

COUNCIL MINUTES

August 17, 2026

The City Council of the City of Mesa met in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 20 East Main Street, on August 17, 2026, at 5:45 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Scott Somers
Jennifer Duff
Alicia Goforth
Francisco Heredia
Dorean Taylor

COUNCIL ABSENT

Mark Freeman
Rich Adams

OFFICERS PRESENT

Scott Butler
Holly Moseley
Jim Smith

Vice Mayor's welcome.

Vice Mayor Somers conducted a roll call.

Vice Mayor Somers excused Mayor Freeman and Councilmember Adams from the entire meeting.

Vice Mayor Somers led a moment of silence.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jackson Jones from Boy Scout Troop 54.

Awards, recognitions, or announcements.

Vice Mayor Somers announced that the Mesa Gateway Library received the 2026 James Bennett Public Library of the Year Award, a global recognition. He stated that the Gateway Library was supported by voters and was part of the General Obligation (GO) bond, and he extended his appreciation for all the community support.

Library Director Polly Bonnett expressed her honor in receiving recognition for the Gateway Library and pride in her team's contributions to Mesa residents. She noted the increase in library visitors over the past year, reflecting strong community engagement and the library's growing role as a community hub.

1. Take action on all consent agenda items.

All items listed on the agenda with an asterisk (*) are on the consent agenda which means they will be considered by the City Council as a group, without any separate discussion of these items, unless a Councilmember or citizen requests the item be removed from the consent agenda to be considered separately. If a citizen wants an item removed from the consent agenda, a request must be made prior to the scheduled start time of the meeting.

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

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Somers–Duff–Goforth–Heredia–Taylor

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Freeman–Adams

Vice Mayor Somers declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

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

Minutes from the Study Sessions held on April 16, May 14, May 21, June 4, June 8, 2026; and the Regular Council meeting held on July 27, 2026.

3. Take action on the following liquor license applications:

*3-a. The Drink All

A liquor store is requesting to add sampling privileges to their existing Series 9 Liquor Store License for Iron Apple Investment LLC, 235 North Country Club Drive - Jared Michael Repinski, agent. The existing license will revert to the state for modification. **(District 4)**

*3-b. Church Craft Coffee and Cocktails

A restaurant that serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner is requesting a new Series 12 Restaurant License for Church Craft LLC, 127 West Pepper Place, Suite 109 - Katelyn Nerine Kildoo, agent. There is no existing license at this location. **(District 4)**

*3-c. La Tiendita Colombiana

A grocery store is requesting a new Series 10 Beer and Wine Store License for La Tiendita Colombiana LLC, 456 West Main Street, Suite E - German Dario Pardo, agent. There is no existing license at this location. **(District 4)**

*3-d. Tempo By Hilton Gallery Park & Homewood Suites Mesa Airport

A hotel with a restaurant bar that serves lunch and dinner is requesting a new Series 11 Hotel/Motel License for The William at GP OP LLC, 5057 South Power Road - Juanita Alicia Esparza, agent. There is no existing license at this location. **(District 6)**

*3-e. Krazy Cajun Seafood & Hibachi

A restaurant that serves lunch and dinner is requesting a new Series 12 Restaurant License for Krazy Cajun Seafood Hibachi Mesa LLC, 6555 East Southern Avenue, Suite 1544 - Bryan Chen, agent. There is no existing license at this location. **(District 6)**

*3-f. Lenny's Craft Burger

A restaurant that serves lunch and dinner is requesting a new Series 12 Restaurant License for Naylor VII-Cannon Beach LLC, 4525 South Power Road, Suite 105 - Jeffrey Craig Miller, agent. There is no existing license at this location. **(District 6)**

4. Take action on the following contracts:

- *4-a. Three-Year Term Contract with Two-Year Renewal Options for Electric Substation Infrastructure Work for the Energy Resources Department (Sole Source). **(Citywide)**

This contract is for specialized substation engineering, construction support, and technical services for the expansion, modification, and integration of electric substation infrastructure. Work includes coordination with existing substation design standards, protection and control schemes, equipment layout, and system integration to ensure compatibility with the City's current substation fleet and operational practices.

The Energy Resources Department and Procurement Services recommend awarding the contract to the sole source vendor, Reinhausen Manufacturing Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 annually, with an annual increase allowance of up to 5% or the adjusted Consumer Price Index.

- *4-b. Three-Year Term Contract with Two-Year Renewal Options for Ball Valves for the Materials and Supply Warehouse (for the Energy Resources Department). **(Citywide)**

This contract will provide weld-end ball valves for the Materials and Supply Warehouse to support the Energy Resources Department's gas construction and maintenance projects. Ball valves provide rapid, leak-tight shut-off and flow control of natural gas within gas lines. The valves will be used for upcoming gas work and to maintain adequate emergency inventory for critical operational needs.

The Business Services Department and Procurement Services recommend awarding the contract to the lowest, responsive, and responsible bidders, Broen, Inc., and Kerotest Manufacturing Corporation, in a combined total amount not to exceed \$1,550,000 annually, with an annual increase allowance of up to 5% or the adjusted Consumer Price Index.

- *4-c. Three-Year Term Contract with Two-Year Renewal Options for Gas Meters (500 Class Diaphragm, 8C Rotary and 10C Rotary) for the Materials and Supply Warehouse (for the Energy Resources Department). **(Citywide)**

This contract will provide large capacity gas meters (500 class diaphragm, 8C and 10C rotary) per specifications used in the City's natural gas distribution systems for the purpose of billing customer gas usage. These meters are for new construction projects and maintenance and repair of existing utilities.

The Business Services and Energy Resources Departments and Procurement Services recommend awarding the contract to the lowest, responsive, and responsible bidders, Measurement Control Systems, Inc.; Meter Valve & Control, Inc.; NGS Cayman Holdings, L.P. dba Natural Gas Solutions North America, LLC; and Western Gas Technologies, Inc., in a combined total amount not to exceed \$1,275,000 annually, with an annual increase allowance of up to 5% or the adjusted Producer Price Index.

- *4-d. Dollar Limit Increase to the Cooperative Use Term Contract for Industrial Plumbing Supplies for the Water Resources and Facilities Management Departments. **(Citywide)**

This contract provides critical water system components, such as valves, pipe fittings, fire hydrants, and repair parts, needed to support both routine maintenance and emergency repairs within the City's water distribution system and City-owned hydrants. A dollar limit increase is needed due to the Facilities Management Department being added to the contract. Maintaining a ready inventory will enable Facilities Management to respond quickly to system failures, manage costs effectively, and avoid delays associated with sourcing materials on an as-needed basis.

The Water Resources and Facilities Management Departments and Procurement Services recommend increasing the dollar limit with Ferguson Enterprises, Inc., by \$300,000, from \$100,000 to an amount not to exceed \$400,000 annually, with an annual increase allowance of up to 5% or the adjusted Consumer Price Index.

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

*4-f. Three-Year Term Contract with Two-Year Renewal Options for Roofing Repair and Installation Services for the Facilities Management Department. **(Citywide)**

This contract will establish a list of prequalified roofing vendors. These vendors will perform essential repairs and replacements to extend the lifespan of roofing across Citywide facilities, as well as complete scheduled lifecycle roofing projects included in the annual budget.

A committee representing the Facilities Management Department and Procurement Services evaluated responses and recommend awarding the contract to the highest scored proposals from Canopy Roofing, LLC dba Lyons Roofing; Northern Arizona Roof Services, LLC; and Sprayfoam Southwest, Inc. dba Global Roofing Group in a total amount not to exceed \$2,500,000 annually, with an annual increase allowance of up to 5% or the adjusted Consumer Price Index.

*4-g. Purchase of One Liquid Chromatograph-Tandem Mass Spectrometry Instrument (Replacement) for the Public Safety Support Department (Funded by Governor's Office of Highway Safety) (Sole Source). **(Citywide)**

This purchase provides a liquid chromatograph-tandem mass spectrometry instrument and associated materials and supplies to support forensic toxicology testing for the Forensic Services Toxicology Unit. The Forensic Services Toxicology Unit processes approximately 3,000 cases annually and provides toxicological testing for driving under the influence of drugs, drug-facilitated sexual assault, and other criminal investigations for Mesa, Gilbert, Tempe, and Queen Creek. This purchase will replace the current method and introduce a comprehensive screening and confirmation system that expands detection of commonly encountered drugs, reduces reliance on unreliable sole-source consumables, and improves the efficiency and reliability of toxicology testing.

The Public Safety Support Department and Procurement Services recommend awarding the contract to the sole source vendor, Agilent Technologies, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$475,000, based on estimated requirements.

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

- *4-i. Three-Year Term Contract with Two-Year Renewal Options for Stryker Lucas 3 Mechanical CPR Devices for the Mesa Fire and Medical Department (Partially Funded by FEMA AFG Grant). **(Citywide)**

This contract will furnish the Mesa Fire and Medical Department with the Stryker Lucas 3 mechanical chest compression system, including all required equipment, accessories, maintenance services, and data management tools. The system delivers continuous, high-quality chest compressions during cardiac arrest emergencies, enhancing both safety and patient outcomes. These devices will also support effective care during transport by ensuring consistent and reliable resuscitation efforts. The City will be responsible for a 10% cost share requirement per the FEMA AFG Grant requirements.

The Mesa Fire and Medical Department and Procurement Services recommend awarding the contract to the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder, Howmedica Osteonics Corp. dba Stryker Sales, LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$876,500 for Year 1, and an amount not to exceed \$52,800 annually for Year 2 and any subsequent renewals, with an annual increase allowance of up to 5% or the adjusted Consumer Price Index.

- *4-j. Ten-Month Use of a Cooperative Term Contract with One-Year Renewal Option for the Purchase of USDD G2 Fire Station Alert System Equipment, Software & Support for the Department of Innovation and Technology and the Mesa Fire and Medical Department. **(Citywide)**

The City currently utilizes a G2 Fire Station Alerting System and requires continued access to the system, equipment, software, interfaces, and support services provided exclusively by US Digital Designs (USDD). This includes the G2 Communications Gateway servers, proprietary alerting components, and the software that enables seamless integration with the City's Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system. The system delivers fast, reliable, and precise emergency alerts from the CAD system to fire stations and radio channels. The system's standardization across regional agencies also supports critical interoperability and mutual aid efforts between Mesa and partner jurisdictions such as Phoenix, Gilbert, Queen Creek, the Rio Verde Fire District and the Superstition Fire and Medical District.

The Department of Innovation and Technology and the Mesa Fire and Medical Department and Procurement Services recommend authorizing the purchase using the HGACBuy cooperative contract with Honeywell International, Inc. dba US Digital Designs by Honeywell, in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 annually, with an annual increase allowance of up to 5% or the adjusted Consumer Price Index.

- *4-k. Dollar Limit Increase to the State of Arizona Cooperative Contract for Capital Expenditure Agreement for Motorola System Upgrade II (SUA II) for the TOPAZ Regional Wireless Cooperative (TRWC) as requested by the Department of Innovation and Technology (Sole Source). **(Citywide)**

The Motorola System Upgrade Agreement II (SUA II) provides annual software upgrades, upgrades to the network core hardware to support the software upgrades, and technical support services for the TOPAZ (TRWC) Public Safety voice two-way radio network. DoIT is requesting an increase to upgrade the TRWC Fire Hazard Zone (VHF) core equipment in support of the public safety radio system. The upgrade to the existing analog simulcast VHF radio system will allow for future expansion and support and will provide for the replacement of comparators, which are at the end of life. The City of

Mesa is the Administrative Manager for the TRWC. This will be initially funded through DoIT Capital Lifecycle funds, with costs reimbursed by TOPAZ member agencies according to the following allocation: City of Mesa Fire & Medical Department, 62.41%; Town of Gilbert Fire & Rescue Department, 13.79%; Town of Queen Creek Fire & Medical Department, 10.57%; Superstition Fire & Medical District, 9.07%; Town of Fountain Hills Fire Department, 3.32%; and Rio Verde Fire District, 0.84%.

The Department of Innovation and Technology (DoIT) and Procurement Services recommend increasing the dollar limit with Motorola Solutions, Inc., by \$607,000 from \$13,312,800 to an amount not to exceed \$13,919,800, for the remaining term of the contract.

- *4-l. Three-Year Term Contract for Tungsten TotalAgility for the Department of Innovation and Technology (Sole Source). **(Citywide)**

This purchase will replace the City's existing enterprise document scanning platform, which is used to capture, process, and manage document images within the City's enterprise document repository. The existing platform will reach end of life in December 2026, after which it will no longer receive vendor support, security updates, or product enhancements.

The Department of Innovation and Technology and Procurement Services recommend awarding the contract to the sole source vendor, enChoice, in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.00 for Year 1, which includes subscription cost and installation services, and an amount not to exceed \$100,000 annually for subscription renewal for Years 2-3, with an annual increase allowance of up to 5% or the adjusted Consumer Price Index.

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

5. Take action on the following resolutions:

- *5-a. A resolution approving and authorizing the City Manager to enter into an Agreement for Management and Operations Services with Legends Global Convention Center Management LLC to manage, operate, and market the Mesa Convention Center and Mesa Amphitheater. **(District 4)** – Resolution No. 12563

Vice Mayor Somers read a statement from Mayor Freeman expressing appreciation to everyone involved in advancing the plans for the Mesa Convention Center and Amphitheatre and emphasizing that the action tonight reflects the Mayor's vision and efforts made to reinvest in the facilities, strengthen their future, and explore a public-private partnership that could create new opportunities in Downtown Mesa while protecting taxpayer dollars.

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

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

- *5-d. Approving and authorizing the City Manager to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Regional Public Transportation Authority for the design and construction management of improvements to existing bus stops at various locations in Mesa. The project is funded by a combination of a federal grant, transit advertising revenue and the Transit Fund. The total fiscal impact of the project is \$2,520,000. **(Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6)** – Resolution No. 12566

6. Introduction of the following ordinance and setting August 31, 2026 as the date of the public hearing on this ordinance:

- *6-a. Amending Sections 10-4-2 and 10-4-3 of the Mesa City Code to establish a continuous speed limit of 45 mph on Ellsworth Road from the north City limits to the south City limits by modifying the Ellsworth Road speed limit between Elliot Road and the south City limits from 50 mph to 45 mph, as recommended by the Transportation Advisory Board. **(District 6)** – Ordinance No. 6028

Items not on the Consent Agenda

- 4-e. Fifteen-Month Use of a Cooperative Term Contract with One, One-Year Renewal Option for Facility Maintenance, Repair and Operations (MRO), Industrial & Building-Related Supplies for the Water Resources Department. **(Citywide)**

This contract provides essential MRO supplies needed for maintaining and repairing equipment at City wastewater and water treatment facilities. These items support daily operations by enabling preventive maintenance, responding to unexpected equipment failures, protecting worker safety, and ensuring that critical treatment and pumping systems run efficiently. These resources sustain continuous treatment processes and essential equipment, ensuring compliance with state and federal water quality standards while preventing costly downtime, protecting infrastructure and maintaining uninterrupted service to the community.

The Water Resources Department and Procurement Services recommend authorizing the purchase using the Sourcewell cooperative contract with Fastenal Company; Motion Industries; and Wesco, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 annually, with an annual increase allowance of up to 5% or the adjusted Producer Price Index.

Noah-James Markham, a Tempe resident, expressed his support for the Cooperative Term Contract for the Water Resources Department.

It was moved by Councilmember Taylor, seconded by Councilmember Duff, that the Cooperative Term Contract for the Water Resources Department be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Somers–Duff–Goforth–Heredia–Taylor

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Freeman–Adams

Vice Mayor Somers declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

- 4-h. Use of a Cooperative Contract for the Purchase of One E-One Cyclone Custom Cab Utility Truck (Replacement) for the Mesa Fire and Medical Department (Funded by 2024 Public Safety Bonds). **(Citywide)**

The Mesa Fire and Medical Department is requesting the purchase of one E-One Cyclone Custom Cab Utility Truck as an essential need to support critical emergency operations. The current unit has exceeded its reliable service life and no longer meets the operational demands placed on it. The unit being replaced will be traded, auctioned or sold. A new utility truck will provide dependable on-scene air supply, portable lighting

for nighttime and low-visibility incidents, and rehabilitation support to ensure firefighter health and safety during extended operations.

The Mesa Fire and Medical Department and Procurement Services recommend authorizing the purchase using the Sourcewell cooperative contract with Fire Truck Solutions in an amount not to exceed \$1,670,501, based on estimated requirements

Carey Davis, a Mesa resident, requested information on how frequently the utility vehicle is used and the annual cost for maintenance.

Fire Maintenance Administrator Jason Nickelson explained that the utility truck is primarily used at major incidents to provide lighting and air for firefighters and to refill Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) bottles. He said the truck is used frequently, especially during the summer, but did not have specific usage or annual maintenance figures available. He said he will provide the information to Council.

Fire Chief Mary Camelli added that the utility vehicle helps firefighters be sustainable on calls, especially in the summer, to reduce the risk of heat exhaustion.

In response to multiple questions posed by Councilmember Taylor, Mr. Nickelson answered that the current utility truck is a 2003 model with 132,000 miles and noted that manufacturers typically guarantee parts for only 20 years, making replacement necessary.

It was moved by Councilmember Duff, seconded by Councilmember Goforth, that the Cooperative Contract for the purchase of one E-One Cyclone Custom Cab Utility Truck for the Mesa Fire and Medical Department be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Somers–Duff–Goforth–Heredia–Taylor

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Freeman–Adams

Vice Mayor Somers declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

4-m. Dollar Limit Increase to the Term Contract for Office Furniture, Office Supplies and Related Products for Citywide Departments. **(Citywide)**

This contract is for miscellaneous office furniture, office supplies and related products and was awarded in 2025. This is not a budget increase. The dollar limit increase is required to accommodate the furniture needs of facility rehabilitation projects underway during this contract period. These projects include: Police IT at 245 West 2nd Street, the City Clerk's office, 145 North Centennial for Engineering and Development Services, Fire Station 205, Fire Station 224, the CK Luster building 1st floor, and Police Headquarters. Funds for these projects are within the department's budget capacities and/or in the project's budget. This action simply increases the contract spend capacity.

The Engineering and Business Services Departments and Procurement Services recommend increasing the dollar limit with Wist Business Supplies & Equipment by \$6,000,000 for Contract Year 2 from \$2,000,000 to an amount not to exceed \$8,000,000. The dollar limit will return to \$2,000,000 for future years

Kimberly Daley, a Mesa resident, questioned the proposed increase to the WIST business supplies and equipment contract, focusing on accountability, competitive bidding, and Council oversight. She clarified that she is not questioning the need for the projects, but a concern for the spending authority extended to one contract and whether this structure preserves meaningful Council oversight and competitive procurement discipline.

Business Services Director Ed Quedens explained that the proposed increase does not represent new budget funding since the money is already included in planned projects. He said that the original \$2 million contract represented baseline needs, while additional project funding is added as specific projects arise. He added that the City compared WIST's pricing with available state cooperative contracts and determined that Mesa's existing cooperative contract offered slightly better pricing.

City Manager Scott Butler praised Mr. Quedens and his team for their creative procurement strategies, including reverse auctions, which have generated significant savings and earned national recognition. He emphasized that the City is working to maximize taxpayer dollars while obtaining furniture and equipment for its facilities.

In response to multiple questions from Councilmember Taylor, Mr. Quedens answered that the contract began in August 2025 and is now in its second year. He mentioned that the first year established the \$2 million baseline, while the second year includes additional projects requiring expanded spending authority. He reported that the contract is based on a percentage discount from a common list price, meaning actual prices fluctuate while the discount remains the key competitive factor. He stated that rebidding would be unlikely to produce a better discount because the existing cooperative contract benefits from the large purchasing volume of approximately 100 agencies.

Mr. Butler argued that the pricing secured only one year into the contract remains competitive given current market conditions.

It was moved by Councilmember Duff, seconded by Councilmember Heredia, that the Dollar Limit Increase to the Term Contract for office furniture, office supplies and related products be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Somers–Duff–Goforth–Heredia–Taylor

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Freeman–Adams

Vice Mayor Somers declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

5-b. Adopting a notice of intent to enter into a retail development tax incentive agreement pursuant to A.R.S. § 9-500.11 related to the development known as the "Cannon Beach Hotel," generally located at the southeast corner of Power Road and Warner Road.
(District 6) – Resolution No. 12564

Noah-James Markham, a Tempe resident, provided comments in support of the agreement for the development of the Cannon Beach Hotel.

It was moved by Councilmember Goforth, seconded by Councilmember Heredia, that Resolution No. 12564 be adopted.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Somers–Duff–Goforth–Heredia–Taylor

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Freeman–Adams

Vice Mayor Somers declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

- 5-c. Approving and authorizing the City Manager to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Phoenix to provide detention officer training to City of Phoenix trainees and set forth the terms of reimbursement to the City for such training.
(Citywide) – Resolution No. 12565

Margie Gomez, a Chandler resident, opposed funding for detention officer training involving batons and tasers, calling for additional oversight and auditing. She argued that funds should instead prioritize education and questioned the appropriateness of the proposed use-of-force training. She urged Council not to approve the resolution.

Police Division Manager Christina Vangorden explained that the training is based on the same Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board (POST) curriculum used for sworn officers, including de-escalation and appropriate use of force.

Assistant Police Chief Nesbit stated that officers are trained on multiple levels of force, including batons and electronic connective devices, which are tools that may be necessary in specific situations. She emphasized that their use is governed by department policies, state law, and case law.

In response to a question from Vice Mayor Somers, Assistant Chief Nesbit confirmed that force is only used when permitted under department policies and procedures governing reasonable force.

Responding to a question posed by Vice Mayor Somers, Ms. Vangorden explained that a significant portion of the training focuses on emotional intelligence, communication, and de-escalation techniques to help personnel resolve situations without using force.

Mr. Butler emphasized that proper training is essential to public safety and helps reduce incidents involving detained individuals, officers, and others in the detention facility. He said Mesa takes pride in providing extensive training to its public safety personnel.

Assistant Chief Nesbit reiterated that detention personnel follow Mesa Police Department policies and training standards governed by Arizona POST and the department's training academies. She encouraged residents to view Mesa's transparency webpage at mesaaz.gov/public-safety/Mesa-Police, which provides information about police encounters, use-of-force incidents, and the different types of force used.

It was moved by Councilmember Heredia, seconded by Councilmember Duff, that Resolution No. 12565 be adopted.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Somers–Duff–Goforth–Heredia–Taylor

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Freeman–Adams

Vice Mayor Somers declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

7. Take action on the following resolution:

- 7-a. Approving and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Development Agreement, Government Property Lease Exise Tax Agreement, and Public Access Easement Agreements with Pride Ventures LLC II, for the development of a mixed-use project to be known as "Ovio" on the real property generally located at the northeast corner of Dobson Road and Main Street. **(District 3)** – Resolution No. 12567

Margie Gomez, a Chandler resident, expressed her opinion that the use of funding for the Ovio project would otherwise support education and community colleges. She requested greater oversight, justification for the funding source, and consideration of alternatives that would not reduce education funding. She requested that no further action on this resolution be taken until the City secures a funding source that does not involve decreasing money for education.

City Attorney Jim Smith advised that under the Government Property Lease Excise Tax (GPLET) agreement, the City requires developers to pay the taxing entities during the eight-year tax-abatement period. He explained that the school district taxes will be made whole during the lease term; after the abatement ends, the property will be reassessed and is expected to generate significantly higher tax revenue.

Mr. Butler clarified that all the City's GPLET agreements ensure that those taxing entities are made whole. He indicated that the property has been vacant and currently generates minimal taxes, and after the abatement period, the development is expected to generate substantially higher revenue for educational institutions and other taxing entities than the vacant property currently generates.

Vice Mayor Somers commented that he appreciates Ms. Gomez's concern about education funding and emphasized that education and workforce development are important Council priorities, citing programs that the City funds to ensure access to higher education and a properly trained workforce.

Councilmember Heredia said he supports the GPLET agreement, adding that the Ovio project would bring housing and commercial development to the Asian District and areas near the light rail, creating additional opportunities for residents.

Councilmember Duff pointed to the agenda materials showing the payments that will be made to affected school districts. She explained that the GPLET helps offset the developer's significant costs associated with converting a former transit park-and-ride site into housing while maintaining pedestrian and transit access. She noted that GPLET agreements must provide a public benefit and protect schools.

Mr. Smith reported that the governmental agencies affected by the GPLET agreement were notified in advance.

Councilmember Taylor acknowledged Ms. Gomez's concern about education funding and explained that the agreement includes funding to offset potential losses to educational institutions. She expressed hope that the completed Ovio development will generate additional revenue that can ultimately provide more funding for education.

It was moved by Councilmember Heredia, seconded by Councilmember Goforth, that Resolution No. 12567 be adopted.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Somers–Duff–Goforth–Heredia–Taylor

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Freeman–Adams

Vice Mayor Somers declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

8. Conduct a public hearing.

- 8-a. Public hearing prior to the release of the petition for signatures for the proposed annexation case ANX25-00682 - Annexing 5.2± acres located at the southwest corner of East Williams Field Road and State Route 24. This request has been initiated by Dennis Newcombe, Gammage and Burnham, for the owner, Pacific Proving, LLC. **(District 6)**

Vice Mayor Somers announced that this was the time and place for a public hearing on the release of the petition for signatures for the proposed annexation case ANX25-00682.

Margie Gomez, a Chandler resident, raised concerns about Pacific Proving, LLC's reported involvement with data centers and called for greater transparency and accountability regarding how funds are spent. She requested assurances that the money supports services benefiting Mesa residents.

Mr. Butler commented that the property does not involve a data center and the privately owned property owner is seeking to annex into Mesa. He said the City does not impose additional tests on property owners seeking annexation when they are exercising their rights under City Code.

Mr. Smith advised that no money is involved in the current action and the item is a statutory public notice regarding the proposed annexation, allowing residents to be informed before the matter returns to Council for a future vote.

There being no more citizens present wishing to speak on the issue, the Vice Mayor declared the public hearing closed.

- 8-b. Public hearing prior to the release of the petition for signatures for the proposed annexation case ANX25-00893 - Annexing 196.3± acres located at the northeast corner of South Ellsworth Road and East Williams Field Road. This request has been initiated by Dennis Newcombe, Gammage and Burnham, for the owners, Pacific Proving, LLC, and Mesa BA Land, LLC. **(District 6)**

Vice Mayor Somers announced that this was the time and place for a public hearing prior to the release of the petition for signatures for the proposed annexation case ANX25-00893.

There being no citizens present wishing to speak on the issue, the Vice Mayor declared the public hearing closed.

9. Items from citizens present.

Jason Smithson, a Mesa resident, apologized for incorrectly stating at a previous Council meeting that a Mesa High School resource officer was on the Brady List. He apologized to the

officer, Mesa Police Department, City Council, and Mesa community, taking responsibility for his mistake, and is committed to verifying information more carefully before making public statements.

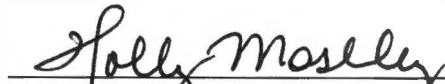
Noah-James Markham, a Tempe resident, congratulated Nick Willis and commented on several topics. He encouraged additional redevelopment, businesses, housing, and improvements near Superstition Springs Mall. He expressed support for the proposed Tokyo data center and discussed its potential significance to the Japanese American community. He noted general support for Flock technology, while raising concerns about its implementation and use by law enforcement.

LeAnn McKelvey, a Mesa resident, spoke against additional data centers in Mesa, raising concerns about their high water and electricity consumption, environmental impacts, noise pollution, potential fires, and effects on residents and businesses.

10. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Regular Council Meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

ATTEST:



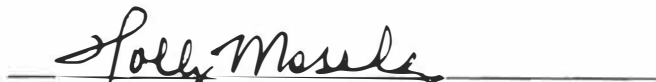
HOLLY MOSELEY, CITY CLERK





For SCOTT SOMERS, VICE 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 17th day of August 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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