

**RESOLUTION NO. 12400**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESA, ARIZONA, CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD IN DISTRICT TWO OF THE CITY OF MESA ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2025, FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE QUESTION OF THE RECALL OF THE DISTRICT TWO COUNCILMEMBER; DESIGNATING THE ELECTION DATE; PROVIDING FOR BALLOT-BY-MAIL ELECTION UNLESS OTHERWISE REQUIRED BY MARICOPA COUNTY; PROVIDING THE PLACE AND THE LAST DATE FOR CANDIDATES TO FILE NOMINATION PAPERS; PROVIDING THE DEADLINE FOR VOTER REGISTRATION; SETTING FORTH THE VOTER RIGHTS ACT REQUIREMENTS; APPROVING THE USE OF CITY FUNDS FOR THE PAYMENT OF ELECTION COSTS; AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING FOR THE MANNER IN WHICH THE ELECTION IS TO BE CONDUCTED.**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Arizona Constitution and the laws of the State of Arizona, specifically A.R.S. Title 19, Chapter 2, every public officer holding an elective office is subject to recall by the qualified electors of the electoral district of that office.

WHEREAS, pursuant to A.R.S. § 19-202.01, on January 30, 2025, an application for recall petition for Councilmember Julie Spilsbury, City of Mesa Council District Two (“District Two Councilmember”) was submitted and on May 27, 2025, a petition for the recall was submitted for verification in accordance with A.R.S. § 19-203.

WHEREAS, on June 25, 2025, the Maricopa County Recorder’s Office provided a Certificate as to the Verification of Signatures on Petition (attached as Exhibit A) verifying that the recall petition exceeded the minimum number of signatures required by Arizona law for a recall election.

WHEREAS, in accordance with A.R.S. § 19-207, the City Clerk provided written notice to the District Two Councilmember that a recall petition was filed, the grounds thereof, and notice of the right of the District Two Councilmember to prepare and have printed on the ballot a statement defending her official conduct.

WHEREAS, pursuant to A.R.S. § 19-209, the City Council is required to call a special recall election to be held on the next following consolidated election date that is 90 days or more from the date of the call of the election for the qualified voters of District Two to determine whether the District Two Councilmember or another candidate shall serve the remainder of the District Two term.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESA, MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA, AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1: Call for Election.** A special recall election shall be held on November 4, 2025 (“Recall Election”) for the purpose of submitting to the voters of the City of

Mesa Council District Two the question of whether to recall the District Two Councilmember for the remainder of her term which would otherwise end in January 2029.

SECTION 2: Submission of Question; Nomination of Julie Spilsbury. The question of whether to recall the District Two Councilmember shall be placed on the Recall Election ballot, including the grounds for the recall as filed by the applicant, and, if submitted, the statement defending her official conduct as filed by the District Two Councilmember. Per A.R.S. § 19-212, Julie Spilsbury's name shall be placed as a candidate on the official ballot of the Recall Election without nomination. Other candidates for the office may be nominated after filing the required nomination petition (see Section 3 below). The sample Recall Election ballot language is provided as Exhibit B which the City Clerk is directed to provide to the Maricopa County Recorder's Office. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the City Council acknowledges that the ballot language may need to be modified for election or legal purposes; therefore, the City Clerk is authorized to modify the language set forth in Exhibit B at her discretion, for any reasonable or legal purpose.

SECTION 3: Candidates Seeking Nomination. Section 201(B)(2) of the Mesa City Charter sets forth the residency requirements for a Councilmember. Candidates seeking to have their name placed as an official candidate on the Recall Election ballot may file Statements of Interest with the Office of the City Clerk, 20 E. Main Street, Mesa, AZ, following the call of the election. Candidates must submit all forms and a nomination petition in compliance with state law that is signed, at a minimum, by the statutorily required number of signatures: the number of verified signatures required for candidate nomination on the Recall Election ballot is 246. Per A.R.S. § 19-212(F), candidates must file their nomination paperwork no sooner than August 6, 2025, and no later than 5:00 p.m. on September 5, 2025, at the Office of the City Clerk, 20 E. Main Street, Mesa, AZ to have their petition signatures verified.

SECTION 4: Publication and Notice. The City Clerk will cause the publication of the call and notice of the Recall Election to be given as provided by law; the City Clerk may otherwise publicize the Recall Election as may be deemed necessary and appropriate in the City Clerk's discretion to advise the public of the election.

SECTION 5: Voter Registration. Maricopa County registration and voting lists will be used for the municipal election. To be qualified to vote in the Recall Election, a resident of Council District Two must be registered to vote before midnight on October 6, 2025.

SECTION 6: Voting Rights Act and Spanish Translation. To comply with the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, the information pertaining to this election will be translated into Spanish and posted, published, distributed, and/or recorded in each instance where posting, publication, distribution, and/or recording of such proceedings are required, such as this call of election, the notice of election, ballots, and all instructions relating thereto.

SECTION 7: Conduct of Election; Contracts. The Recall Election shall be held, conducted, and canvassed in conformity with the election laws of the State of Arizona and the City Clerk is hereby authorized to take all necessary action to facilitate the Recall Election, including entering into an agreement with the Maricopa County Elections Department to conduct the Recall Election in consolidation with any other election conducted by Maricopa County on November 4,

2025. The Recall Election will be conducted as a ballot-by-mail election as determined by the Maricopa County Elections Department unless otherwise required, and only persons who are qualified voters of District Two will vote in the Recall Election. The City acknowledges Maricopa County may require one or more polling locations as a “drop-off location” in which mail-in ballots may be dropped off or replacement ballots obtained by District Two registered voters, but there will be no tabulating equipment to allow for in-person voting at such locations.

SECTION 8: Election Expenditures; Costs to the City. The City Council hereby authorizes all expenditures as may be necessary to order, notice, hold and administer the Recall Election, which shall be paid from City operating funds. The general cost of a mailed ballot election is currently set by the Maricopa County Elections Department at \$2.12 per registered voter; as there are currently 49,329 registered voters in District Two the minimum cost to the City for the Recall Election will be approximately \$104,577.

SECTION 9. Cavass of Election; Declaration of Winner. The Maricopa County election officials will forward the votes cast in the Recall Election to the City Clerk for canvassing. The City Council will meet on a day that is within twenty days after the election date to canvass the returns of the Recall Election and certify the results as provided by Arizona law. In accordance with A.R.S. § 19-216, Julie Spilsbury will continue to hold office as the District Two Councilmember until the completion of the official canvass. The candidate who receives the largest number of votes in the Recall Election, who may be Julie Spilsbury, shall be declared the winner and shall be elected for the remainder of the current District Two term of office.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the City Council of the City of Mesa, Arizona, on this 8th day of July, 2025.

**APPROVED:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Holly Moseley, the duly appointed City Clerk of the City of Mesa, Arizona, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing Resolution No. 12400 was duly passed by the City Council of the City of Mesa, Arizona, at a regular meeting held on July 8, 2025, and that a quorum was present thereat and that the vote thereon was \_ ayes and \_ nays; \_ did not vote or were absent.

DATED: July 8, 2025.

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City Clerk

**EXHIBIT A**

**CERTIFICATE OF VERIFICATION OF SIGNATURES ON PETITION**

**(SEE ATTACHED)**



**Maricopa County**  
Office of the Recorder

**RECEIVED**

By HMosele at 3:15 pm, Jun 25, 2025

**RC2025-02**

I certify that I received **628** petition sheets containing **5,091** signatures which have been submitted for signature verification in Maricopa County. The signatures were compared with those on file in the voter registration records of this office and the results are as follows:

**1,233** signers included were found to be not qualified electors at the time of signing the petition or were disqualified for any other reason pursuant to A.R.S. § 19-208.02(A), and therefore their signatures were disqualified.

**3,858** signers included were found to be qualified electors at the time of signing the petition, and therefore their signatures were not disqualified.

The enclosed signature report identifies the name of any individual whose signature was disqualified (if the name was legible), the petition page and line number of the disqualified signature, and the reason why the signature was disqualified pursuant to A.R.S. § 19-208.02(B).

JUSTIN HEAP  
County Recorder  
Maricopa County, Arizona

6/25/2025

Date



A copy of this certification and accompanying signature report was mailed to the political committee supporting the petition:

JoAnne S Robbins  
4202 E Broadway Rd, Unit 224  
Mesa AZ 85206  
Jrreturns56@gmail.com

**Justin Heap**  
County Recorder



301 W Jefferson St. 2nd Floor, Ste 200  
Phoenix AZ 85003  
Recorder.Maricopa.Gov  
(602) 506-3535

**EXHIBIT B**

**SAMPLE BALLOT  
RECALL ELECTION**

**Grounds for Demand of Recall of Julie Spilsbury:**

Julie Spilsbury, as an elected official, used her political office to advance private interests; voted yes on November 6, 2023 for Ordinance 5817, authorizing a change in use from a hotel to a social service facility for temporary homeless housing; voted yes on December 2, 2024 for Ordinance numbers 5832 to 5838 to be adopted which raised Mesa utility rate structures; voted yes on December 11, 2024 for ordinance 5840 raising city council salaries.

**Councilmember Julie Spilsbury’s Response:**

For nearly five years, I’ve proudly served as your Councilmember with passion and integrity. I’m honored you’ve elected me twice by large margins.

Now, a special-interest group, funded by out-of-state money and using paid petitioners, wants to recall me. Recalls exist primarily for when elected officials commit egregious acts that violate the oath of office. Let’s be clear: this recall isn’t about wrongdoing. It’s because I defeated the group’s preferred candidate last July. They want to overturn that result and are willing to waste hundreds of thousands of your tax dollars to do it.

The recall petition cites three of my votes on the City Council. Two of those votes were approved unanimously(7–0), including support from Mayor Mark Freeman. The third vote funded emergency shelter for homeless domestic violence survivors, children, and veterans. I will always support Mesa’s most vulnerable.

No Councilmember can please everyone. But, I’ve listened to your input, studied each issue carefully, and voted for what I believe is best for our community. I’ll continue to serve you with that same dedication—and I respectfully ask for your support and your vote. Thank you!

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**CITY OF MESA COUNCILMEMBER DISTRICT TWO**

**VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1**

Vote for the candidate who will serve the remainder of the District Two unexpired term ending in January 2029.

- Spilsbury, Julie
- Other Candidate