MINUTES[1]

TUSAYAN TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

PURSUANT TO A.R.S. § 38-431.02 & § 38-431.03
Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.
TUSAYAN TOWN HALL BUILDING
845 Mustang Drive, Tusayan, Arizona

TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES[2]

1. ***CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE***

Mayor Vail called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and led the Council and public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ***ROLL CALL*** - *One or two Council Members may attend by telephone.*

MAYOR CLARINDA VAIL – Present ***COUNCIL MEMBER ANDREW ALDAZ*** – Present

VICE MAYOR GREG BRUSH – Present ***COUNCIL MEMBER ELENA VILLANUEVA*** – Present via Zoom

COUNCIL MEMBER JOSH COLLET – Present

3. ***ADOPT THE AGENDA***

Mayor Vail moved to adopt the Agenda as presented except for moving Item 8.A, which is Executive Session, to be the last Item, and Vice Mayor Brush seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Aye: Mayor Vail, Vice Mayor Brush, Council Member Collet, Council Member Aldaz, Council Member Villanueva

4. ***CALL TO THE PUBLIC FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA***

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[1] *For economy of space and ease of reading the minutes have been organized according to the agenda language. Items as they appear on the agenda have been italicized with the actual minute entries entered in plain type for reader convenience.*

[2] *Minutes are organized by agenda item in the order in which they were discussed.*

Members of the public may address the Council on items not on the printed agenda. The Council may not discuss, consider or act upon any matter raised during public comment. Members of the audience who wish to speak to the Council on an Item listed as Public Hearing should complete a Request to Speak Card and turn it into the Town Clerk. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person.

No one spoke.

5. CEREMONIAL AND/OR INFORMATIONAL MATTERS

A. Coconino County Sheriff's Office Quarterly Report

Lieutenant Stephen McNerney of the Coconino County Sheriff's Office gave the Report for October, November, and December of 2025. *(Please see Report attached to the Agenda Packet online.)*

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Items on the consent agenda are routine in nature and will be acted on with one motion and one vote. Members of the council or staff may ask the Mayor to remove any item from the consent agenda to be discussed and acted upon separately.

A. Ratification of payable accounts and after-payable accounts
B. Ratification of Electronic and Automatic Payable Accounts and Spending Limit Pre-authorization
C. Minutes of Council Meeting held on December 9, 2025.
D. Ratification of Amendment to Accounting Services with Klomann Accounting, LLC to include payroll services effective January 2026.

Vice Mayor Brush moved to approve the Consent Agenda, and Council Member Collet seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Aye: Mayor Vail, Vice Mayor Brush, Council Member Collet, Council Member Aldaz, Council Member Villanueva

7. ACTION ITEMS - STAFF REPORTS

A. Consideration, discussion, and possible action regarding Appointment of Vice Mayor

Council Member Collet moved that we appoint Greg Brush as the Vice Mayor, and Council Member Villanueva seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Aye: Mayor Vail, Council Member Collet, Council Member Aldaz, Council Member Villanueva, Abstained: Vice Mayor Brush

B. Jessica Remington, Tourism Marketing Coordinator will provide a brief overview of plans for the remainder of FY26. The following will be addressed:

- *Tusayan Commitments / Events*
- *Tusayan's Calendar of Placements / Content*
- *Marketing Collateral*
- *Bandwango App*
- *Social Media Plans (Organic & Paid)*
- *Opportunities for Consideration & Approval*

Town Manager Clifton introduced Jessica Remington and commented on their regular meetings.

Jessica Remington gave a presentation that included a Calendar of Events for FY26. *(Please see Report attached to the Agenda Packet online.)*

Town Manager Clifton spoke about funding and budgeting marketing efforts.

Mayor Vail asked when the deadline for feedback on the proposed initiatives was.

Jessica responded that for Instagram, she would need comments by the end of this month, and for some of these campaigns next week.

In regard to the new National Park fee for international visitors, Council Member Villanueva asked how Jessica would handle questions about the additional costs when she meets with operators and even in advertising for international business.

Jessica replied that she has heard that the F.I.T. market, which is the families traveling internationally, will not be as impacted because they can buy the annual pass. She noted that the families would more than likely travel to other National Parks as well. She commented that she also heard that groups like buses may be a little more challenging.

Town Manager Clifton commented that there has been a great effort to try to message this, and the AOT summary sheet is helpful but does not answer all the questions. He noted that after the last Council Meeting with some discussion, there was a letter authored by the Mayor on behalf of the Council that went out to all of our Congressional Delegates and the Secretary of the Department of the Interior.

Mayor Vail commented that she had heard from AOT that the Department of the Interior had only heard from Offices of Tourism from Utah and Arizona. The AOT representative the Mayor spoke to indicated that she felt strongly that the only way that we will ever get an ear at all with the Department of the Interior or the Administration would be for us to start collecting data to share with Washington D.C.

Jessica suggested we reach out to the Tusayan businesses to ask them to track their cancelations and lost revenue, then we can create regular reporting.

Council Member Aldaz asked whom businesses should contact with their questions - Jessica or the Town Manager.

Town Manager Clifton indicated that either way would work because they meet regularly.

Julie Aldaz, on Zoom, commented that the speakers have been cutting out intermittently. She thanked Jessica for her information and asked if we are going to focus on any Google ads with the marketing or are we only going to do social media.

Jessica commented that she believes there are Google ads within the Orange 142 proposal, and if not, they are an option we could add on.

C. Proposal from Stoney Ward for Route 66 Centennial Campaign - TOT

Town Manager Clifton explained that this Item is something that came up recently, and it was put in the Agenda Packet for the Council's consideration. He noted we do not want to filter out any proposal coming in regarding this.

Mayor Vail commented that she is happy to look at whatever they are doing on their Facebook, but she has concerns. She shared some of her concerns about what they are promoting versus what we would promote.

Council Member Collet asked if anyone knew the domain name of the Chamber's website that was locked.

Mayor Vail explained that it is still there at GrandCanyonCVB.org, but none of the links work, and there is a dating thing at the bottom of it.

Jessica commented that she thought that it expired and someone else acquired it.

Council Member Collet asked if it was something the Town should try to acquire.

Town Manager Clifton stated we will look into that.

D. Consideration, discussion, and possible action regarding Cinco de Mayo, Astronomy Events, July 4th Celebration, marketing, and other Town Events.

Mayor Vail asked if the Town Manager had any conversations with the drone show company.

Town Manager Clifton replied that he reached out and made sure that we were in the queue. Their response was that we will remain the very first consideration.

Mayor Vail checked with the Council Members to be sure they were still all in for the shows, and they were.

It was noted that there would be three shows per year, and there would be no drone show for Cinco de Mayo on May 5, 2026. The three shows will be for the Fourth of July, Indigenous Peoples' Day, and the Holiday Lighting Event.

Mayor Vail advised the Town Manager that for Cinco de Mayo, we usually put out an email to ask who would like to bid on it.

E. Consideration, discussion, and possible action regarding local community programming including Town of Tusayan (TOT) Pass Healthy Living Library Check-out Program, After-School Program, Community Health Nurse, and Santa Shack.

There was no discussion on this Item.

F. Consideration, discussion, and possible action regarding Development of Town Owned Parcels of Real Property.

Vice Mayor Brush asked about the progress on the Town Manager's house.

Town Manager Clifton commented that Mike and the team have been working hard over there. He noted that the initial efforts were to clean the house out, and there were some outdated appliances, carpet and furnishings which had all been removed. He commented that Mike informed him today that the next step is painting, and he has someone to do it. The final step after the painting will be the carpet.

8. *EXECUTIVE SESSION*

If authorized by a majority vote of the Town Council, an executive session may be held immediately after the vote and will not be open to the public. The Town Council may vote to go into executive session.

A. Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03 A.1 and A.3, Discussion and Town Attorney's advice regarding the Town Manager recruitment process.

Mayor Vail announced that we will skip the Executive Session and go to the Town Reports, the Council Reports, and then go into Executive Session.

9. *TOWN REPORTS*

A. Town Manager and Department Reports

Town Manager Clifton noted there were copies on the dais of the 2026 Municipal Policy Statement from the League of Arizona Cities and Towns.

Town Manager Clifton referred to his report in the Agenda Packet highlighting that the Town submitted months ago an application to have some additional work done on our pedestrian crosswalks in Town. He noted that the granting agency is Department of Transportation through NACOG which awarded $185,000 to the Town for a scoping exercise for the crosswalks.

In response to a question, Town Manager Clifton commented that the initiation has commenced; we worked with NACOG last week on the Transportation Improvement Plan. He explained that this is 2027 money, so we are getting the administrative stuff out of the way now. He further explained that 2027 will start July 1st of this year, and we will be ready to start expending those funds right at that time.

Town Manager Clifton commented that the loop trails are nearing completion, and he and the Vice Mayor will walk those trails soon to take a look at the improvements. He noted that all of Phase I has been completed at this point. He advised that we are working with the County and the State to get these trails mapped and on their respective websites.

Town Manager Clifton announced that we have made the transition to the Bookkeeper for payroll.

Town Manager Clifton asked the Council for feedback regarding the planned retreat on February 24th.

There was a discussion about the two meetings on February 24th – the Council Special Meeting at 1:00 p.m. and the Community Awareness Meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Council Member Villanueva advised that later in the day would be much better for her. She will work with Town Manager Clifton to determine a time.

Town Manager Clifton commented that we are lining up a few speakers to attend.

1. *Notices*
2. *Finance*
3. *Strategic Planning Updates*
4. *Parks and Recreation*
    a. *Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni Grand Canyon National Monument Status Update*
5. *Engineering*

B. 2025 Meeting Schedule

1. *Annual Town Calendar*
2. *Annual Budget Calendar*

C. Council Members

D. Mayor

Mayor Vail thanked the Town Manager for bringing it to her attention that there was a Town Hall meeting in Williams on the ADOT Highway 64 project that is 20 miles coming north from Williams. She noted that they ended up moving the meeting from the Town Hall to the Elementary School auditorium which was 75 percent full. She spoke at the meeting and got a huge response from a lot of people in attendance. She explained that hopefully, if they do stay to their word, they will try to do the improvements at night starting in June.

Mayor Vail commented that in this discussion of the study of what we can do with the crosswalks she mentioned to the Town Manager, and showed him last week, the striping to the north that looks so bad. She has asked the Town Manager to reach out to ADOT to see if they can do it or if we need to do it.

Mayor Vail noted that she has a conflict with physically attending the Council Regular Meeting in February and would need the Vice Mayor to run the meeting. She explained that she has been asked with the Wilderness Society to go to D.C. mainly promoting the Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni National Monument. She commented that the Conservancy Group is fine with her promoting Tusayan things, too. She stated she could attend the Council Meeting on February 10th by Zoom.

E. Tusayan Fire District

There was no report from Chief Brush.

F. Tusayan Sanitary District

G. Tusayan Justice Court

H. NACOG – Northern Arizona Council of Governments

I. Grand Canyon National Park Airport, Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT)

J. Flood Control Master Plan

At 6:15 p.m., Mayor Vail announced that the Council will now enter Executive Session, and people can come back on Zoom at 6:30 p.m., but there will be no action.

At 6:16 p.m., Vice Mayor Brush moved to go into Executive Session, and Council Member Collet seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Aye: Mayor Vail, Vice Mayor Brush, Council Member Collet, Council Member Aldaz, Council Member Villanueva

At 6:30 p.m., Mayor Vail called the regular meeting back to order.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

11. MOTION TO ADJOURN

At 6:30 p.m., Council Member Collet moved to adjourn, and Vice Mayor Brush seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Aye: Mayor Vail, Vice Mayor Brush, Council Member Collet, Council Member Aldaz, Council Member Villanueva

Clarinda Vail 2/13/26

Clarinda Vail, Mayor Date

ATTEST:

Tina M. Abriani

Tina M. Abriani, Town Clerk

CERTIFICATION

STATE OF ARIZONA §
§
COCONINO COUNTY §

I, TINA M. ABRIANI, do hereby certify that I am the Town clerk of Town of Tusayan, County of Coconino, State of Arizona, and that the above minutes are a true and correct summary of the meeting of the Council held on JANUARY 13, 2026. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Tina M. Abriani 02-13-26

Town Clerk Date