

# City of Globe, Arizona

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## City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 28, 2025 – 6:00 PM

City Council Chambers, Globe City Hall

### Call to Order and Roll Call

Mayor Al Gameros called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

City Clerk Shelly Salazar conducted Roll Call:

- District 1: Councilman Freddy Rios – Present
- District 2: Councilman Mike Pastor – Present
- District 3: Councilman Leetham – Excused
- District 4: Vice Mayor Mike Stapleton – Present
- District 5: Councilman Gonzalez – Excused
- District 6: Councilman Fernando Shipley – Present
- Mayor Al Gameros – Present

A quorum was established.

### Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Councilman Shipley led the invocation, offering a prayer for guidance, safety for residents and employees, and strength for the community. The Council then recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

## 1. Summary of Current Events

### A. Council Members

Councilman Shipley noted he was featured on NPR and hoped the interview reflected positively.

Councilman Rios emphasized the importance of fire safety and situational awareness during Arizona's fire season, noting a recent near-crisis in Oracle, Arizona.

Councilman Pastor reported he had been sick and did not have updates.

Vice Mayor Stapleton shared that the Globe pool is now open and reviewed swim times and pricing. He promoted the hamburger fry event on Friday at 5:30 PM

(\$10 for a full meal) and noted growing participation in the monthly 'Coffee with the Mayor' sessions. The next session is scheduled for June 18.

## **B. Mayor Gameros**

- WaFed Bank groundbreaking to take place Friday, May 30 at 8:00 AM.
- A Color Run hosted by the Globe Library is scheduled for Saturday at 9:00 AM.
- Arizona Highways will air a 30-minute feature on Globe at 8:30 PM Saturday on Channel 3.
- First Friday events will occur on June 6.
- APS will host a Town Hall on June 12 at 6:00 PM at Bullion Plaza Gym to discuss the PSPS (Public Safety Power Shutoff) program.
- Encouraged community members to participate in the Firewise Program and contact the Fire Chief for details.

## **C. City Manager**

City Manager Paul Jepson reported no updates.

### 2. Community Call to the Public

Mayor Gameros opened the floor for public comment. No public comment cards were submitted. There were no comments received via phone or online.

### 3. Special Presentations and Ceremonial Matters

A. Mayor Gameros presented a proclamation declaring the week of May 18–24, 2025, as National Public Works Week.

The proclamation honored the essential role of public works professionals in maintaining critical infrastructure and services that support the public health, safety, and quality of life of residents in the Globe area. John Angulo and Vince Mariscal accepted the proclamation on behalf of the Public Works Department.

#### B. Vince Mariscal recognized Jose Orozco for five years of service with the City.

Mr. Mariscal praised Mr. Orozco's versatility, dedication, and craftsmanship in various city projects, including the installation of drinking fountains, handrails, ramadas, and fencing repairs. Mr. Orozco expressed gratitude and received a round of applause from the Council.

#### C. Fire Chief Gary Robinson recognized Captain Lyle Wyatt for ten years of service.

Chief Robinson recounted Captain Wyatt's career progression, from receiving a humorous 'late start' award to becoming a respected shift captain. Wyatt was

praised for his leadership, ongoing education, and commitment to service. He expressed gratitude to the community and his family for their support.

#### [D. Scott Graff of Colby & Powell, PLC, presented the Fiscal Year 2022–2023 Financial Audit.](#)

He reported a clean opinion with no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Key audit recommendations included:

- Timeliness of audit completion (audit was late per state guidelines).
- Overspending in several departmental budgets.
- Duplicated and uncleared bank transactions.
- Policy needs for capital asset thresholds (particularly leases and software).
- Clarification of personnel policy regarding retirement and sick leave buybacks.

Mr. Graff highlighted improvements in the City's finance team and affirmed the City's overall financial health with a nearly \$2 million increase in net position from FY22 to FY23. Council discussed budget controls and audit education. City Manager Jepson noted staffing transitions contributed to past audit delays but expressed confidence in future audits.

#### [E. Tony Manfredi reported on the City's first Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule \(BCEGS\) audit conducted by ISO.](#)

The City achieved a score of 4 for both residential and commercial building safety – an excellent result indicating strong code enforcement and staff qualifications. Mr. Manfredi explained the audit's impact on insurance premiums, grant eligibility, and community safety. Council members commended the presentation and City staff's professionalism and preparedness.

#### [6. Consent Calendar](#)

Items on the Consent Calendar included:

A. Waiver of Section 2-4-10(A) [prior discussion rule] to allow action on all Consent Agenda items.

B. Accounts Payable in the amount of \$255,984.80.

C. Approval of Council Minutes for:

1. February 25, 2025 Regular Meeting
2. May 13, 2025 Regular Meeting

D. Report of items purchased under \$25,000.

Motion and Vote:

**Motion** by Councilman Rios to approve the Consent Agenda, excluding Item A1.

**Seconded** by Councilman Pastor.

**Vote:** The motion passed unanimously.

Council Action: Approve the Consent Agenda, excluding Item A1

Following clarification about municipal risk and APS payments, Councilman Rios **motioned** to approve Item A1, Accounts Payable, in the amount of \$255,984.80.

**Seconded** by Councilman Pastor.

**Vote:** The motion passed unanimously.

Council Action: Approve the Accounts Payable in the amount of \$255,984.80.

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

### **A. Consideration to approve the Planning and Zoning recommendation of approval for a request to allow a monument sign over sixteen feet in height for the Washington Federal Bank located at 996 N. Broad St, APN-207-15-105B.**

Presented by: Tony Manfredi, Community Development Director

Mr. Manfredi presented a request to approve a Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Commission recommendation to allow the installation of a freestanding monument sign exceeding the standard 16-foot height limit. The subject property is located at 996 North Broad Street in a C-3 zoning district.

According to City Code Section 14-13-20(E)(8), freestanding signs in C-3 zones are generally limited to a maximum height of 16 feet. However, the City Council may authorize signs that exceed this limit based on specific design criteria, which the P&Z Commission reviewed.

Key considerations included:

- The sign will be located at the intersection of Blake and Broad Streets, with enhanced landscaping.
- A 20-foot landscaped planter, spring walls, curb, sidewalk, and gutter will be installed.
- The building is elevated 3 feet due to its location in a floodplain; final height is 24 feet.
- The proposed sign at 20 feet maintains proportion and visual harmony with the building.

A visibility study confirmed no issues for ingress/egress. The sign and setbacks comply with ADOT requirements.

Council members discussed emergency vehicle access, visual impact, and the proportionality of the development to nearby structures. The site includes removable bollards to facilitate emergency entry and prevent unauthorized parking.

Motion and Vote:

**Motion** by Councilman Rios to waive Section 2-4-10A, Prior Discussion Rule and approve the P&Z Commission recommendation (Case PS-25-01) with the following conditions:

1. Install three additional fire department-approved removable bollards at the Blake Street emergency access point. Stripe the Blake Street curb red to designate it as a fire lane.
2. The freestanding monument sign must not exceed a height of 20 feet and must comply with the specifications in Exhibit A.

**Second:** Councilman Pastor

**Vote:** Unanimous Approval

- [B. Presentation, Discussion, and Possible Direction Regarding the FY25-26 General Fund Budget, Including Revenue Projections, Contingency Fund, and Capital Improvement Projects \(CIP\)](#)  
Presented by: Paul Jepson, City Manager

Presented by City Manager Paul Jepson

City Manager Paul Jepson presented the proposed FY25-26 General Fund Budget, providing detailed explanations, background, and justification for financial projections, staffing needs, and departmental priorities. He distributed two handouts to Council in advance to assist in following the extensive presentation.

Mr. Jepson began by explaining key budgeting terminology for clarity, distinguishing among ongoing funds (annual revenue sources like sales tax used for operational costs), one-time funds (such as grants or unspent funds from the prior year), and carry-forward funds (unspent ongoing funds that roll over and become one-time funds). He emphasized the importance of aligning fund types with expenditures, stating it is acceptable to use ongoing funds for one-time purchases, but not the

reverse.

Mr. Jepson described the fund balance as all unbudgeted funds remaining from the prior fiscal year, and the contingency fund as a specifically budgeted reserve that requires Council approval for reallocation. He noted Council's emphasis on maintaining clarity between fund balance and contingency reserves, adding that restricted and unrestricted funds (such as HURF, cemetery funds, or health care reserves) are designated based on source and use limitations.

#### Departmental Requests and Priorities

He recapped discussions from the earlier strategic planning and departmental budget workgroup meetings, noting key priorities and requests across departments:

- Fire Department: Emphasized the urgent need for a new fire station and ladder truck. These items were repeatedly identified as top priorities by the Chief and budget workgroup.
- Police Department: Chief Walters requested five new F-150s to replace aging Crown Victorias exceeding 150,000 miles. These replacements would support patrol and specialized units like the SRO program. Two nonsworn police aide positions were also proposed to support retention and internal career development.
- Public Works: Director John Angulo emphasized the dire condition of the fleet, noting that 48% of vehicles require replacement. He also stressed the need for ongoing training to improve retention and multi-year planning for streets, sidewalks, and asphalt.
- Surplus Equipment: Council discussed the city's re-engagement with the Public Surplus system to dispose of outdated equipment, an effort being coordinated by Travis and Eric.
- Community Development: Continued high demand for services with ongoing zoning, inspections, and planning needs.
- Economic Development: Linda Oddonetto identified a need for increased staffing support in marketing, business retention, and content creation.

- Administration: Mr. Jepson stressed the importance of succession planning and internal capacity building, including converting contractors to full-time staff.
- Library: Staff reiterated longstanding requests for additional indoor space for study rooms, programming supplies, and materials. The library staff strongly opposed the idea of a conex storage unit.

#### Budget Overview and Cuts:

- The proposed budget includes a 2.5% merit-based pay increase citywide.
- Departments participated in voluntary operational cuts totaling approximately \$343,000.
- Proposed new general fund positions include two nonsworn Police Department aides, one economic development staffer, and one 0.5 FTE administrative support position.

#### Revenues and Fund Balance:

- FY25-26 General Fund revenue projected at \$18 million.
- FY24 city sales tax revenues outperformed projections; FY25-26 growth estimated conservatively at 2.5%.
- Slight increase in property tax revenue due to new construction; levy rate remains unchanged.
- Increases are also expected in fees, fines, and licenses.

#### Fund Allocation and Capital Expenditures

- Council Contingency Reserve Fund: \$3 million
- Capital Contingency Fund: \$150,000
- Carry-forward projects: \$340,000
- Police F-150 purchase: \$415,000
- Public Works dump trucks (F350s): \$135,000
- Remaining lease payments for vehicles: \$111,000

#### Fire Station and PSPRS Funding:

- Plan to cover \$1.2 million annually for fire station debt service.
- Redirecting the .3% public safety sales tax once PSPRS reaches 80% funded (currently 73%). Generates ~\$900,000/year.
- Combined with \$300,000 general fund allocation to cover needed payments.

#### Capital Improvement Projects (CIP):

- Total CIP requests: \$3.5 million (excluding \$2.4M ladder truck and \$8M library expansion).
- CIP items categorized as A (urgent), B (soon), and C (long-term). Directors confirmed they had input.

#### Budget Goals and Next Steps:

- Goals Achieved: \$3M Council Contingency, \$1.2M fire station plan, merit increases, preventive health screenings, succession planning, 7 vehicle purchases, new sweeper, and Jetter truck.
- Upcoming: Final budget adoption July 8, 2025; multi-year planning; ladder truck funding; FY24 audit; water loan application; federal advocacy.

Mr. Jepson concluded by inviting further direction from Council and emphasized the budget as a roadmap aligned with city priorities.

### C. Discussion and Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 1905 Adopting the Council General Fund Contingency Reserve Policy 2025

Presented by: Paul Jepson, City Manager

#### Discussion Summary:

City Clerk Shelly Salazar read the title of Resolution No. 1905 into the record:

"Resolution No. 1905, A Resolution of the City of Globe, County of Gila, State of Arizona, Adopting the Council General Fund Contingency Reserve Policy 2025."



City Manager Paul Jepson informed the Council that although the policy document was provided for discussion, Resolution No. 1905 would not be adopted at this meeting due to pending minor language revisions. These changes, recommended by Finance Director Pat Walker and consultant Dennis, aim to enhance clarity and resolve internal conflicts in the current draft.

The overarching goal of the policy remains unchanged: to establish a \$3 million Council General Fund Contingency Reserve and an additional \$150,000 Capital Contingency Reserve to cover minor or unanticipated expenditures.

Jepson further clarified the four primary purposes outlined in the policy for utilizing contingency reserves:

1. Significant economic downturns
2. Consequences of external agency actions (e.g., changes in state tax policy)
3. Emergencies or disasters (natural or caused by human activity)
4. Unforeseen opportunities that allow the City to leverage reserves for long-term benefit

The Council acknowledged the inclusion of the opportunity clause within the policy text. There were no additional questions from the Council.

Motion and Vote:

**Motion** to place Resolution No. 1905 on the June 10, 2025, Council meeting agenda for formal consideration by Councilman Fernando Shipley

**Seconded** by Councilman Freddy Rios

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously.

Action Taken:

Council approved the motion to place Resolution No. 1905 on the June 10, 2025, meeting agenda for adoption consideration.

[D. Discussion and Consideration of Contract No. CA2025-0173 with Waste Connections of Arizona for the Continuation of Solid Waste Collection Services for 10 Years in an Amount Not to Exceed \\$852,017.00](#)

Presented by City Manager Paul Jepson; with remarks by Larry Williams, Sales and Marketing Director, Waste Connections of Arizona

City Manager Paul Jepson presented the proposed ten-year agreement with Waste Connections of Arizona (formerly RAD - Rightaway Disposal) for solid waste collection services. The contract, totaling an amount not to exceed \$852,017.00, will be funded through account #10-61-51235 (Sanitation Contract). Mr. Jepson also requested that the Council waive Section 2-4-10A (Prior Discussion Rule) due to the elapsed time between contracts and the critical nature of service continuity.

Mr. Jepson highlighted that Waste Connections has provided reliable and professional waste collection services to the City of Globe since 2010, despite challenges posed by Globe's topography—steep grades, narrow roads, and limited economies of scale. He emphasized that multiple competitors have found these conditions challenging to service effectively, while Waste Connections has consistently met the city's needs.

#### Contract Terms & Service Enhancements:

- The proposed contract is for seven years, with an option for one three-year renewal, totaling ten years.
- Waste Connections will dedicate two brand-new trash collection vehicles to the City of Globe. These vehicles have already been procured and are specifically designed for hilly and narrow routes, improving safety, fuel efficiency, and driver visibility.
- In the event the City terminates the contract early, it must reimburse Waste Connections for the depreciated value of the two new trucks.
- Waste Connections will continue to support the City's biannual community cleanup events by providing four dumpsters twice a year.
- Waste Connections will pay a monthly administrative fee of \$4,000 to the City.
- The residential rate of \$25.25 per customer is already included in the water/trash billing structure and does not affect current customer rates. Rate increases are buffered into the City's structure and are projected to remain aligned for at least the next five years. A 2.5% annual increase buffer is included; any cost mismatches are not expected until the fifth year.
- The contract also includes two additional community outreach events where Waste Connections will place and staff roll-off containers for electronics, appliances, and non-categorizable waste.

Remarks by Larry Williams, Sales and Marketing Director, Waste

#### Connections of Arizona:

Mr. Williams thanked the City for a strong ten-year partnership and expressed excitement to continue for another ten. He noted that Globe's service area is one of the most unique in Arizona, requiring experienced operators and specialized equipment. The new trucks being deployed are cab-over models, smaller and better suited to navigate Globe's steep terrain safely. He stated that Globe is serviced by their "top gun" drivers, who are paid a premium over their Phoenix-area counterparts due to the complexity of the routes. Two drivers have served Globe for over seven years and are deeply familiar with residents and their needs.

Mr. Williams acknowledged past complaints early in the relationship but stated that improvements in routing, communication, and the use of truck-mounted video cameras have significantly reduced customer issues. These technologies have enabled prompt and accurate responses to service complaints, including confirming when trash was not out for pickup.

#### Discussion:

Councilmembers expressed appreciation for the quality of service and professionalism from Waste Connections. Several noted a marked improvement over the years and praised the friendly and responsive behavior of drivers. The Council and staff acknowledged the company's willingness to adapt services to Globe's unique needs.

Mr. Jepson confirmed that bonding, indemnification, and legal protections remain consistent with previous contracts. The staff requested that approval be contingent upon final review and approval by the City Attorney, who had not yet finalized the indemnification language due to Memorial Day travel delays.

#### Motion and Vote:

**Motion** to approve Contract No. CA2025-0173 with Waste Connections of Arizona for the continuation of solid waste collection services for ten (10) years, in an amount not to exceed \$852,017.00, to be funded through Account #10-61-51235 (Sanitation Contract) by Councilman Mike Pastor. The motion included a waiver of Section 2-4-10A (Prior Discussion Rule) and was made contingent upon final approval by the City Attorney.

**Second:** Councilman Rios

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously.

Action Taken:

Approve Contract #CA-2025-0173 with Waste Connections for an amount not to exceed \$852,017.00.

## 6. ACTION

A. Consideration to approve Preferred Provider Agreement #PS-2025-0174 with SimonMed to allow monthly invoicing to the City of Globe for employees, qualified dependents, and Council Member Preventive Health Screenings to be funded through revenues retained in Account #10-39-47344 "Rebates-BCBS".

Presented by City Manager Paul Jepson

City Manager Paul Jepson introduced the action item, seeking Council approval of the Preferred Provider Agreement No. PS-2025-0174 with SimonMed. The agreement would allow monthly invoicing to the City of Globe for preventive health screening services for employees, qualified dependents, and Council Members, with costs funded through revenues retained in Account #10-39-47344 ("Rebates – Blue Cross Blue Shield").

Mr. Jepson explained that the original plan was to arrange a one-time service agreement with SimonMed; however, the City successfully negotiated reduced rates, resulting in approximately \$50 in savings per MRI. He noted that several individuals had already participated in the MRI screenings. While he could not disclose names due to HIPAA privacy protections, the feedback he received indicated that the process was smooth and efficient, with participants receiving consultations after their imaging.

These screenings are proactive and preventative and are not tied to a physician's order, making them ineligible for standard insurance coverage. Therefore, the City is using the rebate funds received from Blue Cross Blue Shield to cover these costs, ensuring that employees and Council Members have access to necessary preventive diagnostic tools without impacting the general fund.

Council Discussion:

No additional questions or comments were raised.

Motion and Vote:

**Motion:** Approve Preferred Provider Agreement No. PS-2025-0174 with SimonMed as presented by Councilman Mike Pastor.

**Second:** Councilman Rios

**Vote:** Motion passed unanimously.

Action Taken:

Approve Preferred Provider Agreement #PS-2025-0174 with SimonMed to allow monthly invoicing to the City of Globe for Employees, qualified dependents, and Council members for preventative health screenings paid for using the Employee Fitness Program Account Code #10-50-51323.

7. LATE AGENDA ITEMS:

8. CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

9. SCHEDULING OF MEETINGS:

Scheduling of meetings may be addressed at this time.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Agenda topics that Council Members would like to see on the agenda may be brought up at this time.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct representation of the May 28, 2025 Globe City Council Meeting Minutes and the meeting was duly called and a quorum was present.

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Shelly Salazar, CMC