

**Minutes
Town of Clifton
Town Council Regular Meeting
March 12, 2026
2:00 P.M.**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Mayor Laura Dorrell at 2:00 p.m.
Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Town's legal counsel, Matt Schuimo participated via telephone

T Council Member	Title	Attendance	Arrival Time if late
Barbara Ahmann	Council Member ▾	In Person ▾	
Chad Brown	Council Member ▾	In Person ▾	
Laura Dorrell	Mayor ▾	In Person ▾	
Anthony James	Vice Mayor ▾	In Person ▾	
Raymond Lorenzo	Council Member ▾	In Person ▾	
B. Waddell Reyes	Council Member ▾	In Person ▾	

Call to the Public:

Vernon Velasquez , Resident of Clifton spoke about his plans to build a garage on his property.

Council Reports:

Council Member Waddell Reyes reported on her attendance at the Colors of Copper event, praising the successful integration of the American Legion with local food, crafts, and artwork. She also commended the Library for their children's cooking class and expressed appreciation for the new format of the meeting minutes, noting that it has improved readability.

Mayor Dorrell remarked on the excellent turnout for the recent Health Fair, expressing appreciation for the participation of the Town Manager, Police Department, Library, and other staff members. She extended a special thanks to the Town of Clifton for providing the stage, noting it was a significant value-add to the event. Finally, she shared an update on the mural

grant: the Art Honor Society students have finished the traveling mural, and the final project looks incredible.

Vice Mayor James, Council Members Brown, Lorenzo and Ahmann all had no reports to give at this time.

Town Manager Report:

The Town Manager provided an update on the AZ250 Traveling Museum, noting that staff and partners are collaborating closely on preparations. The event is scheduled to commence on March 18 at 9:30 AM. Additionally, the Manager commended staff for their ongoing efforts in the cleaning and maintenance of the Train Depot. The Town Manager expressed appreciation for the opportunity to participate in the Health Fair. Regarding the public concern raised by Melissa Loya concerning the local cat problem, the Manager reported that she and the Police Chief along with Animal Control met with Ms. Loya after consulting with the Health Department. While current regulatory options are limited, the Town continues to explore potential solutions. The Manager emphasized that the candidate filing deadline for the upcoming Elections is March 23; interested residents are encouraged to contact the Town Clerk. Furthermore, a second public hearing for the CDBG project is tentatively scheduled for March 26, 2026. A training session hosted by the League of Cities regarding Open Meeting Law, Public Records, and Conflict of Interest is scheduled for March 25, from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM. The IT modernization project is progressing well, with server replacements completed and remote access installation nearing conclusion. Improved operational efficiency was highlighted by a recent rapid response to a technical help ticket. The Town Manager distributed QR codes for a SEAGO community survey and reported on her recent attendance at a Hispanic Chamber of Commerce meeting focused on regional economic development. Finally, the Annual Chambers of Commerce Mixer will be held in Duncan on March 28. Council members were requested to provide a headcount for ticket purchases.

Consent Agenda: The following items of a non-controversial nature have been grouped together for a single vote without Council discussion. The Consent Agenda is a time-saving device and Council members received documentation on these items for their review prior to the open meeting. Any Council member may remove any item from the Consent Agenda for discussion and a separate vote as deemed necessary. The public may view the documentation relating to the Consent Agenda at the Clifton Town Hall; 510 N. Coronado Blvd., Clifton, Arizona.

1. Approval of the February 12, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes
2. Approval of February 12, 2026 Demands
3. Approval of the amended Elections Services IGA with Greenlee County; duration section changed
4. Approval of the lease for 539 Chase Creek between the Town of Clifton and Ronald Spurlock

Motion: Motion to approve consent agenda.

Motion Made by:	Council Member Waddell Reyes ▾	Seconded By:	Council Member Brown ▾
Aye Votes:	☒ Council Member Ahmann ☒ Council Member Brown ☒ Council Member Lorenzo ☒ Council Member Waddell Reyes ☒ Vice Mayor James ☒ Mayor Dorrell	Nay Votes:	☐ Council Member Ahmann ☐ Council Member Brown ☐ Council Member Lorenzo ☐ Council Member Waddell Reyes ☐ Vice Mayor James ☐ Mayor Dorrell
Abstained:	None ▾	Recused:	None ▾
Motion	Carries ▾	Time:	2:08

Executive Session**Motion:** Motion to enter executive session.

Motion Made by:	Council Member Brown ▾	Seconded By:	Council Member Ahmann ▾
Aye Votes:	☒ Council Member Ahmann ☒ Council Member Brown ☒ Council Member Lorenzo ☒ Council Member Waddell Reyes ☒ Vice Mayor James ☒ Mayor Dorrell	Nay Votes:	☐ Council Member Ahmann ☐ Council Member Brown ☐ Council Member Lorenzo ☐ Council Member Waddell Reyes ☐ Vice Mayor James ☐ Mayor Dorrell
Abstained:	None ▾	Recused:	None ▾
Motion	Carries ▾	Time:	2:17

1. Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A.1) for discussion or consideration of assignment or appointment regarding a vacancy on the Clifton Town Council.

- a. Interview with Town Council Applicant Constance Fowler
- b. Interview with Town Council Applicant Akos Kovach
- c. Interview with Town Council Applicant Johnny Merino

Reconvened from Executive Session at 2:43 p.m.

New Business

Mayor stated that they will move agenda item regarding filling vacancy to the last agenda item

Discussion and possible action on the Clifton Town Council vacancy

Motion: Motion to appoint Akos Kovach to the current vacancy spot on the council.

Motion Made by:	Council Member Waddell Reyes ▾	Seconded By:	Council Member Lorenzo ▾
Aye Votes:	☒ Council Member Ahmann ☒ Council Member Brown ☒ Council Member Lorenzo ☒ Council Member Waddell Reyes ☒ Vice Mayor James ☒ Mayor Dorrell	Nay Votes:	☐ Council Member Ahmann ☐ Council Member Brown ☐ Council Member Lorenzo ☐ Council Member Waddell Reyes ☐ Vice Mayor James ☐ Mayor Dorrell
Abstained:	None ▾	Recused:	None ▾
Motion	Carries ▾	Time:	3:02

Akos Kovach was sworn in at 3:05 p.m and was read his Oath of Office by Town Clerk Cecillia Jernigan.

Fair Housing Month Proclamation –

Read and signed by Mayor Laura Dorrell

First reading of ordinance 01-2026 AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CLIFTON, ARIZONA, AMENDING THE CODE OF CLIFTON, ARIZONA, TITLE XIII GENERAL OFFENCES; BY AMENDING Chapter 130 MISCELLANEOUS OFFENSES; section 130.18 Storage of automobiles and automobile parts related to storage of vehicles; providing for repeal of conflicting ordinances; providing for severability; and providing for penalties. Read by the Mayor.

Town manager- The current ordinances say as long as it has a current registration that cars can have no wheels, blithe issues. Our new ordinances will help us better deal. This help that if vehicles are inoperable. We bring this before you tonight .

It was questioned about “visible”.

This will be if it is visible from the road etc or from his visibility.

Discussion and possible action to approve the Greenlee Tourism Association's request for financial and in-kind support from the Town of Clifton for the 2026 San Francisco River Festival

Akos Kovach spoke about their upcoming event. He spoke about Clifton's General Plan about the revitalization of the San Francisco River, they are asking for leniency when it comes to the fees, they are asking for the permit fees to be waived.

VC mayor questioned if this is the Frisco event,

Akos clarified that they tend to call it different things but since it was close to Saint Patrick's day they went with that name instead but it still brings them down to the River. He hopes if this waived then it would be an in-kind donation and we would become sponsor for the event

Motion: Motion to waive the 2 fees, the application and event fee.

Motion Made by:	Council Member Lorenzo ▾	Seconded By:	Council Member Lorenzo ▾
Aye Votes:	☒ Council Member Ahmann ☐ Council Member Brown ☒ Council Member Lorenzo ☒ Council Member Waddell Reyes ☒ Vice Mayor James ☒ Mayor Dorrell	Nay Votes:	☐ Council Member Ahmann ☐ Council Member Brown ☐ Council Member Lorenzo ☐ Council Member Waddell Reyes ☐ Vice Mayor James ☐ Mayor Dorrell
Abstained:	None ▾	Recused:	Council Member Brown ▾
Motion	Carries ▾	Time:	3:00

Adjournment

Motion: Motion to adjourn meeting

Motion Made by:	Vice Mayor James ▾	Seconded By:	Council Member Ahmann ▾
Aye Votes:	☒ Council Member Ahmann ☒ Council Member Brown ☒ Council Member Lorenzo ☒ Council Member Waddell Reyes ☒ Vice Mayor James ☒ Mayor Dorrell	Nay Votes:	☐ Council Member Ahmann ☐ Council Member Brown ☐ Council Member Lorenzo ☐ Council Member Waddell Reyes ☐ Vice Mayor James ☐ Mayor Dorrell
Abstained:	None ▾	Recused:	None ▾
Motion	Carries ▾	Time:	3:07