



# TAYLOR TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Thursday May 1, 2025 @ 7:00 pm

Town Hall

425 Papermill Road

Taylor, Arizona

**Mayor**

Shawn Palmer

**Vice-Mayor**

Bill Baldwin

**Council Members**

Jason Brubaker

Sherry Cosper Duke

Kris Neff

Lynn DeWitt

April Williams

- Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431-02, notice to hereby given to Taylor Town Council and to the general public that a Public meeting will be held at the Taylor Town Hall on the date listed above.
- The Town Council may adjourn into executive session, which will not be open to the public, to discuss certain matters in accordance with A.R.S. 38-431-03; A.3 consultation for legal advice with the Town Attorney; A.4 consultation with the Town Attorney regarding possible litigation.
- Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Town of Taylor endeavors to make its meetings accessible to persons with disabilities. Please advise the Town Clerk's office at (928) 536-7366 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting for accommodation.
- Town meetings notices and agendas are posted in the Taylor Post Office, 25 S. Main Street; the Taylor Town Hall, and the Town of Taylor website [www.tayloraz.org](http://www.tayloraz.org)

## CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, INVOCATION

**CALL ORDER:** Mayor Shawn Palmer called the meeting to order 7:05 PM

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** April Williams, Sherry Cosper Duke, Chris Neff, Vice Mayor Bill Baldwin, Jason Brubaker, Lynn Dewitt

**STAFF PRESENT:** Manager Gus Lundberg, Town Clerk Marcie Pawlik, Recreation Coordinator Sara Ramsay, Chief Police Bobby Martin, Fire Chief Willie Nelson

**VISITORS:** See List

**PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE:** Jason Brubaker

**INVOCATION:** Chris Neff

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC:** Public may comment on matters within Town jurisdiction but not on the agenda, subject to reasonable time and decorum. Council will take no action on matters presented. Council may respond to criticism, ask staff to review a matter or direct staff to include the matter on a future agenda. (A.R.S. 38-431.01H)

Bill Plants with the Silver Creek Senior Center Acknowledges Vice Mayor Bill Baldwin for getting tires donated from the Snowflake Tire Shop. After one of their vans had a flat and was in need of tires. Very much appreciated.

## CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed below are considered routine and uncontroversial. Consent agenda is considered a single item and may be approved by a single motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Any single item removed from the Consent Agenda at the request of the Council, may be considered as a separate item.

- Approve meeting minutes of April 3, 2025
- Approve April 2025 Check Register
- Approve Resolution R2025-06 Designating Chief Fiscal Officer to submit the Town's State Expenditure Limit Report

**Motion made by Council Member Jason Brubaker**

**Second by Bill Baldwin**

**Motion passed; Unanimous**

## DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

### 1. Presentation of APS 2025 Fire Mitigation Update

Janet Dean, APS Public Affairs Manager for the Northeast division, presented the APS 2025 fire mitigation update. APS focuses year-round on protecting communities from wildfire risk.

Wildfire Mitigation Plan Pillars -Vegetation Management program: Comprehensive right-of-way clearing on regular maintenance cycles. Defensible space around poles with equipment that could spark (10-foot diameter radius). Hazard tree program: identifying and removing sick, dead, or dying trees outside of right of ways that could impact lines.

Grid Hardening: Replacing wood poles with steel poles where accessible. Upgrading lines to be more resilient. Mesh wrapping around the base of poles (6-10ft) to protect them from heat. Using non-expulsion fuses to prevent sparks from falling to the ground.

Asset Inspection: Annual patrol of 260 fire mitigation lines after winter. Inspection by trucks, drones, and helicopters, using infrared to detect heat from equipment. Crews have until May 1<sup>st</sup> to fix any issues found. Monitoring and Awareness: Installing weather stations on 260 fire mitigation lines to monitor weather conditions. Using cameras to monitor lines and detect smoke. AI cameras with 360-degree view to identify fire starts early, tied into regional dispatch centers. Example: cameras on Mount Eldon in flagstaff detected a controlled burn smoke start with in six minutes.

Operational Mitigation: Non-reclosing strategy: turning off equipment that automatically restarts power to prevent fires. Public safety power shut off (PSPS): for 65 very high-risk lines, power may be shut off during extreme weather events. Decision guided by a team of fire scientists, former wildland firefighters, and meteorologists. Wind is the biggest factor, along with heat, moisture level, and fuel loading. Impacts in Show Low and the Southern edge of Taylor. So those lines have now been deemed public safety power shut off lines. Which means when the weather is the most extreme it can be that we're looking at multiple indices, but wind is the biggest one.

Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) Details – Predictable / Forecastable: APS anticipates knowing several days in advance if a PSPS may be necessary. Customers will be notified and updated daily.

Infrequent: Look back over five years showed conditions for PSPS might have occurred four times/

Duration: Estimated outage duration of about 20 hours. Includes the wind event, darkness, and two hours after daybreak for crew patrol and restoration. Preparation: Customers encouraged to

personally prepare for planned outages. Ensure contact information is up to date and sign up for county emergency alerts. Map: A static map shows the line impacting the southern edge of Taylor, crossing the airport. (But not impacting). APS is serious about taking care of customers.

APS Wildfire Mitigation and Services- APS is actively communicating about wildfire mitigation and addressing questions on social media. APS attends fire preparation events and encourages Taylor residents to attend local events.

**No Action**

**2. Consideration and Action Regarding Offer to Purchase Parcel 205-54-008 (Lot 8) in the Taylor Airport Industrial Park**

Manager Gus Lundberg received offer for lot 8 asked David Mills to come up.

David Mills presented an offer from Daniel Johnson and Willie Nelson to purchase Lot 8 in the Taylor Airport Industrial Park, a 7.75-acre parcel, for 250,000.00. The offer is about 32,258.00 per acre, which is lower than the previous sale of 38,000.00 per acre but is reasonable considering the larger parcel size. The property is intended for industrial/agricultural use, which will be discussed at a future meeting for a special use permit. The council discussed making the purchase contingent upon the approval of the special use permit.

Mr. Johnson believes there is a good probability of obtaining SBA financing based on their business plan, job creation, and financial projections. The funding process may take around five to six months.

**Motion made by Council Member Bill Baldwin to accept the offer to sell parcel 205-54-008 (lot 8) for 250,000.00 contingent on the special use permit and financing.**

**Second by Chris Neff**

**Motion passed; Unanimous**

**3. Consideration and Action Regarding an Inter-Governmental Agreement with the Northern Arizona Law Enforcement Training Academy**

Police Chief Bobby Martin explains the agreement aims to share the costs of the training center among participating police agencies in Navajo and Apache County, the agreement involves agencies paying 10,000 a year, which will cover costs previously shouldered solely by individual agencies. The agreement allows unlimited access to the academy for participating agencies, eliminating recruit fees. Chef Bobby mentions that sending an officer outside of Navajo County for Training can cost 10,000-40,000.00, so this agreement is a huge savings. Money generated from the funds that don't go to paying an officer's salary will stay with the training center to buy equipment.

**Motion made by Council Member Sherry Cospier Duke to authorize the mayor to Sign the intergovernmental agreement with the Northern Arizona Law Enforcement Training Academy agreement.**

**Second by April Williams**

**Motion passed; Unanimous**

**4. Consideration and Action Regarding an Inter-Governmental Agreement with Arizona Department of Transportation for Design Improvements to Centennial Boulevard**

Manager Gus Lundberg states almost a year ago an application was submitted for design money through the AZ SMART Program. The town has been awarded 1.1 million for design improvements to Centennial Boulevard, spanning from Centennial Street to 277. The project aims to improve pedestrian access, realign Centennial at Paper Mill Road, and address steep drop-offs along Centennial. ADOT will own the project, select the engineering firm, and cover all costs, with no funds required from the town.

**Motion made by Council Member Jason Brubaker to approve the manager and mayor to proceed with the agreement and sign the agreement with ADOT for the design improvements to Centennial Boulevard.**

**Second by Bill Baldwin**

**Motion passed; Unanimous**

**5. Consideration and Action to Authorize the Split of Parcel 202-23-101C and to Authorize the Execution of a Purchase Agreement with California Gold Development Corporation**

Manager Gus Lundberg states at our last meeting we agreed to split the parcel. I'm seeking approval to take it to Snowflake to approve the lot split for us. And have it recorded with Navajo County and proceed with the property transaction.

**Motion made by Council Member Lynn Dewit to Split Parcel 202-23-101C and authorize manager to execute the purchase agreement with California Gold Development Corporation.**

**Second by Bill Baldwin**

**Motion passed; Unanimous**

**6. Presentation of Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Status and Action Regarding Departmental Budget Transfers**

Manager Gus Lundberg is asking for a departmental adjustment. We want to increase the budget for the recreation department in the current year. The overall budget number is in the 21 million range. There are a lot of contingencies built into that where it's not logical or reasonable that they spend that much. Because they cannot spend more than they budgeted for, they need to account for a wide variety of contingencies or things that might happen. Each department has an overall limit that they are authorized to spend up to. Projections are on target with normal operating expectations, especially regarding sales tax. State monies are coming in as projected. Ambulance revenues, which have been close to 2 million in the last couple of years, are expected to be a little shorter due to decreased call volumes, specifically inter-facility transfers. Revenues are still hitting the budget but not exceeding it as comfortable as in previous years. The town has been able to complete capital projects and spend 1.5 million on property due to not budgeting to spend every dollar. Recreation department needs additional funds to cover benefits and a full-time salary for Sarah assistant and a part-time assistant. A budget transfer of 50,000 from the contingency budget to the recreation budget is what was requested to cover these costs and a vehicle upgrade for Sarah. The current vehicle is about 10 years old with high mileage. The contingency budget would be reduced from 2.5 million to 2.45 million. Snowflakes are supportive of this transfer, as they split the cost of the recreation department based on revenue. The total budget for the pool this year is 498,000.00 which covers operations. In addition to the operations cost, there is a debt on the pool, which is around 230,000.00 Snowflake holds the debt, and both towns pay their portion.

**Motion made by Council Member Chris Neff to approve the budget transfer of 50,000.00 from the contingency budget to the recreation budget.**

**Second by Sherry Cospes Duke**

**Motion passed; Unanimous**

**7. Consideration and Action Regarding the Fiscal Year 2026 Tentative Budget**

Manager Gus Lundberg tentative budget must be adopted by the third Monday in July, which cannot be increased once set. A public hearing will be held at the next meeting regarding the proposed budget. The overall expenditure amount is smaller by a couple hundred thousand. The proposed budget includes a 3 million capital projects fund and 2 million in contingency in the general fund. Departments have modest increases or decrease in their budgets. The proposed budget for 2026 is 21,828,296.00 compared to last year's budget of 22,138,404.00. The budget includes different fund types: general funds, special revenue funds, capital projects fund, and enterprise funds (water and sewer). The budget includes potential financing sources and uses, such as interfund transfers. There is a budget transfer of 500,00.00 to the sewer fund to forgive a portion of the interfund loan balance. Another transfer is planned into the grants fund for local match requirements and into the street fund for projects like the Cessna Loop Road paving project.

**Motion made by Council Member Kris Neff to accept the fiscal year 2026 tentative budget as presented**

**Second by April William**

**Motion passed; Unanimous**

**8. Presentation of Upcoming Summer Program Activities**

Recreation Director Sara Ramsay Summer program includes library programs. The kickoff to the summer program is May 29, with an expected attendance of 400 plus kids. Collaboration between the library and the pool. One Friday every month during the summer they are going to have Story at the pool followed by swimming. Trappers' day is Saturday May 24 and Monday Mayr 26<sup>th</sup>. Summe events will be Color run, dog show, quilt of Valor at 4pm at the state center on Willow. Monday events: Flag ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park at 9AM, Veterans Memorial Day program at 10:30 at the State center on Willow, Hancock Log Cabin tour and dinner at 5:30. Kick off summer pool party the day after the library's kickoff party. Will have Hot dogs and prices. Swim five miles in May challenge. Participants get a shirt with the pool logo. One lifeguard already completed the challenge in 2 hours and 20 minutes. Mayor Shawn Plamer states Community events are crucial for fostering social connections, supporting local businesses, and enriching the quality of life.

**No Action**

**9. Summary of Current Events: Mayor, Town Council Members & Town Manager Report**

**Mayor Shawn Palmer-**

Clean freaks Car Wash is being built

Growth is inevitable and well-structured in Taylor.

If your town notes growing its dying.

Zenni homes presentations in Snowflake – Looking to hire 240 employees

Big Thank You to Sara Ramsay

**April Williams –**

Rodeo looking for Sponsors

**Sherry Cospier Duke-**

The Global Youth project was a success 500 kids participated.

**Jason Brubaker-**

The Silver Creek Walk in Clinic reopened located on Tumbleweed, Dr. Hardy is back and provided care.

**Manager Gus Lundberg-**

We were awarded 160,000.00 for energy -efficient blowers at the sewer treatment plant. Aims to reduce the 9,000 monthly electricity bill.

Airport runway to receive a 1-inch overlay from June 19<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>. Project is 90% funded by ADOT aviation division.

Flag bases are installed on Main Street with smaller flags for better illumination.

**10. Adjournment:** There being no further business Mayor Shawn Palmer adjourned the meeting @ 8:55 PM

***Certification of Minutes:***

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Taylor Town Council meeting held on the 1st day of May 2025. I further certify that the meeting was duly called to order and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 1st day of May 1, 2025

*Marcie Pawlik*