15, 2025
for the General Fund and for the Water Department.**

A motion to approve consent agenda items A and B was made by Council Member Armington and was seconded by Council Member Binney.

A roll call vote was taken:

Vice Mayor McKinney X, Council Member Armington X, Council Member Binney X, Council Member Dueker X, Council Member Highstreet X, Council Member McDaniel X, Mayor Davis X.

The motion was voted on and passed 7 – 0.

PROCLAMATION:

1. The National Vietnam War Veterans Day Proclamation was read by Town Clerk Chapin. Veteran Services Chairman Art Schaier noted that March 29th will be the first annual celebration of the Vietnam War Veterans to be held at the Elks Lodge in Payson from Noon to 5 p.m.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Discussion and possible action regarding the Beeline bus. Presentation by the Town of Payson.

Town of Payson Community Development Coordinator Julie Leonard began by sharing information regarding the Beeline bus which serves Payson, Star Valley and Mesa Dell with two routes (a red and a blue). The Town of Payson acquired the bus line in 2023 and it is currently staffed with eight drivers. In Star Valley there are four stops six times a day. Bus fares have remained the same even though ridership has increased from 3,947 in 2022 to 8,679 in 2024. Ridership has increased in Star Valley and the free ride option on Fridays has helped. Star Valley contributed \$10,000 to the Beeline bus in 2023 and 2024. The funds go into a local match and also a match by ADOT. Council Member Binney thanked Ms. Leonard for the information and then requested full budget information on the bus at the next presentation. He asked if they do advertising on the bus and Ms. Leonard said yes. Council Member Dueker asked if the bus gets funding from Gila County and ADOT in addition to the Town of Payson and the Town of Star Valley. Ms. Leonard said yes. Vice Mayor McKinney thanked her for the information. No further action was taken as Town Manager Grier said the contribution would not take place until the next fiscal year in July. The subject could be revisited in a council meeting at that time.

THE ORDER OF DISCUSSION ITEMS WAS CHANGED AT THIS POINT BY VICE MAYOR MCKINNEY.

2. Discussion and possible action to re-obligate the remaining COVID-19 ARPA funds from the aging water lines replacement project to the generator project by placing generators at well sites to mitigate electrical outages.

Town Manager Grier suggested re-obligating the COVID funds from the aged water line project to the generator project. He introduced Engineer Dale Miller and Water Operator Dean Shaffer. Engineer Miller explained that if money was no object he would have six generators at six locations at a cost of \$555,000. A minimum recommendation would be four generators at four sites (Quail Valley Well Site, Sky Run #3 Well Site, the Knolls Well Site and the Knolls Water Tank Site) at a cost of \$370,000. He said the absolute minimum would be three generators at three sites (Quail Valley Well Site, Sky Run #3 Well Site and the Knolls Well Site) at a cost of \$255,000. Water Operator Dean Shaffer stated he prefers LP (Liquid Petroleum) or natural gas generators as they are quieter than diesel.

Vice Mayor McKinney asked if having a back-up generator is a standard practice for a water company. Engineer Miller said yes it is standard. Water Operator Shaffer also agreed that at least three sites need generators. Council Member Armington asked about the pump stations. Water Operator Shaffer said the three generators will just run the upper booster stations. Council Member Dueker said an emergency plan needs to be developed for Star Valley. Water Operator Shaffer agreed with that and said the residents would be limited to using water for household use only. Council Member McDaniel stated she is in favor of starting with three generators. Council Member Dueker suggested four generators in case of a wildland fire issue. Council Member Binney reflected that a 20 hour water outage was not a life or death situation as APS would give the town advance notice. He also felt APS should supply the water. He recommended a solar battery system which would be less maintenance and they would pay for themselves. He felt the council didn't have enough information to make a decision at this council meeting and they didn't need to rush into this right away.

Council Member Dueker stated he would like to have an additional engineer's opinion on the matter to make an informed decision. Town Manager Grier asked the council how quickly they would like to proceed on this issue. Vice Mayor McKinney responded that fire season is going to be upon us before very long and he does not want the town to be in a dangerous fire situation. Finance Administrator Ridding input that the council had until December of 2026 to spend the COVID funds. Mr. Grier said the council needs to look at the impact of this on the general fund. Council Member Dueker said we should inquire about leasing the generators. Vice Mayor McKinney then asked for a motion.

A motion to direct Engineer Dale Miller and Dean Shaffer to research and do a preliminary estimate on the feasibility of renting generators at the three minimum sites was made by Council Member Dueker and was seconded by Council Member Armington.

A roll call vote was taken:

Vice Mayor McKinney Yes, Council Member Armington Yes, Council Member Binney Yes, Council Member Dueker Yes, Council Member Highstreet Absent, Council Member McDaniel Yes, Mayor Davis Yes. Council Member Highstreet was no longer in attendance.

The motion was voted on and passed 6 – 0.

3. Discussion and possible action regarding mailbox lighting. Presentation by the Community Betterment Committee.

Chair Bob Wolf of the Community Betterment Committee came up with the idea of an overhang on the mailboxes with solar lighting which would require little maintenance and no installation cost. There is already one at the Pineview RV Resort. They would like to do a prototype on Moonlight Dr. Town Manager Grier said they will need an okay from the postal service. Vice Mayor McKinney asked how many mailboxes are involved and Chair Wolf said twenty but some are on ADOT right of way so they could only do about eight. Council Member McDaniel asked if the lighting would be on all night and Chair Wolf said the lights are low watts and on a motion sensor. Vice Mayor McKinney asked for a motion.

A motion to proceed with the mailbox lighting proposal pending all necessary permissions was made by Council Member McDaniel and was seconded by Council Member Armington.

A roll call vote was taken:

Vice Mayor McKinney Yes, Council Member Armington Yes, Council Member Binney Yes, Council Member Dueker Yes, Council Member Highstreet Absent, Council Member McDaniel Yes, Mayor Davis Yes.

The motion was voted on and passed 6 – 0.

4. Discussion and possible action regarding the appointment of member(s) to the Community Betterment Committee.

Town Manager Grier indicated that the council could appoint John Jackson as a member of the Community Betterment Committee at this time.

A motion to appoint John Jackson as a member of the Community Betterment Committee for a term of two years was made by Council Member McDaniel and was seconded by Council Member Armington.

A roll call vote was taken:

Vice Mayor McKinney Yes, Council Member Armington Yes, Council Member Binney Yes, Council Member Dueker Yes, Council Member Highstreet Absent, Council Member McDaniel Yes, Mayor Davis Yes.

The motion was voted on and passed 6 – 0.

• ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member McDaniel and was seconded by Council Member Armington.

The motion was voted on and passed 6 – 0.

APPROVED:

Bobby Davis, Mayor

Date: _____

ATTEST:

Edie Chapin, Town Clerk

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Star Valley held on the 18th day of March 2025. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 25th day of March 2025.

Del Dupree, Administrative Assistant