

MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BISBEE, COUNTY OF COCHISE, AND STATE OF ARIZONA, HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2026, AT 7:00 PM AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED AT 118 ARIZONA STREET, BISBEE, ARIZONA.

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR BUDGE AT 7:05PM.

ROLL CALL

COUNCIL

Councilmember Karen Schumacher, Ward I
Councilmember Pete Skinner, Ward II
Councilmember Trish Damon, Ward III
Mayor Ken Budge
Councilmember Anna Cline, Ward III, Mayor Pro Tempore
Councilmember Mel Sowid, Ward II
Councilmember Cesilia C. Garcia, Ward I

STAFF

Ashlee Coronado, Interim City Manager / City Clerk
Keri Bagley, Finance Director
Matthew Gurney, Public Works Director
Logan Dodd, Operations Manager
Jay Ritchie, Deputy Police Chief
Jim Richardson, Fire Chief

CITY ATTORNEY

Joseph Estes

Mayor Budge noted for the record that newly appointed Councilmember Cecilia Garcia was seated at the dais as an observer only, as she had not yet been sworn in. The Council therefore operated as a six-member body for voting purposes throughout the meeting.

INVOCATION: Mayor Budge called for a moment of silence for personal reflection.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MAYOR'S PROCLAMATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Mayor Budge read the 250th Proclamation Supporting the United States Semiquincentennial
- Councilmember Damon read the Proclamation of Appreciation
- Mayor Budge announced that there was a burn ban within the City of Bisbee until rainfall improves and vegetation recovers.
- Mayor Budge noted the city had secured a replacement fire rescue truck and staff will soon retrieve it from California.
- Mayor Budge also announced that new stainless steel restroom fixtures had been installed at Goar and Grassy Parks; upgrades at Vista Park are nearing completion and that ARPA funds were used to complete the park restroom improvements.
- Mayor Budge explained that Flood insurance had been obtained for the Tombstone Canyon pump house, fire station, and post office/library building in preparation for potential severe weather conditions.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

- Circles Robinson, Bisbee resident, asked the Council to bring back the previously tabled agenda item regarding regulations for ICE operations on City property. He said the Arizona Attorney General's ruling in favor of Phoenix, Tucson, and Pima County showed Bisbee could act without fear of state legal challenge. He urged the Council not to let the item disappear and requested that it return for public discussion and vote.
- Fred Miller, Bisbee resident, urged the Council to table the proposed City Manager employment agreement until August 4. He said the public had been excluded from the process and argued that the contract terms were financially unfavorable to the city. He raised concerns about the salary, creation of an assistant city manager position, reorganization authority, political-language provision, and severance/reversion terms. He emphasized that his concern was with the contract, not Ms. Coronado's qualifications.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE DISCUSSED, CONSIDERED, AND/OR DECIDED UPON AT THIS MEETING:

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Subject to availability of funds.

MOTION: Councilmember Cline moved to approve accounts payable in the amount of \$673,223.38.
SECOND: Councilmember Sowid

Councilmembers Sowid and Damon inquired about items on the accounts payable report, and staff responded.

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

2. Approval of the Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Session of Mayor and Council held on Tuesday, June 2, 2026.

Ashlee Coronado, Interim City Manager/City Clerk

- B. Approval of a Special Event Liquor License Application submitted by the Bisbee Radio Project, Inc. for an event to be held at the KBRP Radio Station located at 400 Arizona Street, Bisbee, AZ on Sunday, June 28, 2026, from 4:00pm to 8:00pm, Cara Bielass, Applicant.

Ashlee Coronado, Interim City Manager/City Clerk

- C. Approval of the Updated City of Bisbee Arts Commission Grant/Sponsorship Funding Application Packet.

Ashlee Coronado, Interim City Manager/City Clerk

- D. Approval of a Contract for Publishing Services/Official Newspaper of Record with the Bisbee Observer.

Ashlee Coronado, Interim City Manager/City Clerk

- E. Approval of the purchase of Waste Containers from Wastequip (Quote No. WQ-10386822).
Matthew Gurney, Public Works Director

- F. Approval of accepting the contract with Fireworks Productions of Arizona to purchase the fireworks for the 4th of July show in the amount of \$10,850.00.

Jim Richardson, fire Chief

- G. Approval of a new 60-month lease agreement between the Bisbee Fire Department and RICOH, USA, Inc. for the acquisition on one RICOH IMC2510 color copier/fax machine. This unit would replace the department's current leased machine from Xerox.

Jim Richardson, fire Chief

Councilmember Cline requested that Item F be pulled for further discussion.

MOTION: Councilmember Cline moved to approve the consent agenda items A through E and G.

SECOND: Councilmember Skinner

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

- F. Approval of accepting the contract with Fireworks Productions of Arizona to purchase the fireworks for the 4th of July show in the amount of \$10,850.00.

Councilmember Cline asked Fire Chief Richardson whether the fireworks purchase included the same number of shells as prior years, whether prices had increased, and whether delivery was on schedule.

Chief Richardson confirmed the shell count was the same, prices had not increased, and delivery would be on time and added that five individuals had recently been sent to Mesa for shooter certification/refresher training.

MOTION: Councilmember Cline moved to approve the consent agenda item F.

SECOND: Councilmember Schumacher

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

3. Public Hearing and Discussion and Possible Approval of a Liquor License Application for the Old Bisbee High School Legacy Theater located at 100 Clawson Avenue, Bisbee, AZ; Kevin Kramber, Applicant.

Ashlee Coronado, Interim City Manager/City Clerk

Mayor Budge opened the public hearing on the liquor license application for the Old Bisbee High School Legacy Theater.

Support:

- Property owner Joseph Lewis spoke in support of the liquor license application, stating that the former Old Bisbee High School gymnasium was being renovated into a theater and event venue. He explained that the license would support performances, private events, fundraisers, and community programs, not the operation of a traditional bar. Mr. Lewis stated that similar venues throughout Arizona operate under comparable licenses and that the project would benefit local tourism and businesses.

Opposition:

- Brit Hanson, Margo Walker, Katie Sanders, Doug Reiniger, Jennifer Casale, and Lori Gunnell who spoke on behalf of Sheila Riley all spoke in opposition, citing concerns about noise, traffic, parking, pedestrian safety, neighborhood character, and the project's evolving scope. Speakers also questioned whether adequate public notice had been provided and argued that the proposed venue was inconsistent with prior representations that the building would primarily serve residential uses.

Mr. Estes, City Attorney, advised that written comments received after the statutory deadline could not be included in the official record, but members of the public were permitted to speak at the hearing. He also reviewed the applicable posting requirements.

Mayor Budge clarified that the City had posted notice in accordance with state law, that church proximity restrictions no longer apply under Arizona liquor licensing statutes, and that the Council's action was advisory only, with the final decision resting with the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control.

During Council discussion, Councilmembers expressed concerns regarding neighborhood impacts, public opposition, notice issues, and changes to the project's original plans. Several council members stated that the proposal would significantly alter the character of the neighborhood and questioned whether sufficient community support existed for the application.

MOTION: Councilmember Schumacher moved to not approve the liquor license application for the Old Bisbee High School Legacy Theater located at 100 Clawson Avenue, Bisbee, Arizona, Kevin Kramber, Applicant.

SECOND: Councilmember Damon

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

4. Discussion and Possible Approval of Resolution R-26-18; a Resolution of the Mayor and City Council, City of Bisbee, County of Cochise, State of Arizona, fixing, levying and assessing the amount to be raised by the City of Bisbee from property taxation and fixing and determining the property tax rate for the 2026-2027 fiscal year and providing for severability.

Keri Bagley, Finance Director

Ms. Bagley presented Resolution R-26-18, which fixes, levies, and assesses the property tax rate for fiscal year 2026–2027. She explained that the tax rate itself was decreasing; however, because assessed property values have increased, the lower rate will nevertheless generate an additional \$28,651 in property tax revenue.

MOTION: Councilmember Sowid moved to approve Resolution R-26-18, fixing, levying, and assessing the amount to be raised by the City of Bisbee from property taxation and fixing and determining the property tax rate for the 2026–2027 fiscal year at \$2.9697 per \$100 of assessed valuation, and providing for severability.

SECOND: Councilmember Cline

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

5. Discussion and Possible Approval of Change Order #7 with Poster Mirto McDonald.

Mike Normand, Construction Project Manager Camp Naco

Mr. Normand presented Change Order #7 with the architecture firm Poster Murto McDonald for Camp Naco. He explained that this change order adds scope to the firm's existing contract to cover the interior design of Building A-4, the last barracks on the west quad requiring renovation. The exterior work for Building A-4 had already been designed under existing contracts; this change order adds the interior components, including electrical, mechanical, plumbing, and interior framing design. He noted that the city had received grant funding from the National Park Service that included design money for this work, and that Arizona State Parks had also provided some funding for the building.

Councilmember Sowid asked questions regarding the change order and Mr. Normand responded.

MOTION: Councilmember Cline moved to approve Change Order #7 with Poster Murto McDonald in the amount of \$8,586.52 for architectural and engineering services to develop the interior design of Building A-4 at Camp Naco.

SECOND: Councilmember Schumacher

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

Mr. Estes, City Attorney, provided a collective introduction to Items 6 through 13, explaining that these ordinances represent the city's periodic adoption of updated international professional codes. He noted that municipalities regularly review updated code publications—covering building, plumbing, electrical, mechanical, property maintenance, fuel gas, and fire safety—and adopt those provisions deemed beneficial, incorporating any locally specific amendments. Items 6 through 12 address the international codes proper, while Item 13 was a related housekeeping ordinance that removes a duplicative reference to the International Fire Code in the police and fire department chapter of the City Code, consolidating it with the other professional codes where it was always intended to reside. Mr. Estes noted that Building Inspector Xavier Rodriguez was present to answer any technical questions on any of the codes.

Mayor Budge invited discussion. No substantive questions were raised. The Council proceeded to vote on each item individually by roll call, as these were introductions of ordinances.

6. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Notice of Intent to Adopt Ordinance O-26-10; Amending the City Code by Adopting the Following Publications in Place of the Current Publications: The 2024 International Building Code, the 2024 International Existing Building Code, and the 2024 International Residential Code, Including all Tables and Appendices, Except as Specifically Amended by this Ordinance; Repealing and Replacing Chapter 7 “Building,” Article 7.1 “Building Code,” Sections 7.1.1 through 7.1.1D of the City Code; Providing for the Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances; Providing for Severability; Providing for Penalties; and Providing for an Effective Date.

Xavier Rodriguez, Building Inspector / Code Enforcement

MOTION: Mayor Budge moved to approve the Notice of Intent to Adopt Ordinance O-26-10 amending the code for the International Building Code.

SECOND: Councilmember Skinner

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Councilmember Schumacher, Skinner, Damon, Sowid, Cline and Mayor Budge

NAYS: 0

MOTION PASSED: AYES-6 NAYS-0

7. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Notice of Intent to Adopt Ordinance O-26-11; Amending the City Code by Adopting the Following Publications in Place of the Current Publications: 2024 International Plumbing Code, Including all Tables and Appendices, Except as specifically Amended by this Ordinance; Repealing 7.2, “Plumbing Code,” Section 7.2.1 of the City Code; Providing for the Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances; Providing for Severability; Providing for Penalties; and Providing for an Effective Date.

Xavier Rodriguez, Building Inspector / Code Enforcement

MOTION: Councilmember Cline moved to approve the Notice of Intent to Adopt Ordinance O-26-11 Amending the City Code by Adopting the Following Publications in Place of the Current Publications: 2024 International Plumbing Code.

SECOND: Councilmember Sowid

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Councilmember Schumacher, Skinner, Damon, Sowid, Cline and Mayor Budge

NAYS: 0

MOTION PASSED: AYES-6 NAYS-0

8. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Notice of Intent to Adopt Ordinance O-26-12; Amending the City Code by Adopting the Following Publications in Place of the Current Publications: 2023 National Electric Code, Including all Tables and Appendices, Except as Specifically Amended by this Ordinance; Repealing and Replacing Chapter 7 “Building,” Article 7.3, “Electrical Code,” Section 7.3.1 through 7.3.2 of the City Code; Providing for the Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances; Providing for Severability; Providing for Penalties; and Providing for an Effective Date.

Xavier Rodriguez, Building Inspector / Code Enforcement

MOTION: Councilmember Damon moved to approve the Notice of Intent to Adopt Ordinance O-26-12; Amending the City Code by Adopting the Following Publications in Place of the Current Publications: 2023 National Electric Code.

SECOND: Councilmember Cline

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Councilmember Schumacher, Skinner, Damon, Sowid, Cline and Mayor Budge

NAYS: 0

MOTION PASSED: AYES-6 NAYS-0

9. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Notice of Intent to Adopt Ordinance O-26-14; Amending the City Code by Adopting the Following Publications in Place of the Current Publications: 2024 International Mechanical Code, Including all Tables and Appendices, Except as Specifically Amended by this Ordinance; Repealing and Replacing Chapter 7 “Building” Article 7.5, “Mechanical Code,” Section 7.5.1 of the City Code; Providing for the Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances; Providing for Severability; Providing for Penalties; and Providing for an Effective Date.

Xavier Rodriguez, Building Inspector / Code Enforcement

MOTION: Councilmember Schumacher moved to approve the Notice of Intent to Adopt Ordinance O-26-14; Amending the City Code by Adopting the Following Publications in Place of the Current Publications: 2024 International Mechanical Code.

SECOND: Councilmember Skinner

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Councilmember Schumacher, Skinner, Damon, Sowid, Cline and Mayor Budge

NAYS: 0

MOTION PASSED: AYES-6 NAYS-0

10. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Notice of Intent to Adopt Ordinance O-26-15; Amending the City Code by Adopting the Following Publications in Place of the Current Publications: 2024 International Property Maintenance Code, Including all Tables and Appendices, Except as specifically Amended by this Ordinance; Repealing 7.6, “Property Maintenance Code,” Section 7.6.1 of the City Code; Providing for the Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances; Providing for Severability; Providing for Penalties; and Providing for an Effective Date.

Xavier Rodriguez, Building Inspector / Code Enforcement

MOTION: Mayor Budge moved to approve the Notice of Intent to Adopt Ordinance O-26-15, amending the City Code by adopting the 2024 International Property Maintenance Code.

SECOND: Councilmember Damon

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Councilmember Schumacher, Skinner, Damon, Sowid, Cline and Mayor Budge

NAYS: 0

MOTION PASSED: AYES-6 NAYS-0

11. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Notice of Intent to Adopt Ordinance O-26-16; Amending the City Code by Adopting the following Publications in place of the Current Publications: The 2024 International Fuel Gas Code, the 2024 International Energy Conservation Code and by Adding and Adopting the 2024 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code, Including all Tables and Appendices, Except as Specifically Amended by this Ordinance; Repealing and Replacing Chapter 7 “Building,” Article 7.7, “Additional Code,” Section 7.7.1 through 7.7.4 of the City Code; Providing for the Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances; Providing for Severability; Providing for Penalties; and Providing for an Effective Date.

Xavier Rodriguez, Building Inspector / Code Enforcement

MOTION: Councilmember Sowid moved to approve the Notice of Intent to Adopt Ordinance O-26-16, amending the City Code by adopting the 2024 International Fuel Gas Code.

SECOND: Councilmember Damon

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Councilmember Schumacher, Skinner, Damon, Sowid, Cline and Mayor Budge

NAYS: 0

MOTION PASSED: AYES-6 NAYS-0

12. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Notice of Intent to Adopt Ordinance O-26-13; Amending the City Code by Adopting the Following Publications in Place of the Current Publications: 2024 International Fire Code, Including all Tables and Appendices, Except as Specifically Amended by this Ordinance; Repealing and Replacing Chapter 7 “Building” Article 7.4, “Fire Code,” Section 7.4.1 of the City Code; Providing for the Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances; Providing for Severability; Providing for Penalties; and Providing for an Effective Date.

Jim Richardson, Fire Chief

MOTION: Councilmember Cline moved to approve the Notice of Intent to Adopt Ordinance O-26-13, amending the City Code by adopting the 2024 International Fire Code.

SECOND: Councilmember Damon

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Councilmember Schumacher, Skinner, Damon, Sowid, Cline and Mayor Budge

NAYS: 0

MOTION PASSED: AYES-6 NAYS-0

13. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Notice of Intent to Adopt Ordinance O-26-17; Amending the City Code by Repealing Chapter 4 “Police and Fire Departments,” Article 4.4, “International Fire Code”; Providing for Severability.

Jim Richardson, Fire Chief

MOTION: Councilmember Schumacher the Notice of Intent to Adopt Ordinance O-26-17, amending the City Code by repealing Chapter 4 "Police and Fire Departments," Article 4.4, "International Fire Code," providing for severability.

SECOND: Councilmember Damon

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Councilmember Schumacher, Skinner, Damon, Sowid, Cline and Mayor Budge

NAYS: 0

MOTION PASSED: AYES-6 NAYS-0

14. Discussion and Possible Appointment of Ashlee Coronado as City Manager and Approval of the Employment Agreement.

Ken Budge, Mayor

Mayor Budge introduced the proposed appointment of Ashlee Coronado as City Manager and reviewed key provisions of the employment agreement. He explained that the position would be a full-time City Manager role, not a dual City Manager/City Clerk assignment, and noted that the proposed salary of \$130,000 was below that of many comparable Arizona municipalities. He also addressed concerns regarding the contract's reversion clause, stating it would only apply in the event of an involuntary termination and would cost less than hiring an outside city manager.

Mr. Estes, City Attorney, clarified that claims of a potential \$700,000 payout were inaccurate and stated that the contract's provisions were standard for city manager's agreements. He reiterated that the reversion clause would not apply if Ms. Coronado voluntarily resigned.

Councilmember Schumacher expressed concern that retaining the City Clerk position could limit advancement opportunities for staff. Ms. Coronado responded that operational restructuring could occur as needed and that staff had been prepared for the transition.

Councilmembers Skinner, Damon, Cline, and Sowid voiced support for the appointment, citing Ms. Coronado's experience, institutional knowledge, leadership during emergencies, community ties, and long-term commitment to Bisbee. Several members noted the benefits of internal promotion, including continuity, stability, and avoiding the costs associated with a national recruitment process.

Mayor Budge concluded by highlighting Ms. Coronado's years of service to the City and the financial savings that would result from promoting an internal candidate rather than conducting an external search.

MOTION: Mayor Budge moved to appoint Ashlee Coronado as City Manager and to approve the Employment Agreement.

SECOND: Councilmember Cline

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Councilmember Schumacher, Skinner, Damon, Sowid, Cline and Mayor Budge

NAYS: 0

MOTION PASSED: AYES-6 NAYS-0

15. Discussion and Direction Regarding Charter Voting Requirements for Resolution R-26-17 and next steps for Bikeways Funding.

Ashlee Coronado, Interim City Manager / City Clerk

Mayor Budge explained that Resolution R-26-17, which would appropriate \$100,000 in Bed Tax funds for the Bisbee Bikeways project, had previously passed but was later determined to require a supermajority vote under the City Charter. He accepted responsibility for the procedural error and presented two options: rescind the resolution or reconsider it at the July 7 meeting when a full Council will be present.

Mayor Budge noted that project costs had been reduced through approved modifications and that the city's contribution was intended to demonstrate local commitment to the EDA, which had awarded more than \$4.2 million to the project. Mr. Estes, City Attorney, confirmed that the supermajority issue had been correctly identified during public comment.

Councilmembers Skinner, Damon, Sowid, and Cline supported bringing the resolution back for reconsideration, while Councilmember Schumacher reiterated her opposition to using Bed Tax funds but supported finding an alternative funding source.

Megan Connelley, Project coordinator, reminded the Council that the project had secured more than \$5 million in outside funding and urged the city to identify a way to provide local support.

MOTION: Mayor Budge moved to bring Resolution R-26-17 back for reconsideration at the July 7th Council meeting.

SECOND: Councilmember Damon

MOTION PASSED: 5/1 (Schumacher)

16. City Manager's Report:

COUNCIL COMMENTS OR FUTURE AGENDA ITEM SUGGESTIONS: (Council members may suggest topics for future meeting agendas, but Council will not here discuss, deliberate, or take any action on these topics.):

Mayor Budge stated that with no further business before this Council this meeting was adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:08PM

Ken Budge, Mayor