

Arco City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2025

In attendance: Mayor Parsons, Council members Tessmer, McCurdy, Reese and Darland. City Clerk Jensen, Deputy Clerk Smith, Maintenance Tony Chisham & Tim Snyder, PZ Chair Rebecca Lange, Kirsten Bingham, Erv Grafwallner, Herman Doering, Clifford Babb and family, K.J. Babcock, Mike Duke, Tom Darland, Rosanne Smith.

7:00 pm Mayor Parsons called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

Amend Agenda

Pres. Tessmer made a motion to amend the agenda to include Tom Darland. Councilman McCurdy 2nd.

Public Comments

Erv Grafwallner addressed the Council regarding sand in the City water system, the lines have been flushed several times to alleviate this issue in hopes the sand issue will improve. He also questioned if the water rights for the Water St well had been transferred, Maint. Supervisor Chisham confirmed they had not. Grafwallner also cautioned against the use of a submersible pump for this well, as there were issues with these in the past. Babb addressed the Council regarding the required minimum bond payment for City services, even when the water is shut off at the meter. His family is moving and listing the home for sale. He asked that council waive the fee due to his family's current financial situation. Council sympathizes with their situation; however the vacant rate fee is defined in the ordinance to ensure that the annual bond requirements are met and cannot be waived.

Camille Miller, Forsgren – Update on LSL

Discovery process for the 275 unknown service lines is scheduled to start spring of 2026 for the required LSL Inventory. Forsgren will submit an ad for 'Invitation to Bid' to be published in the Advertiser and will run for 2 weeks. She also reported there is still no funding available for the desired Wastewater project. The City will receive \$25,000 from USDA as part of the Search Grant awarded at the start of the planning study.

Tom Darland - Connect to City Sewer System

Darland is building a new shop on his property outside of City limits but wishes to connect to the City sewer system. Plans will be engineered and include a lift station. Maint. Supervisor Chisham advised that installation of a lift station may require approval from DEQ. Darland will submit application for review with intentions of moving ahead with the project.

Frontier Credit Union Sign

Councilwoman Darland, Clerk Jensen and Maint. Lead Snyder met with representatives from Frontier and ITD last week to discuss moving the large bank sign located on the corner of Front and Grand. Darland gave a recap of that meeting to the rest of the council, however, no representative from Frontier attended tonight's meeting. No decisions were made.

Adopt All Hazard Mitigation Plan - K.J.Babcock

Current mitigation plan expired in 2024, Babcock presented the new revised plan for Council to adopt. The revised plan will expire in 2029. The Council thanked K.J. for his time and efforts in putting the revised plan together. Councilwoman Darland made a motion to adopt, Councilwoman Reese 2nd.

2025 Hay Price

Council discussed current hay prices, with input from Maint. Lead Snyder, after which the price for City hay was set at \$135/ton. 2nd crop yielded approximately 60 bales. Councilwoman Darland made a motion, Councilwoman Reese 2nd.

Bills

Bills were read and approved in the amount of \$24,846.60. Councilman McCurdy made a motion, Councilwoman Reese 2nd.

Roundtable

Clerk Smith asked the Council if they would like to donate to the Lost River Senior Center Annual Fundraiser, no decision was reached.

Clerk Jensen congratulated Maint. Lead Snyder for his recent anniversary of 10 years with the City.

Mayor Parsons thanked the city crew for weed removal around the City.

Pres. Tessmer has been researching the water mitigation efforts discussed in previous meetings. He asked the Council to brainstorm about how we can incentivize citizens to use less water. For example, modify landscaping with rock and sand, less vegetation, to be more drought friendly. Emergency access through Joan St was also discussed.

Councilwoman Reese cited the ill repair of Temple Street in front of the Lost River Senior Center and talked about the need to get the potholes filled before winter. Maint. Lead Snyder replied that the crew would complete the repairs.

Councilwoman Darland discussed the upcoming meeting with ITD and the 24 hour speed study that was recently done the week after Labor Day. This was only a speed study, not a traffic study that the City had requested. Discussion also included signage, the possibility of rumble strips, and adding a crosswalk somewhere at Grand and Front Street so people can safely cross the intersection. The only clearly marked and maintained crosswalk is in front of the school.

P&Z Chair Rebecca Lange stated that the second hearing for the rezoning of the school property will be on September 10th. She also stated that the zoning map is a big project that she hopes to have more time to tackle as construction season winds down.

At 8:54 pm Councilman McCurdy made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Pres. Tessmer 2nd. The next regular city council meeting is scheduled for September 22, 2025, at 7 pm at the BBC.

Grady Parsons, Mayor

Dana Jensen, City Clerk