

**Minutes
Town of Clifton
Town Council Regular Meeting
November 13, 2025
2:15 p.m.**

Town Council Members

Shane Kennedy, Council Member

Chad Brown, Council Member

Anthony James, Vice Mayor*

Laura Dorrell, Mayor

Raymond Lorenzo, Council Member

B. Waddell Reyes, Council Member

Barbara Ahmann, Council Member**

***Excused**

****Participated via telephone**

A quorum was present.

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

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Mayor Laura Dorrell at 2:35 p.m. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call to the Public

Lieutenant Guerero from the Greenlee County Sheriff's Office provided a sheriff's report, noting that the office is busy with investigations, including drug investigations, and has received several grants, including the OV grant for parks and trails, which provided three police-ready side-by-sides.

Council Reports

Council Member Kennedy

Council Member Kennedy reported on the Fall Fiesta Food Festival scheduled for that Saturday, thanking the sponsors and inviting attendees.

Council Member Brown

Council Member Brown reported on discussions with Arizona Eastern Railroad regarding railroad horn noise complaints. They learned that the railroad is not obligated to obey quiet-horn zones due to visibility issues near the floodgate and mountains, and moving the mountain or the floodgate would be prohibitively expensive. Council Brown also addressed the need for more AEDs in public buildings, noting that they are required only upon remodeling, but suggested purchasing more and ensuring the existing ones are registered and maintained.

Council Member Waddell Reyes

Council member Reyes mentioned that things are proceeding accordingly for the Festival of Lights. She thanked the Town Manager for successfully resolving some issues related to the permit.

Mayor Dorrell

The mayor brought up a concern she received about the geothermal drilling project. A resident expressed concern about the lights and noise from the project, particularly because they work very early mornings. Regarding this, Martha Lujan explained that once drilling begins, the process cannot be stopped. She further clarified that the project will only be focusing on extracting heat from the water, and no water will actually be taken, as it will be pumped back into the ground. Furthermore, the Mayor reported on her participation as a Flynn Brown Fellow, where she is preparing an advocacy speech emphasizing the need for investment in genuinely rural communities, such as Clifton, over suburban areas.

Committee Reports

Grants and Funding

Given the Library Director's upcoming departure, Council Member Ahmann has indicated her preference for the Grants and Funding Committee to meet in December to regroup.

All other committees had no reports.

Town Manager Report

The Town Manager presented a monthly update, noting the Fall Fiesta and Festival of Lights planning are moving forward, and inviting council members to participate in the Festival of Lights parade. The Town Clerk and staff were recognized for their work in records management, having properly destroyed 64 large file boxes of old records. Code enforcement continues to address daily code violations and abandoned vehicle issues. The Parks and RV Park staff have been painting gazebos and tables, and cleaning/painting the Train Depot. Vandalism, including the stealing of faucet knobs and plugged drains in the park bathrooms, has been reported, and staff are looking into mitigation alternatives. Public Works is working on road maintenance and is boarding up the Elks Lodge to prevent trespassing and ensure safety. Cathy Benavidez was introduced as the new Library Director, bringing experience in early childhood education and a passion for literary arts. The Police Department is implementing the new flex software program, resulting in faster response times and improved communication, with gratitude extended to FMI for a \$75,000 check to support the software. The Police Department is recruiting for a dispatch position, and animal control received a \$3,000 grant from the Best Friends Animals Society.

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 October 9, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes; October 29, Special Session Minutes
2. Approval of October 2025 Demands
3. Discussion and/or action to approve the October 2025 list of town property for sale by auction.

Motion to approve the consent agenda by Council Member Brown seconded by Council Member Waddell Reyes.

Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members Brown, Kennedy, Dorrell, Lorenzo, Waddell Reyes, and Ahmann.

Motion carries.

New Business

Discussion and/or Action to Adopt Resolution No. 2025-11: Authorization to Submit an Application and Implement a CDBG Project.

Council determined the projects to select for the FY2025 CDBG cycle would be the generator for the Senior Center and ADA and other improvements in the area surrounding the Senior Center.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-11 for the CDBG FY2025 grant cycle made by Council Member Brown, seconded by Council Member Waddell Reyes

Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members Brown, Kennedy, Lorenzo, Waddell Reyes, and Ahmann.

Mayor Dorrell abstained from voting

Motion carries.

Presentation- Project update on Brownfield Properties, by Dave Laney of Stantec

Presenter was unable to attend meeting, agenda item tabled for a later date

Announcement of Retirement and Recognition of Library Director Sabrina Dumas

The Town manager offered congratulations to Sabrina on their retirement after 11 years of dedicated service, starting in 2014. The Town Manager recognized Sabrina's greatest accomplishments, including creating the children's area at the library and making the library a

welcoming place where patrons felt comfortable. Sabrina shared their gratitude, reflecting on the "glimmers" they experienced while helping patrons and staff.

Motion to recess for reception for Sabrina Dumas made by Council Member Waddell Reyes, seconded by Council Member Kennedy

Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members Brown, Kennedy, Dorrell, Lorenzo, Waddell Reyes, and Ahmann.

Motion carries.

Executive Session

Executive session pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 38-431.03(A)(1) and (3) for discussion or consideration of employment or salary of a public officer, appointee, or employee of the Town, specifically, the position of Town Manager, and for possible legal advice related thereto.

Executive session pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 38-431.03(A)(3) and (7) for possible legal advice and to consider its position and instruct its representatives regarding negotiations for the purchase, sale or lease of real property located at 497 Chase Creek Street and other locations suitable for use as the Town Manager Residence.

Executive session pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 38-431.03(A)(3) and (7) for discussion and consultation for legal advice with the Town Attorney regarding the parking lot owned by the Town at, near, or around, Lots 23-25 in Clifton, Arizona in order to consider the Town's legal position and receive instruction following further discussion with representatives from Roman Catholic Diocese of Tucson.

New Business

Discussion and possible action regarding the selection and potential hiring of a Town Manager.

Motion to move forward with the hiring and contract process to hire Cindy Blackmore as Town Manager made Council Member Waddell Reyes, seconded by Council Member Brown

Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members Brown, Kennedy, Dorrell, Lorenzo, Waddell Reyes, and Ahmann.

Motion carries.

Council reconvened at 4:43pm

Discussion and possible action regarding the potential purchase of residential real property located at 497 Chase Creek and other potential locations suitable for purchase and use as the Town Manager residence.

Direction provided in Executive Session for Town Attorney

Discussion and possible action regarding the possible disposition of the public parking lot owned by the Town at, near, or around, Lots 23-25 in Clifton.

Direction provided in Executive Session for Town Attorney

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Council Member Ahmann, seconded by Council Member Brown

Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members Brown, Kennedy, Dorrell, Lorenzo, Waddell Reyes, and Ahmann.

Motion carries.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:45 pm