

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

**Tuesday, July 7, 2026, at 5:15 p.m.  
3675 East Highway 260, Star Valley, AZ  
(Star Valley Town Hall)**

- **PRAYER:** Pastor Dave of Rim View Community Church offered the prayer.
- **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- **CALL TO ORDER**
- **ROLL CALL:**

| Official                  | Status           |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Mayor Davis               | Present (remote) |
| Vice Mayor McKinney       | Present          |
| Council Member Armington  | Present          |
| Council Member Binney     | Present          |
| Council Member Dueker     | Present          |
| Council Member Highstreet | Present          |
| Council Member McDaniel   | Present          |

✓ **A quorum was established.**

- **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. Remarks from the public should 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.

Vice Mayor McKinney opened the public comment period. Jim Bannon addressed the Council and introduced himself, providing an overview of his professional background in business development, communications, and technology. He expressed his love for the Town of Star Valley, and discussed his experience working with political organizations, international business ventures, and communication platforms, and stated he is interested in assisting the Town by providing communication tools intended to improve public engagement. Mr. Bannon also referenced ongoing legal matters involving his business and concluded by expressing appreciation for the opportunity to address the Council. No additional members of the public requested to speak, and the public comment period was closed.

- **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

All items listed under the Consent Agenda were voted on as a single motion. If discussion was desired regarding any Consent Agenda item, that item would be removed from the Consent Agenda and voted on separately.

**A. Approval of the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on June 16, 2026.**

**B. Approval of Accounts Payable from June 16, 2026 through June 30, 2026 for the General Fund and for the Water Department.**

Council Member Armington moved to approve Consent Agenda Items A and B as presented. Council Member McDaniel seconded the motion.

**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 – ABSTAINED due to absence.
- Council Member McDaniel – YES.
- Mayor Davis – YES.

**The motion passed with six (6) affirmative votes and one (1) abstention.**

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **1. Discussion and possible action regarding the installation of streetlights along State Route 260.**

Town Clerk Jacob von Prisk presented information regarding the potential installation of solar-powered decorative streetlights along State Route 260. The presentation reviewed previous streetlight efforts undertaken between approximately 2019 and 2021, which were delayed due to utility coordination requirements, project complexity, regulatory considerations, and funding constraints.

Mr. von Prisk explained that solar-powered decorative streetlights may present a more feasible alternative to traditional grid-tied lighting by eliminating the need for trenching, conduit installation, extensive utility coordination, and ongoing power costs. Potential benefits discussed included improved nighttime safety, enhanced community aesthetics, establishment of a recognizable gateway into Star Valley, and opportunities to display seasonal decorations and community branding.

Mr. von Prisk stated that he was requesting a feasibility study before any further consideration of the project. He explained that conducting a feasibility study would be a responsible approach and help ensure that challenges encountered during previous streetlight initiatives are fully evaluated and addressed before additional resources are committed. He further stated that the study would provide the Council with objective information regarding project viability, costs, regulatory requirements, maintenance obligations, and potential funding sources, allowing the Council to make informed decisions and vote confidently on any future expenditures or authorization of construction activities.

During Council discussion, Council Member Dueker expressed support for the concept, stating that many travelers simply pass through Star Valley and that improvements helping establish a stronger community identity would be beneficial. He also noted that any improvements enhancing nighttime safety should be considered.

Council Member McDaniel expressed support for the proposal's rustic and dark-sky-compliant design elements and stated that decorative lighting, seasonal banners, and community displays would be a welcome enhancement to the Town's appearance and character. Council also discussed potential funding opportunities, maintenance requirements, and pole installation methods.

Council Member McDaniel moved to direct staff to investigate the feasibility and estimated costs associated with installing solar-powered decorative streetlights along State Route 260 and report the findings back to Council. Council Member Highstreet seconded the motion.

**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 – YES.
- Council Member McDaniel – YES.
- Mayor Davis – YES.

**The motion passed unanimously with seven (7) affirmative votes.**

**2. Discussion and possible action to appoint a new member to the MHA Foundation (formerly Mogollon Health Alliance).**

Council discussed the process for appointing a resident representative to fill the vacancy created by the passing of former board member Ted Pettit. Mayor Davis provided background regarding the MHA Foundation and discussed the organization's ongoing involvement with community projects within the region. Mayor Davis also recognized Mr. Pettit's service to the community as a longtime educator, coach, and Star Valley resident.

Council discussed the qualifications and requirements for the position, including the requirement that any individual appointed to the board be a resident of the Town of Star Valley. Council Member McDaniel was identified as a potential candidate for the vacancy. Additional discussion occurred regarding other potential candidates within the community and the process for forwarding nominations. Mayor Davis indicated that he would circulate the name of another prospective candidate for Council consideration.

Council members agreed that additional time would be beneficial to identify and consider other qualified Star Valley residents before making a recommendation. Council members agreed that additional time would be beneficial to identify and consider other qualified Star Valley residents before making a recommendation.

Council Member Highstreet moved to table the matter until the August 4, 2026 Regular Town Council Meeting. Council Member Armington seconded the motion.

**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 – YES.
- Council Member McDaniel – YES.
- Mayor Davis – YES.

**The motion passed unanimously with seven (7) affirmative votes.**

**3. Discussion and possible action regarding a test program at a well site to determine whether battery-powered operation can provide cost savings for Town well operations.**

Council Member Binney presented information regarding the potential use of battery-powered systems at Town well sites to reduce utility costs and provide an alternative to traditional backup power systems. He explained that advancements in battery technology may create opportunities for long-term operational savings and suggested that a pilot program at a single well site could be used to evaluate costs, system performance, and potential benefits before considering broader implementation.

Discussion included battery lifespan, maintenance requirements, engineering considerations, possible installation costs, and the potential impact of future advancements in battery technology. Council Member Binney discussed emerging sodium battery technology, noting that it may offer lower costs, longer life cycles, and fewer environmental concerns than some currently available battery systems. Council members acknowledged that the technology is still developing and discussed the possibility of revisiting the topic in the future as additional products become commercially available and more performance data becomes available.

Council members also discussed the Town's existing generator infrastructure, utility rate structures, and whether projected energy savings would justify the initial investment required for a battery-powered system. Several members expressed interest in reviewing additional information, including examples from other municipalities that have successfully implemented similar systems and documented measurable cost savings. Council Member Dueker commented that he would be interested in learning more about the proposal if examples of successful municipal implementations could be identified. Questions were also raised regarding site selection, overall project feasibility, and potential long-term return on investment.

**No motion was made and no action was taken.**

#### **4. Discussion and possible action to cancel the August 18, 2026 Regular Town Council Meeting due to a scheduling conflict with the League of Arizona Cities and Towns Annual Conference.**

Vice Mayor McKinney introduced the agenda item regarding cancellation of the August 18, 2026 Regular Town Council Meeting due to scheduling conflicts associated with the League of Arizona Cities and Towns Annual Conference. Council discussed the August meeting schedule and noted that Town staff and several members of Council would be attending the conference during that time.

Council members agreed that canceling the August 18 meeting would be appropriate due to the anticipated staffing and scheduling impacts associated with conference attendance. The August 4, 2026 Regular Town Council Meeting would remain on the schedule as planned.

Council Member McDaniel moved to cancel the August 18, 2026 Regular Town Council Meeting. Council Member Highstreet seconded the motion.

#### **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 – YES.
- Council Member McDaniel – YES.
- Mayor Davis – YES.

**The motion passed unanimously with seven (7) affirmative votes.**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Council Member Highstreet moved to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Armington seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously by a vote of 7–0.

**APPROVED:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Bobby Davis, Mayor**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jacob von Prisk, 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 7th day of July 2026. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.**

**Dated the 10th day of July 2026.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jacob von Prisk, Town Clerk**