

## **Council Meeting Minutes**

**January 28, 2025**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

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

### **ROLL CALL**

Present:

Councilman Rios, District 1

Councilman Pastor, District 2

Councilman Leetham, District 3

Vice Mayor Stapleton, District 4

Councilman Gonzalez, District 5

Councilman Shipley, District 6

Mayor Al Gameros

Quorum present.

### **INVOCATION**

The invocation was delivered by Gary Robinson.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Freddy Rios.

## **1. ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CITY OF GLOBE MUNICIPAL PROPERTY CORPORATION**

Vice Mayor Mike Stapleton, acting as President of the Corporation, called the Annual Meeting of the Municipal Property Corporation to order.

Current officers were noted as:

- President – Vice Mayor Stapleton
- Vice President – Councilman Rios
- Secretary – Councilman Gonzalez
- Treasurer – Mayor Gameros

MOTION: Mayor Gameros moved to maintain the same slate of officers for the coming year.

SECOND: Councilman Fernando Shipley

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

Direction was given to file the Annual Report.

City Manager Paul Jepson explained to the public that the Municipal Property Corporation is an economic development tool established approximately 15 years ago, requiring one annual meeting and annual filing. This allows the City to be prepared for future investment opportunities.

The Annual Meeting was adjourned by Vice Mayor Stapleton, and control of the meeting was returned to Mayor Gameros.

## **2. SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS**

Council Members

Councilman Mike Pastor: Noted the cold weather and encouraged residents to stay warm.

Councilman Jesse Leetham: No report.

Vice Mayor Stapleton reminded the public of First Friday events and reported on the first Coffee with the Mayor session, held at Copper City Coffee on the third Wednesday of the month. Three constituents attended.

Councilman Gonzalez praised Globe Police Department and Gila County Sheriff's Office for successfully apprehending suspects involved in recent burglaries.

Councilman Shipley reported attending a fundraising event at Bullion Plaza honoring Tom Foster's birthday. Shared historical contributions by Mr. Foster. Also offered personal remarks regarding the passing of his father-in-law, expressing gratitude for his family.

Councilman Rios apologized to Council for forgetting to wear formal attire but expressed appreciation for his colleagues.

Mayor Gameros recognized the closure of KIKO Radio after 66 years of service, highlighting contributions by JB, Liz Maza, Willie Powers, and especially Lucy Rodriguez. He announced attendance at Legislative Day at the State Capitol on Thursday, emphasizing the importance of protecting local government authority from state-level overreach. Mayor Gameros also announced the graduation of the "Guerrera" Program for Spanish-speaking entrepreneurs, scheduled for Friday at the Cobre Valley Center for the Arts, supported by Local First, Freeport-McMoRan, Town of Miami, City of Globe, and Gila Community College. Lastly Mayor noted the next "Coffee with the Mayor" will be held February 19th at 1:00

p.m. at Copper City Coffee.

City Manager Paul Jepson reported on the Connie's Bridge Project, noting overnight work may occur for several weeks to complete remediation and announced the employee survey deadline extended to January 31, with an 82% response rate to date. Results will be shared with Council at a future meeting. Mr. Jepson informed the Council and the public about the City's updated website (globeaz.gov), highlighting the improved functionality and user-friendliness.

### **3. COMMUNITY CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

No "Request to Speak" cards were submitted. No comments were received from the public online.

### **4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND CEREMONIAL MATTERS**

#### **A. Recognition of Retirement – Beth McCreary**

Police Chief Dale Walters presented a special recognition to Beth McCreary, honoring her thirty-seven years of dedicated service with the City of Globe Police Department. Chief Walters commended her commitment to law enforcement, her professionalism, and the lasting contributions she made to the safety and well-being of the Globe community. Council and staff expressed their gratitude, noting that her decades of service exemplified dedication to public duty and the highest standards of community care.

#### **B. Employee Recognition – Aubree Silverberg**

Museum Director Leana McGill recognized Aubree Silverberg, Museum Lead Clerk, for achieving five years of service with the City of Globe, effective January 14, 2020. Ms. McGill highlighted Aubree's consistent leadership and support in preserving Globe's historical and cultural resources through the City Museum. Council members extended their appreciation, emphasizing that preserving local history is an invaluable contribution to the community.

#### **C. Introduction of New Employee – Stephanie Chaidez**

City Manager Paul Jepson addressed the Council and asked that this item be tabled until the next meeting to allow Judge John Perlman to announce and introduce Ms. Chaidez.

#### **D. Introduction of New Employee – Gary Grimes**

City staff introduced Gary Grimes, who began his position as Building and Code Compliance Inspector on January 13, 2025. Mr. Grimes was welcomed to the

City team, and Council emphasized the vital role of code compliance in maintaining public safety, ensuring responsible development, and supporting the City's long-term growth.

#### E. Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Presentation

Mayor Gameros, together with Connie Callaway, provided a presentation and update on the City's Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant. The update highlighted the importance of this federally funded program in enhancing roadway safety, mitigating traffic hazards, and planning for long-term improvements to Globe's transportation infrastructure. Mayor Gameros noted that the grant will allow Globe to prioritize critical road safety initiatives and help protect both motorists and pedestrians.

### 5. CONSENT CALENDAR

Matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and enacted by one motion and one vote. Public Hearing items are designated with an asterisk (\*). Prior to consideration of the Consent Agenda, the Mayor asked whether any member of the public wished to remove a Public Hearing item for separate consideration. Members of the Council or staff may also remove items for separate consideration.

#### A. Consideration of Waiver of Section 2-4-10(A)

Waiver of prior discussion rule to allow action on the balance of the Consent Agenda.

##### 1. Accounts Payable – \$352,400.00

Discussion:

Councilman Leetham requested to pull Item A1 (Accounts Payable) for comment. Council approved the Consent Agenda minus Item A1.

**MOTION: Councilman Leetham moved to approve the Consent Agenda minus Item A1.**

**SECOND: Vice Mayor Stapleton**

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.**

Discussion on Item A1 (Accounts Payable):

Councilman Leetham expressed concern regarding recurring expenditures for First Friday events, specifically citing the cost of the ice-skating rink and climbing wall rentals (approximately \$15,000 annually). He suggested staff explore the

feasibility of purchasing these attractions as one-time capital investments through the City's CIP, rather than continuing annual rental expenses.

City Manager Paul Jepson responded:

The ice rink could be a viable purchase option for the City to consider in future budget planning. The rock wall may present liability issues and could be better left to third-party vendors. Both attractions are very popular, and staff will revisit this matter during budget allocations to determine cost savings potential.

Additional comment was provided that a local family with a hockey background had already expressed interest in partnering with the City to help fund and manage a larger, permanent ice rink. Preliminary costs and proposals have been reviewed.

**MOTION: Councilman Leetham moved to approve Item A1 (Accounts Payable) in the amount of \$352,400.**

**SECOND: Vice Mayor Stapleton**

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.**

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Fall Bed Tax Distribution – Globe-Miami Regional Chamber of Commerce Council considered approval of the Fall Bed Tax Distribution for the Globe-Miami Regional Chamber of Commerce for \$25,556.25 for the 1st and 2nd Quarter of FY2024-25, funded from Account #10-51-51900.

City Manager Paul Jepson explained the distribution reflects recent changes to the City's Bed Tax process. Instead of quarterly payments, distributions are now made semiannually (Fall and Spring). Additionally, allocations are now equal at 20% for each of the five organizations, rather than staggered as in prior years. Staff is finalizing the revised MOU with the Bed Tax organizations, which is anticipated to be completed before the next budget cycle.

**MOTION: Councilman Paston moved to approve Item 6A as presented, with waiver of prior discussion rules to allow immediate payment.**

**SECOND: Councilman Leetham**

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.**

B. Fall Bed Tax Distribution – Gila County Historical Society/Museum

Council considered approval of the Fall Bed Tax Distribution for the Gila County Historical Society/Museum in the amount of \$25,556.25 for the 1st and 2nd Quarter of FY2024-25, funded from Account #10-51-51925.

**MOTION: Councilman Shipley moved to approve Item 6B as presented, with waiver of prior discussion rules.**

**SECOND: Councilman Leetham**

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.**

**C. Resolution No. 1897 – Abandonment of Right-of-Way**

Council considered Resolution No. 1897 to approve the abandonment of approximately 1,755 square feet of City of Globe Right-of-Way located south of North Globe Street and east of North Byerly Street.

City Clerk Shelley Salazar read the resolution title into the record.

City Engineer Travis Ashbaugh presented the staff report, explaining the City determined this property was no longer needed for public use. All utilities were notified and raised no objections. Half the property will be conveyed to Kimble Hansen, and half to Living Waters Church, with an agreement for Hansen to consolidate the parcels. An easement will be retained for a sewer line at the northeast corner.

Applicant's Representative, Justin Redford, described plans to build a 2,100 sq. ft. home on the property, contributing to Globe's housing stock and neighborhood revitalization. Councilmembers expressed support, noting the community benefit of returning unused City property to private use.

**MOTION: Councilman Shipley moved to approve Resolution No. 1897 and waive prior discussion rules.**

**SECOND: Councilman Mariano Gonzalez**

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.**

**D. Presentation – 2025 Fee Schedule Update**

City Manager Paul Jepson presented the proposed 2025 Fee Schedule Update. He outlined the need for cost recovery, compliance with Arizona's Gift Clause, and alignment with peer cities. A comprehensive audit revealed that Globe currently recovers only 30% of its costs, leaving taxpayers to subsidize development.

Staff recommended updates across all departments and proposed review by four Council work groups: Infrastructure, Fiscal Sustainability, Quality of Life, and Public Safety. Council discussed the importance of public input, market comparisons, and consistent application across departments. Council agreed to begin review through the work groups, while immediately posting the trash fee

schedule previously discussed in December 2024.

**MOTION: Councilman Leetham moved to approve Item 6D by posting the trash fees as presented and referring all other fees to Council work groups for review.**

**SECOND: Councilman Fernando Shipley**

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.**

## **7. Action**

A. Consideration to accept Grant Award GO-24-466-5063 from Freeport-McMoRan for \$28,000 in support of the City of Globe Library's Food & Security Initiative; receive funds through Account No. 20-42-09054 and expend from Account No. 20-80-09054 for program implementation.

**Presenters:** Connie Callaway, Robin Bradford [Freeport-McMoRan], Rayel Starling

Staff and partners presented a new initiative aimed at reducing food insecurity and promoting healthy eating through hands-on workshops hosted by the Library. Programming will feature instruction in simple, nutritious recipes using crock pots and Instant Pots. Participating families will receive a crock pot, an Instant Pot, and practical healthy-living recipes. Freeport-McMoRan presented a check for \$28,000 and emphasized the value of the City's partnership and the program's focus on nutrition, access, and equity. Council expressed appreciation to Freeport-McMoRan for continued community investment and recognized staff efforts (including Rael) in assembling the grant and budget under time pressure.

**MOTION by Councilman Leetham to accept Grant Award GO-24-466-5063 from Freeport-McMoRan in the amount of \$28,000; to receive the funds into Account No. 20-42-09054 and authorize expenditures from Account No. 20-80-09054 for Library Food & Security Initiative programming.**

**SECOND: Councilman Pastor**

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.**

B. Discussion and possible consideration to approve Contract No. CS-225-0137 with Cactus Asphalt, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$49,760 using cooperative language in JOC 234128ROQ with Pinal County to perform striping at the intersection of Hill, Maple, and Southerland Streets; funding from Account No. 12-80-51290 (Excise Tax – Street Repair Materials); approval pending final legal review.

Presenter: Travis Ashbaugh Assistant Public Works Director.

Staff Recommendation: **Continue** the item to the next available Council meeting pending legal review, but proceed with an informational presentation.

Presentation Highlights: • Thermoplastic striping with reflective glass beads at marked locations.

- Rumble strips in advance of stop conditions; 'STOP AHEAD' pavement legends.
- Solar-powered flashing red stop signs and flashing yellow 'STOP AHEAD' signs.
- Existing three-way stop to remain; pedestrian crosswalk across Maple to remain.
- Anticipated future transit stop will rely on the existing crosswalk for access.

Council Discussion Highlights: • Parking behavior near the intersection and potential expansion of red zones for clearance.

- Recent and ongoing enforcement actions by Globe PD to address obstructive parking.
- Signage upgrades (including reflective treatments and breakaway posts) are underway.
- General observation that on-site parking supply appears adequate; time-limited parking discussed previously but not pursued at this time.

**MOTION by Councilman Leetham to move Item 7B forward to the next available Council meeting for action following completion of legal review.**

**SECONDED by Councilman Pastor**

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.**

**C.** Discussion and consideration to increase the City's procurement authorization to \$2,000,000 for Job Order Contracting (JOC) construction services pursuant to A.R.S. Title 34 and to approve Contract No. CS-225-0127 with Apache Underground to complete the Fairgrounds 12-inch waterline replacement utilizing a cooperative contract between Apache Underground and the Pine-Strawberry Water Improvement District in the amount of \$1,471,585; funds from Account No. 508-5416 with reimbursement from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 595 Grant; authorize the City Manager to sign all related documents.

Presenter: Travis Ashbaugh Assistant Public Works Director

Background & Discussion: • The City previously secured federal 595 funding (approx. \$2.1M with a \$700k match; total \$2.8M) for water utility improvements



via direct congressional spending.

- The project segment (approx. 1.5 miles) is shown in orange on the staff map; work to be performed by Apache Underground under the JOC.
- USACE environmental assessment is required; estimated 3–4 months. Construction will not commence until USACE clearance is complete.
- Staff is coordinating to redirect a portion of funds to support an emergency well rehabilitation/re-drill; preliminary federal concurrence received, with a courtesy confirmation requested from Congressman Crane's office.
- Material upgrade to ductile iron pipe increases durability and service life (estimated ~3×) at an added cost of approximately \$440,000 across the project; Council supported the long-term investment.
- Staff confirmed the funding is secure and unaffected by recent federal budget freeze memos; updates to be provided to Council as circumstances evolve.

**MOTION by Councilman Leetham to increase the City's procurement authorization to \$2,000,000 for JOC construction services pursuant to A.R.S. Title 34; approve Contract No. CS-225-0127 with Apache Underground in the amount of \$1,471,585 for the Fairgrounds 12-inch waterline replacement utilizing the cooperative contract with the Pine-Strawberry Water Improvement District; authorize expenditures from Account No. 508-5416 with reimbursement from the USACE 595 Grant; and authorize the City Manager to sign all related documents.**

**SECONDED by Councilman Fernando Shipley**

**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.**

## **8. LATE AGENDA ITEMS:**

**A.** Consideration to approve PS-225-D138, engagement letter with Colby & Powell, PLC for the FY2023 Financial Audit and Annual Expenditure Limitation Report; funded through Account No. 10-55-51234.

Presenter: Paul Jepson

Discussion Highlights: • Fieldwork week of February 11 [year to be confirmed] at City Hall; second audit with current team.

- Goal is to complete FY2023 audit ahead of the upcoming budget cycle, then commence FY2024 to bring audits current.
- Funding account code corrected on the record to [10-50-D-51224]\* (Mayor & Council budget).

**MOTION by Councilman Leetham to approve PS-225-D138 (Colby & Powell, PLC) for the FY2023 audit and AELR as read, with the correction to funding Account No. 10-50-51234.**

**SECONDED by Vice Mayor Stapleton**  
**VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.**

**9. CALL TO THE PUBLIC:**

**10. SCHEDULING OF MEETINGS:**

**11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

Mayor: Update on the Federal freeze and what's going on.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion by Councilman Leetham to adjourn.**  
**Seconded by Councilman Shipley**  
**Motion adjourned.**

I, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the January 28, 2025 City of Globe County Meeting minutes and the meeting was duly called and a quorum of the Globe City Council was present.

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Shelly Salazar, City Clerk