

COUNCIL MINUTES

March 9, 2026

The City Council of the City of Mesa met in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 20 East Main Street, on March 9, 2026, at 5:47 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mark Freeman
Scott Somers
Jennifer Duff
Alicia Goforth
Francisco Heredia
Dorean Taylor

COUNCIL ABSENT

Rich Adams

OFFICERS PRESENT

Scott Butler
Holly Moseley
Jim Smith

Mayor's Welcome.

Mayor Freeman conducted a roll call.

Mayor Freeman excused Councilmember Adams from the entire meeting.

Invocation by Pastor Jose Luis Amaya at Iglesia de Cristo Elim Betel Church

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Boy Scout Troop 484.

There were no awards, recognitions, or announcements.

1. Take action on all consent agenda items.

All items listed with an asterisk (*) will be considered as a group by the City Council and will be enacted with one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Councilmember or citizen requests, in which event the item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered as a separate item. If a citizen wants an item removed from the consent agenda, a request must be made prior to the Council's vote on the consent agenda.

It was moved by Councilmember Heredia, seconded by Councilmember Duff, that the consent agenda items be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Freeman–Somers–Duff–Goforth–Heredia–Taylor
NAYS – None
ABSENT – Adams

Mayor Freeman declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

*2. Approval of minutes of previous meetings as written.

Amended minutes from the Regular Council meeting held on December 8, 2025; minutes from the Study Sessions held on January 15, and January 26, 2026; and the Regular Council meeting held on February 23, 2026.

3. Take action on the following liquor license application:

*3-a. Zax Cigar Bar

A cigar bar is requesting a new Series 7 Beer & Wine Bar License for Jakub LLC, 7310 East Main Street - Zachary Ryan Jakubowski, agent. There is no existing license at this location. **(District 2)**

4. Take action on the following contracts:

*4-a. Dollar Limit Increase to the Term Contract for Landscape Maintenance Services for City Facilities (Zone 7) for the Facilities Management Department. **(Council Districts 1, 2, 5, and 6)**

A dollar limit increase is needed to add landscape maintenance and exterior grounds cleaning services to the new Gateway Library. This contract provides landscape maintenance services for various City facilities. Facilities Management has divided their landscaping needs into geographic zones. Zone 7 is the area east of Val Vista Road and contains 15 City-owned facilities.

The Facilities Management Department and Procurement Services recommend increasing the dollar limit with Mariposa Landscape Arizona, Inc. by \$75,757.97, from \$549,404.45 in an amount not to exceed \$625,162.42, through 9/30/2026.

*4-b. See: **Items not on the Consent Agenda**

*4-c. See: **Items not on the Consent Agenda**

*4-d. Three-Year Term Contract with Two-Year Renewal Options for Traffic Signal Loop Detection Installation Services for the Transportation Department. (Single Response). **(Citywide)**

This contract is for the installation of traffic signal in-pavement inductive loop detectors. Traffic signal loop detectors are used at signalized intersections to detect the presence of cars, trucks and bicycles. The contract will be used for maintenance purposes to replace existing detectors that are defective and for the installation of new detectors. This is funded through the Transportation Department Operating Budget using Local Street Sales Tax Fund.

The Transportation Department and Procurement Services recommend awarding the contract to the single, responsive, and responsible bidder, Kimbrell Electric, in an amount not to exceed \$143,750 annually, with an annual increase allowance of up to 5% or the adjusted Consumer Price Index.

- *4-e. Three-Year Term Use of a Cooperative Contract for Pavement Management Services for the Transportation Department. **(Citywide)**

The Transportation Department is leveraging advancements in pavement management technology and software to transition to a more robust system for data collection, analysis, and decision making. These improvements will enable Transportation to establish long-term forecasting projections and the flexibility to adjust them depending on the need, budget, and direction of the City.

This contract provides a full-service pavement and assessment management consultant to collect pavement performance data using laser-based automated technologies to determine the Pavement Condition Index (PCI). The data will be analyzed using a Budget Optimization Street Selector (BOSS) system, a third-party pavement management software. The resulting PCI assessment will support annual forecasting treatments for pavement preservation and the street overlay program. The contract includes pavement condition assessments for residential, arterial and collector roadways, as well as the implementation fee and annual web license fees for the BOSS system. This is funded through the Transportation Department's operating budget, using either the Local Street Sales Tax (LSST) or the Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF).

The Transportation Department and Procurement Services recommend authorizing the purchase using the Houston - Galveston Area Council (HGACBuy) cooperative contract with Roadway Asset Services, LLC, in amounts not to exceed \$173,200 for Year 1, \$87,450 for Year 2, and \$156,950 for Year 3, based on estimated requirements.

- *4-f. See: **Items not on the Consent Agenda**

5. Take action on the following resolutions:

- *5-a. See: **Items not on the Consent Agenda**

- *5-b. See: **Items not on the Consent Agenda**

6. Introduction of the following ordinance and setting March 23, 2026 as the date of the public hearing on this ordinance:

- *6-a. See: **Items not on the Consent Agenda**

7. Discuss, receive public comment, and take action on the following ordinance:

- *7-a. See: **Items not on the Consent Agenda**

Items not on the Consent Agenda

- 4-b. Dollar Limit Increase to the Term Contract for Safety and Medical Supplies for the Mesa Police and Public Safety Support Departments. **(Citywide)**

The Mesa Police and Public Safety Support Departments require a continuous supply of miscellaneous safety and medical supplies such as gloves, sanitary wipes, safety glasses, face masks, and bio-hazard materials that are essential for maintaining sanitary practices and taking precaution against the spread of hazards and disease. In the past, this contract was primarily used to purchase miscellaneous safety and medical supplies for use in the field, but the contract also includes safety equipment such as ballistic

helmets, shields, tactical respirators, and other specialized officer safety equipment. A dollar limit increase is needed to purchase ballistic shields for all districts, tactical respirators for Special Ops, ballistic helmets for FY27 Life Cycle Replacement, miscellaneous contract purchases, and PPE safety and medical supplies. Increasing the contract threshold will ensure Mesa Police can procure essential safety equipment for their officers in a timely and efficient manner. Mesa Police compared quotes from three different vendors/coop contracts, and Safeware, Inc. had the lowest pricing for ballistic helmets and ballistic shields; because our city contract offered the best pricing, it is necessary to increase the not to exceed dollar threshold. The contract is in the last year and is being rebid.

The Mesa Police and Public Safety Support Departments and Procurement Services recommend increasing the dollar limit to the City of Mesa Safety and Medical Supplies contract; Contract No. 2022028, with Henry Schein, Inc.; Mallory Safety and Supply; Safeware, Inc.; Premier Medical Distribution, LLC; By Love, Inc.; Bound Tree Medical, LLC; and Arrowhead Scientific, Inc. by \$400,000, from \$200,000, in a combined total amount not to exceed \$600,000, for Year 5.

Regi Bron, a Mesa resident, expressed his concern with the costs associated with single source contracts that inflate the budget.

Noah James Markham, a Tempe resident, discussed his concern regarding face masks, which Immigration and Custom Enforcement (ICE) agents are using and he does not support the funding. He also stated he does not trust the Mesa Police Department (PD) based on his belief that people with disabilities are not being helped.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Somers, seconded by Councilmember Goforth, that the recommendation of staff to increase the dollar limit for the City of Mesa Safety and Medical Supplies contract be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Freeman–Somers–Duff–Goforth–Heredia–Taylor

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Adams

Mayor Freeman declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

4-c. Use of a Cooperative Contract for the Purchase of 200 Ballistic Helmets (Replacement) for the Mesa Police Department. **(Citywide)**

This contract will be used to purchase 200 ballistic helmets with face shields and storage bags to replenish inventory stock at PD Supply. These helmets will be distributed to new officers and used to replace expired helmets for existing officers.

The Mesa Police Department and Procurement Services recommend authorizing the purchase using the OMNIA Partners cooperative contract with Mallory Safety and Supply, LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$102,000, based on estimated requirements.

Regi Bron, a Mesa resident, stated that he believes resources are being misallocated, noting that while the crime rate has decreased, the sexual assault clearance rate remains below 12%. He commented that the impact of unsolved cases outweighs the need for ballistic helmets if the goal is to effectively combat violent crime. He suggested the \$400,000 increase in the line item

could instead be used for rape kits, investigators working unsolved cases, or counseling services.

It was moved by Councilmember Taylor, seconded by Vice Mayor Somers, that the recommendation of staff to authorize the use of the OMNIA Partners cooperative contract with Mallory Safety and Supply be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Freeman–Somers–Duff–Goforth–Heredia–Taylor

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Adams

Mayor Freeman declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

4-f. Three-Year Term Contract with Two-Year Renewal Options for Traffic Management Center (TMC) Video Wall Upgrade (Replacement) for the Transportation Department. **(Citywide)**

The first year of the contract will cover the furnishing, installation, configuration and support of a new wall processor system for the City's Traffic Management Center (TMC) within the Mesa Transportation Department. The upgraded system will replace the existing video wall processor, which has reached end-of-life and end-of-support status. The current processor also poses a cybersecurity risk, as its software can no longer be updated to meet modern security and performance standards. Subsequent contract years will cover warranties, maintenance and repairs. This is funded using Local Street Sales Tax in the Capital Improvement Program Budget.

The Transportation Department and Procurement Services recommend awarding the contract to the lowest, responsive, and responsible bidder, AVI-SPL, LLC, in amounts not to exceed \$155,000 for Year 1 and \$10,000 annually for each subsequent year, with an annual increase allowance of up to 5% or the adjusted Consumer Price Index.

Regi Bron, a Mesa resident, requested clarification regarding surveillance or traffic monitoring, stating that it raises freedom and privacy concerns for the public. He noted that the systems are labeled as "dual use" and asked whether the TMC data interfaces with federal law enforcement and if data sharing is voluntary.

Transportation Director Erik Guderian explained that the contract is for the video wall in the Transportation Management Center, and the video feeds are used to manage traffic in a real time perspective. He advised that video feeds are shared with the Mesa Police Department and the Real Time Crime Center (RTCC). He indicated that he is not aware of where the feeds go after being shared with the Police Department.

Mr. Bron stated that information could be provided to him later regarding how the data is used once shared with law enforcement and how the data is shared. He noted that with systems such as Flock cameras, publicly collected information can include license plate data and images of the driver.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Somers, seconded by Councilmember Goforth, that the recommendation of staff to award the three-year contract, with two-year renewal options, for the Traffic Management Center (TMC) Video Wall Upgrade (Replacement) for the Transportation Department be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Freeman–Somers–Duff–Goforth–Heredia–Taylor

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Adams

Mayor Freeman declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

- 5-a. Approving and authorizing the City Manager or designee to enter into the Power Purchase and Energy Storage Agreement for the Pinal Solar Project ("Project") with Arizona Electric Power Cooperative ("AEPCO"), as negotiated by all ten (10) Project participants and as approved by the AEPCO Board of Directors on January 14, 2026. **(Districts 1, 3, and 4)** – Resolution No. 12476

Noah James Markham, a Tempe resident, expressed his support for the Power Purchase and Energy Storage Agreement for the Pinal Solar Project with Arizona Electric Power Cooperative.

It was moved by Councilmember Duff, seconded by Vice Mayor Somers, that Resolution No. 12476 be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Freeman–Somers–Duff–Goforth–Heredia–Taylor

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Adams

Mayor Freeman declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

- 5-b. Approving and authorizing the City Manager to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Gilbert Unified School District No. 41 for solid waste/recycling collection. **(Citywide)** – Resolution No. 12477

Noah James Markham, a Tempe resident, stated his opposition to an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Gilbert Unified School District No. 41 for solid waste/recycling collection.

Vice Mayor Somers clarified that the city boundaries of Gilbert and Mesa do not align with the boundaries of their respective school districts, and as a result, the purpose of the contract is for the City of Mesa (COM) to handle trash collection for Gilbert Public Schools that are physically located within the City of Mesa.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Somers, seconded by Councilmember Duff, that Resolution No. 12477 be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Freeman–Somers–Duff–Goforth–Heredia–Taylor

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Adams

Mayor Freeman declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

- 6-a. ZON24-01027 "Mesa Premier RV & Boat Storage Phase II." 13.7± acres located approximately 265 feet east of the southeast corner of North Higley Road and East Thomas Road. Rezone 3.5± acres from Single Residence-90 (RS-90) to Light Industrial with a Planned Area Development Overlay (LI-PAD), Rezone 10.2± acres from LI-PAD to LI with a new PAD, modification of a Council Use Permit, and Major Site Plan Modification. This request will allow for an RV and Boat Storage Facility. **(District 5)** – Ordinance No. 6004

Staff Recommendation: Approval with conditions

P&Z Board Recommendation: Approval with conditions (Vote: 5-0)

Noah James Markham, a Tempe resident, expressed his disapproval for a Recreation Vehicle (RV) and boat storage facility in the COM.

It was moved by Councilmember Taylor, seconded by Councilmember Goforth, that the Introduction of Ordinance No. 6004 be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Freeman–Somers–Duff–Goforth–Heredia–Taylor

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Adams

Mayor Freeman declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

- 7-a. An ordinance proposing amendments to Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 14, 20, 21, 22, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 42, 46, 56, 63, 66, 67, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 76, 80, 81, 86, and 87 of Title 11 of the Mesa City Code pertaining to administrative review in compliance with A.R.S. § 9-500.49. The amendments replace, amend, and update procedures for submission, review, approval, modification, expiration, and enforcement for land use applications associated with administrative approval, along with corresponding revisions needed to align related provisions for consistency. The amendments replace, amend, and update development standards citywide to incorporate technical updates and objective standards in compliance with A.R.S. § 9-500.49. The amendments also include related changes in terminology and definitions, modifications to rules of measurement, and updates to alternative compliance. **(Citywide)** – Ordinance No. 5996

Staff Recommendation: Adoption

P&Z Board Recommendation: Adoption with conditions (Vote: 6-0)

The Planning and Zoning Board recommended adoption of the proposed Mesa Zoning Ordinance (MZO) Administrative Review text amendments with the condition that staff clarify the meaning of "Change of Use" as it pertains to Section 11-69-5 and related sections. The ordinance being introduced reflects modifications made by staff in response to the Board's recommendations as well as input and various comments from stakeholders within the development community.

Regi Bron, a Mesa resident, stated that Item 7-a is intended to save the City money by reducing the number of hours staff spend on public hearings and by lowering administrative overhead, and recommended that the City should also ensure compliance with the Arizona Revised

Statutes (A.R.S.), which require the public to receive access to information in a timely manner. He reported that he has experienced significant administrative delays in having requests processed and encouraged the City to include improvements to public records response times when addressing administrative efficiency.

Mayor Freeman explained that the changes are administrative in nature and are being made to ensure compliance with A.R.S. and are mandated by the State Legislature.

It was moved by Councilmember Duff, seconded by Vice Mayor Somers, that Ordinance No. 5996 be adopted.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Freeman–Somers–Duff–Goforth–Heredia–Taylor

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Adams

Mayor Freeman declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

8. Items from citizens present.

LeAnn McKelvey, a Mesa resident, discussed the challenges faced by immigrant children and adults and expressed support for ending the 287(g) program to help strengthen the community. She also referenced the economic benefits of immigration to the Valley and Mesa and cited Proverbs 14:31, emphasizing the importance of showing compassion to those in need.

Adela Ramos, a Mesa resident, expressed concern about the impact of the 287(g) Agreement on families in Mesa. She stated that while the agreement is intended to focus on individuals already in custody, its effects in neighborhoods have created fear among residents, including fear of contacting police or reporting crimes. She emphasized that while enforcing the law is important, immigration enforcement should remain a federal responsibility and local police should focus on community safety and crime prevention. She stressed that fear undermines trust between the community and law enforcement, making the entire city less safe. She urged the City to cancel the 287(g) agreement with ICE and focus on building trust between police and the community so that safety in Mesa is based on cooperation rather than fear.

Michelle Cleveland, a Mesa resident, shared her story of being a legal immigrant and naturalized citizen of the United States of America (USA). She supports the 287 (g) Agreement with ICE and is opposed to illegal immigrants in the USA.

9. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Regular Council Meeting adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

ATTEST:



HOLLY MOSELEY, CITY CLERK





MARK FREEMAN, MAYOR

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of the City Council of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 9th day of March 2026. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.



HOLLY MOSELEY, CITY CLERK

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