



City of Apache Junction, Arizona

Meeting Minutes City Council Meeting

Meeting location:

City Council Chambers
at City Hall
300 E. Superstition Blvd
Apache Junction, AZ
85119

apachejunctionaz.gov
Ph: (480) 982-8002

*Doors are open to the public at least 15 minutes prior to the
posted meeting start time.*

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

7:00 PM

City Council Chambers

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

B. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Heck gave the invocation and Councilmember Soller led the meeting attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. ROLL CALL

Staff in Attendance:

Bryant Powell, City Manager
Matt Busby, Assistant City Manager
Evie McKinney, City Clerk
Joel Stern, City Attorney
Michael Pooley, Police Chief
Liz Langenbach, Parks & Recreation Director
Ryan Kaup, Economic Development Director
Amy Greening, Deputy City Clerk
Keith Gabriel, Police Officer
Sidney Urias, Planning Manager
Adrian Alegria Building Safety Manager/Building Official
Nicholas Leftwich, Planner
Rob Wisler, Management Analyst
Eli Richardson, Management Analyst
Riley King, Management Analyst
Jody Dutra, Recreation Coordinator
Leslie Castillo, Senior Permit Technician

D. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Nesser moved, seconded by Councilmember Soller to approve the Consent Agenda and authorize City Engineer Emile Schmidt to execute the agreement with Flying Bull Internet, LLC, as listed under Item #3.

Yes: 7 - Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Schroeder, Councilmember Nesser, Councilmember Heck, Councilmember Johnson, Councilmember Cross and Councilmember Soller

No: 0

1. [25-142](#) Consideration of acceptance of agenda.
2. [25-143](#) Consideration of approval of minutes of the regular meeting of April 15, 2025.
3. [25-187](#) Consideration of approval of a Telecommunications License Agreement between Flying Bull Internet, LLC (dba Novos Fiber) and the City of Apache Junction.

E. AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

4. [25-140](#) Proclamation designating May 2025 as "Building Safety Month."

Mayor Wilson read the Proclamation designating May 2025, as "Building Safety Month." He presented it to Building and Safety Manager Adrian Alegria. Mr. Alegria gave an update on the Building Safety Month Expo that was hosted by the City on May 3, 2025 and thanked the Mayor and Council for their support.
5. [25-213](#) Proclamation designating the week of May 4 - 10, 2025, as "Professional Municipal Clerks Week."

Mayor Wilson read the proclamation designating the week of May 4 through May 10, 2025, as "Professional Municipal Clerks Week." He presented it to City Clerk Evie McKinney. She presented "fun" facts about the City Clerk profession and introduced the Clerks office staff. She also invited the Mayor, Council and the Public to a Meet and Greet at the Clerk's Office on May 8, 2025 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
6. [25-194](#) Presentation of proclamation recognizing May 17, 2025 as Kids to Parks Day.

Mayor Wilson read the proclamation designating May 17, 2025, as "Kids to Parks Day." He presented it to Recreation Superintendent Jamie Sullivan. She spoke of the importance of this day and the vital role that parks play in childhood.

F. REGIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL UPDATES

7. [25-144](#) Brief summary of intergovernmental updates from mayor and councilmembers.

Councilmember Cross attended the Central Arizona Project (CAP) annual dinner meeting. They discussed the concerns with CAP water due to a lack of rain fall last year. He encouraged the public to speak to their representatives to help come up with a solution to serve everyone.

Councilmember Soller also encouraged the public to speak to their representatives regarding CAP water. He also announced that May 15, 2025, is the National Peace Officers Memorial in Washington D.C. He asked the public to keep law enforcement in their thoughts and prayers.

Councilmember Nesser stated the Arizona League of Cities and Towns have selected her to represent Apache Junction on the Public Safety, Military Affairs, and Court Policy Committee.

Mayor Wilson attended the following events and shared highlights from each of them:

Apache Junction Water Festival

Lost Dutchman Days Marathon Awards

Banner Health Recognition of Volunteers

East Valley Mayors Prayer Breakfast

Central Arizona Project (CAP) annual dinner meeting

Building Safety Month Expo

Mesa State of the City

G. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

8. [25-145](#) City Manager's Report

City Manager Bryant Powell shared photos from the Building Safety Month Expo and thanked Development Services Staff for their efforts. He spotlighted Lesley Castillo for putting together such a great event.

Mr. Powell thanked Staff for their involvement in the Lost Dutchman Marathon and shared a photo from their awards presentation. He shared statistics for the Easter Egg Hunt this year and thanked Parks and Recreation for their hard work.

Mr. Powell recognized Kimberly Wilson and Code Compliance Staff for their help with multiple inoperable vehicles and supporting a clean, safe community.

Mr. Powell stated the household hazardous waste event was a success with well over 200 community members participating. He also shared the new neighborhood Radiance celebrated their one-year anniversary with a big party.

9. [25-219](#) Presentation and update on the Youth Advisory Council.

Recreation Coordinator Jody Dutra presented the history of the Youth Advisory Council (YAC). She introduced the members of YAC and they presented the year end review. They took turns sharing photos and information about events they have participated in over the last year. The graduating seniors of YAC were honored by the City and the VFW. They were each presented with a plaque from Irene Nowack of VFW #9399 and Heather Lyn of VFW #7968.

10. [25-220](#) Economic Development update with director, Ryan Kaup.

Economic Development Director Ryan Kaup presented an update on the department. This included a demographic overview for the City, East Valley build out percentage, the increase in single family permits, housing affordability, US-60 momentum and the downtown redevelopment. Mr. Kaup also stated his goals for the future with the department.

Councilmember concerns included multifamily apartment complexes in the downtown area, converting commercial properties to residential, the size of downtown, and a possible location

for a data center. Mr. Kaup responded to concerns.

11. [25-146](#) Announcement of Current Events.

Management Analyst Eli Richardson shared an upcoming event:

- Free Dump Week: May 5 - 10, 2025, 6:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at Apache Junction Landfill, 4050 S. Tomahawk Rd, Apache Junction. Please visit <https://www.apachejunctionaz.gov/> for more information.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

I. OLD BUSINESS

J. NEW BUSINESS

K. COUNCIL DIRECTION TO STAFF

12. [25-216](#) Direction to staff for a text amendment of the Apache Junction City Code, Vol. I, Chapter 8: Business regulations concerning fortune telling businesses and the permit fees prescribed for them.

Councilmember Johnson moved, seconded by Councilmember Cross that direction to staff be given to review and consider updates to the Apache Junction City Code, Volume 1, Chapter 8: Business: regulations concerning fortune telling businesses and the permit fees prescribed for them.

Yes: 7 - Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Schroeder, Councilmember Nesser, Councilmember Heck, Councilmember Johnson, Councilmember Cross and Councilmember Soller

No: 0

Planner Nick Leftwich presented a recap regarding fortune telling businesses and the permit fees prescribed to them in the Apache Junction City Code, Volume 1, Chapter 8: Business. Following the April 24, 2025, City Council discussion, Planning Staff coordinated with the Police Department and confirmed city policies and procedures for the business license staff reviews of fortune telling businesses. There was a question raised regarding whether the \$1,200 permit fee is necessary and if it is to be used for background checks, but it was found that no background checks are performed for these businesses. The Police Department noted they would need explicit authority from the City Code to conduct background checks, as is required by the code for specific other business types, such as sexually oriented businesses or liquor licenses. In the absence of such a requirement and practice staff finds no need for the city to continue charging an annual \$1,200 fee in addition to standard business licensing costs.

Planning staff recommends a Direction to Staff to initiate a code amendment to the Apache Junction City Code, Vol. I, Chapter 8: Business, § 8-1-1 Definitions and §8-2-7 Permits; Fees to remove the \$1,200 permit and fee for fortune telling businesses.

Councilmember concerns included the permit fee for circus and carnivals and the reason for the background checks.

City Attorney Joel Stern explained the permit fee for circuses and carnivals would have to be

added to a future meeting agenda. This agenda item is only for fortune telling businesses.

L. SELECTION OF MEETING DATES, TIMES, LOCATIONS, AND PURPOSES

M. CALL TO PUBLIC

Donna Carr, 2178 W. Virginia Street, Apache Junction, encouraged the community to attend the Pinal County Zoning Board meeting and oppose construction for a solar development project.

Catherine Meek, 1327 S. Belair Road, Apache Junction, expressed her love of the community and shared her concern for the potential of apartments downtown.

Andre Meek, 1327 S. Belair Road, Apache Junction, shared his experience at the Building Safety Expo and suggestions for next year.

N. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Wilson adjourned the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

ACCEPTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2025, BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF APACHE JUNCTION, ARIZONA.

SIGNED AND ATTESTED TO THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2025.

WALTER "CHIP" WILSON
Mayor

ATTEST:

EVIE MCKINNEY
City Clerk