

Arco City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2026

In attendance: Council members Tessmer, Reese, Darland and Cummins. City Clerk Jensen, Maintenance Supervisor Tony Chisham, PZ Chair Rebecca Lange. Guests Kirsten Bingham and Rich Harry.

7:00 pm Council President Tessmer - meeting called to order, led Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments

Kirsten Bingham inquired about the necessary repairs for the neon sign on the Rec Hall. Maintenance Supervisor Chisham stated that parts and services for older signs like it are hard to find and currently he is waiting on a part to complete repairs.

Bills

- Total \$32,089.30
- Councilwoman Reese motioned to approve, Councilwoman Darlan 2nd, all in favor. Motion carried.

Rich Harry/BLRID Canal Projects

- Thanked the Maintenance crew for their efforts in assisting BLRID in completing the recent projects on the canal going through town. Cat tracks have been installed to aid animals in getting out of the canal if they happen to get in. Pipes have also been installed in several locations to allow runoff to enter the canal, helping to keep standing water off the streets. BLRID wishes to reutilize the laterals running through town, making water rights deliverable and allowing for recharge. They will be working with residents to clear obstructions and asked for the City's help in making this possible. Council inquired as to upcoming projects involving the Mackay Dam. The control tower needs to be rebuilt with new concrete and a new control deck and gates installed; work is tentatively scheduled for late 2027. The spillway needs an upgrade involving a new base under the concrete, it will also be widened and made steeper.

Roundtable

- City Clerk Jensen reminded the Council that the office will be closed May 13th for training. Signs will be posted on the door.
- Councilwoman Reese: Inquired when improvements to pilot's lounge at airport are going to happen. Clerk Jensen stated she plans to start after the rehab project on the runway begins this summer. Ms. Reese asked about May cleanup and the possibility of organizing a community-wide volunteer event to pick-up trash throughout the city.

- Council President Tessmer met with Rep. Ben Fuhriman and Senator Julie Van Orden during a recent campaign stop. They discussed a potential park development project in the city and Rep. Fuhriman suggested creating a Recreation District, which could provide additional grant opportunities. Pres Tessmer also expressed the dire need for infrastructure improvements and the challenges to secure the necessary funding. Rep. Fuhriman and Sen Van Orden said they would inquire about available Discretionary funds. Sen Van Orden asked if the city has had any progress with ITD and addressing the issues presented last fall regarding the speed limit and intersection at Front and Grand. Pres Tessmer stated ITD has provided additional signage and mention of a possible Hawk Signal Crossing, but a claim more traffic studies are necessary to address the speed limit and possibility of a traffic light. Sen Van Orden sits on a committee overseeing ITD and she will make further inquiries about a solution.
- Councilman Cummins asked Maintenance Supervisor Chisham if the meter had been filled in at the Chaffin residence. No update was available at the time of the meeting. The property at 695 Joan was also addressed, no work has been done to remedy the hazards on the property, but it has been listed for sale and inquiries made about purchasing. Piles of dirt were left from work on the bridge on Grand, they will be moved shortly. The Maintenance crew have run into issues with the sprinkler system at the parks, so the water isn't running yet. New parts have been ordered, and repairs will be completed as soon as possible. Councilman Cummins also inquired about spraying weeds around town. Mr. Chisham stated the maintenance crew does some of the spraying and we also contract the county to assist.
- PZ Chair Rebecca Lange: discussion about ordinances for parking and allowances on city owned property, specifically communication towers.

At 8:35 pm, meeting adjourned. The next regular City Council meeting is scheduled for May 26, 2026, at 7 pm at the City office.

Grady Parsons, Mayor

Dana Jensen, City Clerk