City of Globe, Arizona

City Council Regular Meeting
April 22, 2025 – 6:00 PM

City Council Chambers

Call to Order
Mayor Al Gameros called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Roll Call
City Clerk Shelly Salazar conducted roll call.

Present:
District 2 – Councilman Mike Pastor
District 3 – Councilman Jesse Leetham
District 4 – Vice Mayor Mike Stapleton
District 5 – Councilman Mariano Gonzalez
District 6 – Councilman Fernando Shipley
Mayor Al Gameros

Absent:
District 1 – Councilman Freddy Rios (Excused)

A quorum was present.

Invocation
Chief Gary Robinson delivered the invocation, offering a prayer of gratitude for the evening, for those who serve the community, and for guidance and productivity during the Council's deliberations. He also asked for blessings upon community members in distress.

Pledge of Allegiance
Mayor Gameros led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. **SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS BY MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS**

Councilman Pastor reported that Globe High School Coach Frank Grice expressed appreciation for the city's work at the GHS softball field.

Councilman Leetham – No report.

Vice Mayor Stapleton reported on Coffee with the Mayor, Hill Street Apartments ribbon-cutting, and the community cleanup with about 90 participants. Noted First Friday activities and thanked the Globe Police Department.

Councilman Gonzalez thanked City staff for their efforts and behind-the-scenes support with city and community projects.

Councilman Shipley shared that Gila County Community College was approved to offer a self-accredited nursing program. He also attended the Resolution Copper economic forum.

Mayor Gameros announced Old Dominion Days (April 24–27) and requested a moment of silence for the passing of Pope Francis.

City Manager Report

City Manager Paul Jepson noted ongoing budget work and emphasized the importance of resolving agenda items during the current meeting.

2. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

JP Perry and Victoria Perry thanked the City for the Connie's Bridge project and expressed concerns about drivers not stopping at the nearby intersection. They suggested reinstating stop signage or installing a four-way stop.

Victoria Perry added that residents backing out of driveways face danger due to oncoming traffic.

They announced a May 15 memorial event at 11:00 AM for Gila County First Responders behind the Chamber of Commerce at the County Museum. A monument dedication and lunch will be included.

3. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND CEREMONIAL MATTERS:

A. Presentation of Proclamation proclaiming May 10, 2025, as National Association of Letter Carriers Food Drive Day on behalf of the Globe City Council. (Mayor Gameros)

Mayor Gameros presented a proclamation proclaiming May 10, 2025, as National Association of Letter Carriers Food Drive Day on behalf of the Globe City Council.

The proclamation recognized that the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) Branch 704 represents letter carriers in Tucson and southern Arizona, and the long-standing partnership of NALC Branch 704, the U.S. Postal Service, and local food banks over the past 17 years. The national food drive's 33rd anniversary, first initiated in 1991, is to support food banks, pantries, and shelters across the country.

Citizens were encouraged to leave food donations by their mailboxes on Saturday, May 10, 2025, for pickup by letter carriers.

Although no postal representatives were present, the proclamation will be delivered to the post office.

Item 3B: Proclamation – National Firefighters Day

Mayor Gameros read a proclamation declaring May 2, 2025 as National Firefighters Day.

The proclamation emphasized recognition of firefighters and emergency services personnel who sacrifice their lives in service, an annual memorial held by the U.S. Congress and President, with flags lowered to half-staff. - The importance of reducing injuries, deaths, and property loss from fire.

The Mayor called upon all citizens, organizations, and institutions to participate in “Bells Across America for Fallen Firefighters” and to show support by lowering flags and illuminating buildings with red lights on May 2nd.

Mr. and Mrs. Rob and Judy Besee received the proclamation and shared their upcoming participation at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Mr. Bett will serve as an escort for a survivor's family. Councilmembers discussed the solemnity of the memorial and local opportunities to participate in ceremonies, bell ringing, and lighting initiatives.

Item 3C: Presentation – Healthy Families, Child and Family Resources

Presenter: Ms. Kiana Thompson, Program Supervisor, Child and Family Resources.

Ms. Thompson presented an overview of the Healthy Families program, which has been operating in Gila County for nearly three years, providing in-home visitation services for at-risk families and new parents.

Key highlights included:
Mission & Vision: To build strong communities where children thrive and reach their potential.
Services Offered: Home visitation for expecting parents and families with infants under 3 months, ongoing support up to five years, curriculum-based guidance, car seats, diapers, developmental screenings, and referrals.
Partnerships: Local pediatricians, Cobre Valley Regional Medical Center, Globe-Miami Library, Town of Miami, San Carlos Apache Healthcare, WIC, Copper Basin Coalition, and others.
Community Engagement: Quarterly parent nights, family group connections, and “mystery activity boxes.”

Councilmembers asked about program eligibility, car seat installation certification, and contact information. Ms. Thompson confirmed that the services are state-funded, voluntary, free of charge, and open to pregnant mothers, new parents, or guardians with infants under three months old.

Item 3D: APS Fire Mitigation & Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) Presentation

Presenter: Mr. Scott Bordon-Kercher, APS Director of Forestry & Fire Mitigation.

Mr. Bordon-Kercher presented APS's five pillars of fire mitigation:
1. Vegetation Management – Right-of-way clearance, defensible space, and tree removal.
2. Grid Hardening – Replacing wooden poles with steel, pole wrapping, and upgrading spark-prone equipment.
3. Asset Inspections – Annual inspections in high-risk areas using drones, helicopters, and infrared technology.
4. Monitoring & Awareness – Use of meteorologists, AI fire-detection cameras, fire modeling software, and weather stations.
5. Operational Mitigation – Adjusting work schedules, equipment settings, and protocols during red flag conditions.

The new Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) program was explained as a last-resort safety tool. Customers will be notified four days in advance, with follow-up alerts daily. Special outreach will target medically vulnerable residents. APS confirmed mailers would be sent in April and a community town hall scheduled for early May.

Item 3E: Firewise Presentation

Presenter: Fire Chief Gary Robinson.

Chief Robinson outlined steps for Globe to pursue recognition as a Firewise Community:
Grassroots Model: Firewise designations are neighborhood-driven, with volunteer leadership and local boards.
Assessment: Requires wildfire risk assessments of infrastructure, access, fuels, and individual properties.
Plan Development: A 3-year action plan must be created and maintained.
Implementation & Reporting: A minimum of one volunteer hour per household per year is required.

Council members discussed the impacts of insurance, wildfire risks, and the importance of community participation. Consensus was reached that Globe should explore initiating neighborhood-level Firewise efforts in partnership with the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management.

Item 3F: Presentation (Tabled)

The scheduled presentation from Laoya was tabled to a future meeting.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR: Matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. Public hearing items are designated with an asterisk (*). Prior to consideration of the Consent Agenda, the Mayor invited the public to request the removal of any item for separate consideration. Members of the Council and/or staff also had the opportunity to request that any item be pulled for discussion.

No requests to remove items were received from the public, Council, or staff.

Items on the Consent Agenda included:

A: Consideration of waiver of Section 2-4-10(A), the prior discussion rule, to allow action on the balance of the Consent Agenda.

1. Accounts Payable in the amount of $641,500.67

B: Under $25K Report.

C: Consideration to approve the fall Bed Tax distribution request for the Southern Gila County Economic Development Corporation (SGCEDC) for the 1st and 2nd quarters of FY 2024–2025 in the amount of $25,556.25, funded from Account No. 10-51-51910 (General Fund – Community Organization: SGCEDC).

D: Consideration to approve the fall Bed Tax distribution request for the Cobre Valley Center for the Arts for the 1st and 2nd quarters of FY 2024–2025 in the amount of $25,556.25, funded from Account No. 10-51-51920 (General Fund – Community Organization: Cobre Center for the Arts).

E: Consideration to approve the fall Bed Tax distribution request for the Globe Downtown Association for the 1st and 2nd quarters of FY 2024–2025 in the amount of $25,556.25, funded from Account No. 10-51-51915 (General Fund – Community Organization: Globe Downtown Association).

Motion by Councilman Pastor.
Seconded by Vice Mayor Stapleton.
Motion to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Consideration of City Council Resolution No. 1902 to grant approximately ± 516 square feet, for a public sidewalk easement, on Gila

County, Arizona, Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 207-15-105B. (Travis Ashbaugh)

City Clerk Shelly Salazar read Resolution No. 1902 into the record: “A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Globe, Gila County, Arizona, accepting a public sidewalk easement from Washington Federal Bank, Parcel Number 207-15-105B, to the City of Globe and authorizing the execution and recording of said resolution within the city limits of the City of Globe, Gila County, Arizona pursuant to applicable Arizona Revised Statutes.”

Staff explained that the sidewalk easement is being granted as part of the plan review process for the redevelopment of the property on Blake Street. The easement will allow pedestrian sidewalk continuity and improve safety along the curve at the Blake Street frontage of the property. The facility is being entirely demolished, and the easement will provide additional sidewalk access without altering existing city maintenance responsibilities, which are already covered under an existing IGA with ADOT.

Council inquired about the demolition of the rear structure, access point functionality, and the drainage area. Staff clarified that while the rear building is not part of the demolition, the easement supports improved pedestrian access and safety. It was also confirmed that both access points—Highway 60 and Blake Street—will function as combined entrance and exit access.

MOTION: Councilman Shipley moved to approve Resolution No. 1902 as read.
SECOND: Councilman Pastor
VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

B. Discussion and possible approval of Contract No. CS-2025-0160 with Weber Water Resources, for $115,637.00, for the City of Globe Well Four (4) Pump Replacement, funded through #50-80-52001 and direct the City Manager to make a line-item adjustment within the Water Department budget from #50-80-53002 "Capital Projects Reserve" to #50-80-52001 "Well/Pump Repair" line item in the amount of $100,000.00. This is funding that was set aside for unanticipated projects in the FY24-25 budget and is not part of the 20% operational undesignated contingency still reserved in #50-80-53000. The balance in the Capital Project Reserve will be $267,710.00. The balance in undesignated contingency will remain $435,512.00. (Vince Mariscal)

Assistant Public Works Director Vince Mariscal presented background on the proposed emergency pump replacement for City Well No. 4. Contract No. CS-2025-160 with Weber Water Resources is for $115,637 and is intended as a temporary solution to extend the service life of Well No. 4 by 2–3 years.

Mr. Jepson emphasized that while the long-term solution is to drill a new well, this expenditure will bridge the gap until funding becomes available. The proposed action includes a line-item adjustment to transfer $100,000 from Capital Projects Reserve (Account 50-80-530002) to Well Pump Repair (Account 50-80-520001). The remaining balances will be: $267,710 in the Capital Project Reserve and $435,512 in undesignated contingency.

Mr. Mariscal explained the history of Well No. 4's deterioration. Following routine maintenance in 2020, flow inconsistencies and sand intrusion resulted in a decline in performance. As of late 2024, the pump failed due to sand abrasion, and a video inspection revealed a structural tear in the well casing that allows significant sediment intrusion.

The temporary pump replacement will include installation at a depth of 900 feet, integration of a Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) for flow modulation, and is expected to restore up to 300 GPM (down from the previous 500 GPM capacity).

Council members inquired about well capacities, redundancy, interconnects with Arizona Water, the timeline for procuring new wells, and the impact on water system reliability. Staff confirmed that Well No. 3 has returned to service and, along with Wells Nos. 2 and 5, is meeting current demand. However, the replacement pump is necessary to avoid vulnerability during peak summer demand.

It was further clarified that the funding comes solely from water enterprise funds and does not affect the City's general fund or operating contingency.

MOTION: Councilman Gonzalez moved to approve Contract No. CS-2025-160 with Weber Water Resources for $115,637, including the transfer of $100,000 from Capital Projects Reserve to the Well Pump Repair line item, and to waive the prior discussion rule.
SECOND: Vice Mayor Stapleton

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

6. ACTION ITEMS:

A. Consideration to approve Contract #PS-2025-0162 with GH2 Architects for $113,500.00 plus 18% contingency for a total amount not to exceed $133,930.00 for the Michaelson Building Renovation Project Design to be funded through City of Globe General Fund Account #10-66-52200 Capital Outlay - Construction - Economic and Community Development contingent on final approval of the City Attorney. (Paul Jepson)

City Manager Paul Jepson provided background on the City's partnership with Gila County for the Michaelson Building renovation, a business incubator project. The City is serving as the point of contact for hiring GH2 Architects under Contract No. PS-2025-0162 for $113,500, plus an 18% contingency, for a total not to exceed $133,930. Funding is through General Fund Account #10-66-5220 (Capital Outlay – Economic and Community Development).

Joseph Dickinson, Gila County Director of Infrastructure, announced that interior demolition and abatement by Southwest Hazard Control will commence on May 5. The design phase will develop biddable construction plans in collaboration with both the City and County.

MOTION: Councilman Pastor moved to approve Contract No. PS-2025-0162 with GH2 Architects for an amount not to exceed $133,930 and to waive the prior discussion rule.
SECOND: Councilman Gonzalez
VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

B. Discussion and review of recommendations by the Council Bed Tax Workgroup on proposed modifications of the City of Globe Bed Tax Agreement for the distribution of additional collected transient lodging tax dollars to the five Bed Tax Organizations and direction to move the Bed Tax Agreement forward for final approval at the next available meeting of Council. (Paul Jepson)

City Manager Jepson presented recommendations from the Bed Tax Work Group, including a revised three-year agreement outlining fiscal responsibility, capacity building, strategic planning, quarterly reporting, and an annual cap of

$250,000 for total distribution. The revised agreement reflects strong collaboration between the City and the five-bed tax organizations.

Council discussed the importance of succession planning, nonprofit stability, clearer expectations, and stronger Council liaison roles to ensure accountability and growth.

MOTION: Councilman Pastor moved to approve the revised Bed Tax Agreement with the stipulations presented by the City Manager.
SECOND: Councilman Leetham
VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

C. **PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 1904, ADOPTING 2025 FEE SCHEDULE UPDATE AND SANITATION COLLECTION RATES.**

Mayor Gameros opened the public hearing. No public comments were submitted in person or online. The hearing was closed.

City Clerk Shelly Salazar read Resolution No. 1904 by title.

Staff explained the fee update supports increased cost recovery (goal of 70%) while avoiding increases to property taxes. Council members emphasized the importance of sustainable funding mechanisms and highlighted the extensive public process behind the development of the fee.

MOTION: Councilman Gonzalez moved to adopt Resolution No. 1904 as read, adopting the 2025 Fee Schedule Update.
SECOND: Vice Mayor Stapleton
VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

D. Consideration to approve Contract #PS-2025-0159 with Living Street Alliance for the amount of $55,929.79, which will be funded by the Safe Streets Department of Transportation Grant #23-61-49854 and through Account #12-80-52200 Capital Outlay-Construction and Authority to exceed the threshold for requiring Competitive Solicitation of $50,000.00. (Connie Callaway)

Connie Callaway presented the recommendation to approve Contract No. PS-2025-0159 with Living Street Alliance for $55,929.79 to lead community engagement under the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) federal grant. Funding is from the Department of Transportation Grant #236149854 and Account #12-80-522000.

Living Street Alliance will lead public engagement, data collection, and support implementation planning. The contract exceeds the $50,000 competitive solicitation threshold but was awarded through a competitive bidding process.

MOTION: Councilman Leetham moved to approve Contract No. PS-2025-0159 with Living Street Alliance in the amount of $55,929.79.
SECOND: Councilman Pastor
VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

E. Consideration to approve Ordinance No. 890 amending Article 3 of the City of Globe Purchasing Code for Goods and Services to increase the threshold requiring the use of Competitive Solicitation from $50,000 to $125,000 (Section 3-5-15(d)) and (Section 3-5-16), and increases the threshold requiring Statement of Qualifications Solicitation from $50,000 to $125,000 for Professional Services Contracts (Section 3-5-23(d)).

City Clerk Shelly Salazar read Ordinance No. 890 by title.

City Manager Jepson presented the proposed amendment to increase the purchasing threshold requiring competitive solicitation and statements of qualification from $50,000 to $125,000 for goods and services and professional services.

The change reflects current market conditions, project timelines, and administrative efficiencies.

MOTION: Councilman Gonzalez moved to adopt Ordinance No. 890 amending Municipal Code sections 3-5-15(D), 3-5-16, and 3-5-23(D) as presented.
SECOND: Vice Mayor Stapleton
VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

F. Discussion and consideration of giving additional direction to Staff on the Interview Selection process for the Historical Preservation Advisory Commission. (Paul Jepson)

City Manager Jepson introduced proposed changes to the committee appointment process, emphasizing early vetting and alignment with Council goals. Council discussed using executive sessions for applicant review, followed by public interviews and final selection at subsequent meetings.

Some members expressed concern over complexity, suggesting alternatives such as a Council subcommittee or improved application forms. Staff will return with revised procedures for formal consideration—no action taken.

7. LATE AGENDA ITEMS:

None

8. CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

9. SCHEDULING OF MEETINGS:

Due to the May 26 Memorial Day Holiday, Staff is requesting the May 27 meeting be moved to Wednesday, May 20, 2025.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

11. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Councilman Mike Pastor to adjourn the meeting at 9:01 P.M.
Seconded by Vice Mayor Stapleton
Vote: The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 P.M.

I, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the April 22, 2025 Meeting Minutes and the meeting was duly called and a quorum of the Council was present.

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Shelly Salazar, CMC
City Clerk