

**TOWN OF FLORENCE
TEEN COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA**

Chair Maddison Heimann
Vice-Chair Xavier Fedor
Secretary Emma Coffey
Councilmember Addyson Atwell
Councilmember Maile Derasin
Councilmember Kayla Clark
Councilmember Natalia Garcia



Florence Town Hall
775 N. Main Street
Florence, AZ 85132
(520) 868-7500
www.florenceaz.gov
Meet 2nd Wednesday

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

6:00 PM

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the Town of Florence Teen Council and to the general public that a Meeting of the Florence Teen Council will be held on Wednesday, March 11, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers located at 775 N. Main Street, Florence, Arizona.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL: Maddison Heimann, Xavier Fedor, Emma Coffey, Addyson Atwell, Maile Derasin, Kayla Clark, Natalia Garcia**
- 3. MOMENT OF SILENCE**
- 4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 5. CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Call to the Public for public comment on issues within the jurisdiction of the Town Council. Council rules limit public comment to three minutes. Individual Councilmembers may respond to criticism made by those commenting, may ask staff to review a matter raised or may ask that a matter be put on a future agenda. However, members of the Council shall not discuss or act on any matter during an open call to the public unless the matters are properly noticed for discussion and legal action.
- 6. MINUTES**
 - A. Discussion/Approval/Disapproval of the November 4, 2025, and January 14, 2026, Teen Council Meeting Minutes. (Ian Newcomb)**
- 7. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Discussion and possible action on participating in expanding opportunities for members to develop public speaking and presentation skills, including exploring participation in speech competitions, leadership events, and related activities. (Lisa Garcia)**

Please remember to silence your phone during the meeting. Thank you.

- B. Discussion and possible action on the creation of a spring Make a Difference Day sponsored by the Florence Teen Council. (Ian Newcomb)
- C. Discussion and possible action on participating in the April Third Friday event through sponsoring a gaming truck. (Lisa Garcia)
- D. Discussion and possible action on attending the ASU 2026 Logic, Leadership, and Life Skills Camp. (Ian Newcomb)

8. Liaison Reports

9. Call to the Teen Council

10. ADJOURNMENT

POSTED ON MARCH 5, 2026, BY IAN NEWCOMB, DEPUTY TOWN CLERK, AT 775 NORTH MAIN STREET, FLORENCE, ARIZONA, AND AT WWW.FLORENCEAZ.GOV.

*****PURSUANT TO TITLE II OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA), THE TOWN OF FLORENCE DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF DISABILITY REGARDING ADMISSION TO PUBLIC MEETINGS. PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY MAY REQUEST REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS BY CONTACTING THE TOWN OF FLORENCE ADA COORDINATOR, AT (520) 868-8300 OR 711 TDD. REQUESTS SHOULD BE MADE AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE TO ALLOW TIME TO ARRANGE THE ACCOMMODATION. *****



TOWN OF FLORENCE TEEN COUNCIL ACTION FORM

AGENDA ITEM
6a

MEETING DATE: March 11, 2026

DEPARTMENT: Administration

STAFF PRESENTER: Ian Newcomb, Deputy Town Clerk

SUBJECT: Teen Council Minutes

- Action**
 Information Only
 Other

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION:

Approval of the November 4, 2025, and January 14, 2026, Teen Council minutes.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

The Open Meeting Law requires minutes to be taken and posted online for all bodies that are appointed by the Mayor and Council.

Each month you will receive minutes to review, please read them carefully to ensure that they are a summary of the events that occurred during that meeting.

VOTE OF NO WOULD MEAN:

A vote of no would mean that the minutes are not approved.

A VOTE OF YES WOULD MEAN:

A vote of yes would mean that the minutes are approved and would be forwarded to the Town Council for review prior to placing on the website.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Not applicable

ATTACHMENTS:

November 4, 2025 Minutes

January 14, 2026 Minutes

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2025, AT 6:00 P.M., IN THE FLORENCE COMMUNITY CENTER, LOCATED AT 778 N. MAIN STREET, FLORENCE, ARIZONA.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Eaton called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Town Council

Present: Keith Eaton, Cathy Adam, Arthur Neal, Nicole Buccellato, Jose Maldonado, Tony Bencina, Sherrie Bedford

Teen Council

Present: Maddison Heimann, Xavier Fedor (arrived late), Maile Derasin, Addyson Atwell, Kayla Clark

Absent: Emma Coffey and Aidan Rankin

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Eaton called for a moment of silence.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Eaton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Call to the Public for public comment on issues within the jurisdiction of the Town Council. Council rules limit public comment to three minutes. Individual Councilmembers may respond to criticism made by those commenting, may ask staff to review a matter raised or may ask that a matter be put on a future agenda. However, members of the Council shall not discuss or act on any matter during an open call to the public unless the matters are properly noticed for discussion and legal action.

Mayor Eaton opened the Call to the Public. Seeing no such comment, Mayor Eaton closed the Call to the Public.

PUBLIC HEARING AND PRESENTATIONS

Update from Paul Felker, Executive Director of the Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce. (Mayor Eaton)

Paul Felker, Executive Director at the Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce, stated that McFarland State Park has been sufficiently staffed and that attendance at the park has been steady. He informed

everyone of the Chamber events held in October and the upcoming events for November and December and that the Memories on Main car show will be February 28th, 2026. He stated that the relation between the Town of Florence and the Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce is wonderful and thanked Council for their work.

Vice-Mayor Adam stated that she has seen an increase in energy around Chamber events and thanked Mr. Felker for his work.

Councilmember Buccellato expressed her agreement with the Vice-Mayor's statement and thanked Mr. Felker for bringing new life to the Chamber.

Councilmember Bencina stated that he became a member of the Chamber because of Mr. Felker and thanked him for his work.

Councilmember Maldonado thanked Mr. Felker for his work.

Celebration of the 2nd Florence Teen Leadership Symposium. (Lisa Garcia)

Lisa Garcia, Deputy Town Manager/Town Clerk, shared a "hype" video showing off highlights from the 2025 Florence Teen Leadership Symposium. She stated that the Florence Teen Council was integral in planning the event, from setting the date to picking the speakers and more. She stated that the symposium was a success and thanked the event sponsors for their contribution to the event. She noted that the keynote speaker, Frank Kitchen, provided each of the Town and Teen Council members with a copy of his book. She stated that there may be a change in how the symposium will run in the future, noting that five of the seven members of Teen Council are graduating seniors and that the new Teen Council will need time to plan the event once they are seated. She thanked staff for their work assisting the Teen Council in hosting the symposium.

Mayor Eaton praised the event and noted that other mayors have approached him asking how to pull off a similar event.

Chair Heimann stated that the event was great success and was a good improvement on the first symposium last year.

Vice-Chair Fedor stated the event was great and that the speakers were better than the previous year. He thanked everyone who helped work to put on the symposium.

Councilmember Atwell stated the symposium was great and expressed her pride in the Teen Council for making the event happen.

Councilmember Derasin stated that she had a lot of fun getting to talk to other teen/youth councils and learning.

Councilmember Bedford stated that she looks forward to working with the Teen Council. Councilmember Bencina stated that he enjoyed the symposium and noted that he hopes to help bring in more sponsors and attendees for the next symposium.

Vice-Mayor Adam praised the selection of the speakers and how they interacted with the Teen Council and other attendees.

Councilmember Maldonado stated that other cities and towns have asked how to recreate the amazing things that the Teen Council is doing.

Councilmember Buccellato expressed her pride in the Teen Council and praised their work.

Councilmember Neal praised the Teen Leadership Symposium and the work of the Teen Council.

Ms. Garcia noted that the speakers were selected through a process that involved putting a call out for professional speakers and then having staff evaluate the responses to filter out those who didn't properly respond and then having the Teen Council make the final selection. She praised the work of the Teen Council and encouraged them that they can do anything they set their minds to.

Chair Heimann encouraged everyone to attend the monthly Teen Council meetings.

Presentation and update on the Teen Nights Pilot Program. (Steven Gallagher)

Steven Gallagher, Recreation Superintendent, stated that staff's areas of focus are working with the Teen Council, activating the youth population in Town, executing recreation events for the youth, and exploring potential output for programming. He shared methods that have been shown to work, such as programs for leadership skills and volunteer opportunities, mentorship programs, seasonal recreation jobs, the junior lifeguard program, activity nights, and tech-based programs. He stated that this is achieved through work with the Teen Council, outreach to the schools, social media outreach, the seasonal activity guide, surveys of residents, and sponsorships.

Erasmus "Beebo" Mendivil, Recreation Coordinator, stated that six teen events are planned at the Dorothy Nolan Senior Center and that the September event was a success with 41 attendees. He encouraged the Teen Council to provide staff with feedback on what they would like to see at events.

Mayor Eaton thanked and praised Mr. Gallagher and Mr. Mendivil for their work.

Vice-Mayor Adam noted that community youth engagement is a priority for the Council and thanked staff for their work. She inquired about feedback from the September event.

Mr. Mendivil stated that the teens enjoyed hanging out, but noted that he included multiple activities to get attendees active.

Councilmember Atwell suggested planning trips or providing transportation assistance to help encourage more teens to attend. She noted that things like game days in the park or holiday-themed events would be good to do.

Councilmember Buccellato suggested teen courses in the Maker's Space, such as cooking or crocheting. She expressed her agreement with transportation assistance and offered to help transport teens.

Chair Heimann requested that the electronic flyers for these events be posted on the Teen Council social media accounts.

Councilmember Bencina expressed his appreciation for the work of staff and stated that events in the park would be a good idea to draw in more attendees.

Councilmember Maldonado expressed his appreciation of these efforts to engage the youth of the community. He offered his help where needed with youth events.

Councilmember Atwell suggested expanding job and mentorship programs as well as expanding volunteer opportunities.

Councilmember Neal suggested having the events advertised via announcements at the local schools.

Presentation and update on the Jason Lopez Memorial Park restrooms (Paul King)

Paul King, Community Services Director, stated that the restroom renovations were originally part of a Capital Improvement Plan project to modify the bathrooms to be in line with ADA standards, but ended up as a repair as well after an individual vandalized the restrooms in September 2024. He stated that the restrooms now have stainless steel sinks and toilets, new paint, and new toiletries dispensers.

Mayor Eaton inquired if the bathroom vandal had been prosecuted.

Matthew Thomas, Chief of Police, stated that the primary suspect had been arrested but is currently on the run and has a warrant out.

Councilmember Maldonado inquired if they could place cameras to deter this from happening.

Chief Thomas noted that even with a camera, they would still be in the same situation where they know who committed the crime but cannot prosecute because the perpetrator is on the run.

Councilmember Bencina praised the renovation work and suggested the purchase of a specialized piece of cleaning equipment.

CONSENT: All items on the consent agenda will be handled by a single vote as part of the consent agenda unless a Councilmember objects at the time the agenda item is called.

Authorization to execute a 1-GPA Cooperative contract #22-12P with Biddle & Brown Fence Company to complete repairs on aquatic center fence, in an amount not to exceed \$91,889.34. (Paul King)

Authorization to enter into a cooperative use Contract using the Buyboard contract number 739-24 with Bibliotheca for materials and installation of a Radio Frequency Identification tag system in the Florence Library entrance for an amount not to exceed \$55,488.50. (Paul King)

Ratification of the election of Sergeant Michael Williams to serve as one of the Police Department representatives of the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) police local board for a four (4) year term replacing Commander Linderoth, beginning October 1, 2025, through October 31, 2029. (Catherine Wilson)

Approval of the October 7, 14 and 21, 2025, Town Council Minutes. (Lisa Garcia)

Receive and file the following Board and Commission minutes. (Lisa Garcia)

- i. Charles Whitlow Rodeo Grounds Advisory Board minutes of September 25, 2025**
- ii. Community Services Advisory Board minutes of September 11, 2025**
- iii. Planning and Zoning Commission minutes of September 4 and 18, 2025**

On motion of Vice-Mayor Adam, seconded by Councilmember Maldonado and carried (7-0) to approve the Consent Agenda as written.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion/Approval/Disapproval to enter into an agreement using the City of Scottsdale JOC contract #2023-121-COS-A1 with Shasta Industries, Inc. to complete resurfacing of the two aquatic center pools, in an amount not to exceed \$488,840. (Paul King)

Mr. King stated that the plaster in the Aquatic Center pool has reached its end of life and needs to be replaced.

Councilmember Bedford inquired if this item would include a contract for pool maintenance.

Mr. King stated that staff can handle maintenance and cleaning, and that this is only for the resurfacing.

On motion of Councilmember Buccellato, seconded by Councilmember Bedford and carried (7-0) to approve entering into an agreement using the City of Scottsdale JOC contract #2023-121-COS-A1 with Shasta Industries, Inc. to complete resurfacing of the two aquatic center pools, in an amount not to exceed \$488,840.

Discussion on Strategy for Teen Council to attend the National League of Cities. (Lisa Garcia)

Ms. Garcia stated that staff are exploring if there is interest in having the Teen Council attend a National League of Cities and Towns conference, either in the fall or in the spring, noting that the spring conference is held annually in Washington, D.C. She discussed potential fundraising strategies to pay for the trip such as community partnerships or entrepreneurial ideas such as partnering with the Chamber of Commerce and designing a t-shirt to sell.

Councilmember Bencina expressed his support for the trip and suggested the use of Council contingency funds to help pay for it.

Chair Heimann stated that the Teen Council enjoyed the Arizona League of Cities and Towns Annual Conference and that going to the national events would be beneficial. She expressed her confidence that the money could be trip funds could be raised by the Teen Council.

Councilmember Buccellato expressed her support for the trips and the investment in youth.

Vice-Mayor Adam expressed her support and praised the idea of the Teen Council getting to go on these trip.

Councilmember Maldonado praised the idea and offered to be a bridge from the Chamber of Commerce and the Teen Council. He suggested that the Teen Council have a booth for Third Friday events.

Councilmember Bedford expressed her support for the trips.

Councilmember Atwell expressed her support for the trips and her excitement for the prospect of the Teen Council representing Florence and Arizona on a national stage.

Vice-Chair Fedor downplayed funding concerns, noting the support from the Council and the community.

Mayor Eaton expressed his desire to see representatives of the Town get out and about and build strong relationships. He suggested using Council contingencies for the first year, then developing a sustainable funding mechanism for future years.

Ms. Garcia inquired if the entire Teen Council would be attending this trip or if it would only be the graduating seniors.

Mayor Eaton stated that the Teen Council should decide on that.

Discussion/Approval/Disapproval of an Employment Agreement between the Town of Florence and Town Attorney Robert Wingo for a three-year term effective November 2025 through November 28, 2028, and authorize the Mayor to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Town, and transfer budget capacity of \$28,050.03 from the General Capital Fund to the General Fund. (Bruce Walls)

Councilmember Bencina expressed his confidence in the skills of Mr. Wingo.

Mayor Eaton noted that Mr. Wingo has specialized knowledge in areas where the Town needs assistance. He thanked Mr. Stephen Cooper for his time serving as Town Attorney.

On motion of Vice-Mayor Adam, seconded by Councilmember Buccellato and carried (7-0) to approve the Employment Agreement between the Town of Florence and Town Attorney Robert Wingo for a three-year term effective November 2025 through November 28, 2028, and authorize the Mayor to

execute the Agreement on behalf of the Town, and transfer budget capacity of \$28,050.03 from the General Capital Fund to the General Fund. (Bruce Walls)

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Walls stated that there is now a section of Town Hall dedicated to the recognition of Town staff who have gone above and beyond as “Power Performers”. He praised Ms. Lisa Garcia’s recent class titled “Over My Dead Body” regarding how to work through differences within the community. He thanked Mr. Cooper for his work as Town Attorney.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Community Development

Community Services

Courts

Finance

Fire

Police

Public Works

Utilities

Councilmember Bencina expressed his frustration about the SeeClickFix report.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Sherri Haahr, Florence resident, expressed her frustration with SeeClickFix but noted that the Code Compliance team is no longer using SeeClickFix on their end and are instead using a tracking system through the Police Department. She stated that if the Code will not be enforced, it should be done way with, noting that some properties have had compliance issues for years.

Jo Ruiz, Florence resident, expressed her frustration with SeeClickFix and Code compliance issues.

CALL TO THE COUNCIL – CURRENT EVENTS ONLY

Councilmember Bedford praised the 2025 Florence Teen Leadership Symposium. She expressed her excitement with the new School Resource Officer and praised her work. She expressed her appreciation for the staff Power Performers program.

Councilmember Bencina expressed his happiness that the School Resource Officer is finally on the street. He stated he participated in the recent smoke alarm installation day and expressed concern that many homes do not have smoke alarms. He stated he attended the 12th Annual Pinal County Business and Education Summit and that he learned many things and that he forwarded the information to staff.

Councilmember Maldonado expressed his appreciation for the Fright Fest celebration. He stated that social media is not the best place to find information and encouraged people to reach out to him if they have questions about the Chamber of Commerce.

Councilmember Buccellato expressed her appreciation for the new School Resource Officer. She expressed her thanks to the Vice-Mayor for assisting with the Trunk or Treat event and encouraged others to participate next year. She invited everyone to the Pinal County Attorney's Office Veteran's Day ceremony. She expressed her pride in the Fright Fest event and encouraged attendees to fill out surveys to give feedback about what does and does not work. She encouraged residents to provide more feedback on items they do not like at public hearings for those items and to get involved.

Councilmember Neal expressed his excitement for Florence High School's football team making the playoffs.

Vice-Mayor thanked Mr. Cooper for his work as the Town Attorney. She encouraged residents to speak up at public hearings and voice their opinions. She praised the Community Services Department and the events they are putting on.

Councilmember Derasin thanked the Town Council and staff for the joint meeting and the work they do.

Vice-Chair Fedor thanked Council and Vice-Mayor Adam for her guidance.

Chair Heimann thanked the Council and praised the meeting. She reminded everyone to attend the Teen Council regular meetings.

Mayor Eaton expressed his pride in the joint meeting. He stated that the Council is very accessible to the public and encouraged people to reach out. He praised Ms. Sophie Dessart for her graduation from the Flynn-Brown Fellowship. He reaffirmed support for the Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Councilmember Buccellato, seconded by Vice-Mayor Adam and carried (7-0) to adjourn to Executive Session.

For the purposes of discussions or consultations with designated representatives of the public body and/or legal counsel pursuant to A.R.S. Section 38-431.03 (A)(1) (A)(3),A(4), (A)(7) and (A)(9) on the following:

- a. Legal advice for any matter on the agenda pursuant to A.R.S. Section 38-431.03 (A)(3).
- b. Legal Advice on Town's COLA and Merit Plans pursuant to A.R.S. Section 38-431.03 (A)(3).
- c. Instructions to the Town Manager on COLA and Merit Plans and key assignments. A.R.S. Section 38-431.03 (A)(1),(3) and (4).

ADJOURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Councilmember Bencina, seconded by Councilmember Bedford and carried (7-0) to adjourn from Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilmember Bencina, seconded by Councilmember Bedford and carried (7-0) to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m.

Maddison Heimann, Chair

ATTEST:

Lisa Garcia, Town Clerk

I certify that the following is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Florence Town special meeting held on November 4, 2025, and that the meeting was duly called to order and that a quorum was present.

Lisa Garcia, Town Clerk

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE TEEN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2026, AT 6:00 P.M., IN THE FLORENCE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, LOCATED AT 775 N. MAIN STREET, FLORENCE, ARIZONA.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Heimann called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Maddison Heimann, Xavier Fedor, Emma Coffey (arrived late), Addyson Atwell, Maile Derasin, Kayla Clark, Natalia Garcia

Staff: Lisa Garcia, Ian Newcomb, Steven Gallagher, Jeff Graves, Erasmo Mendivil, Council Liaison Bedford

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Chair Heimann called for a moment of silence.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Heimann led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Call to the Public for public comment on issues within the jurisdiction of the Town Council. Council rules limit public comment to three minutes. Individual Councilmembers may respond to criticism made by those commenting, may ask staff to review a matter raised or may ask that a matter be put on a future agenda. However, members of the Council shall not discuss or act on any matter during an open call to the public unless the matters are properly noticed for discussion and legal action.

MINUTES

Discussion/Approval/Disapproval of the October 8, 2025, Teen Council Meeting Minutes. (Ian Newcomb)

On motion of Councilmember Atwell, seconded by Chair Heimann and carried (6-0) to approve the October 8, 2025, Teen Council meeting minutes.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion and review of the 2025 Florence Teen Leadership Symposium. (Lisa Garcia)

Lisa Garcia, Deputy Town Manager/Town Clerk, welcomed everyone back to the first regular meeting since the 2025 Teen Leadership Symposium. She stated that one item to improve on is how the check-in table is handled, specifically with the distribution of nametags to the attendees.

Chair Heimann suggested that another area for improvement would be the more opportunities for engaging early arrivals.

Councilmember Atwell suggested the replacement of one of the speakers with an activity that gets attendees up and moving.

Councilmember Derasin suggested something that purposely mixes the attendees so that everyone socializes with different groups.

Erasmus Mendivil, Recreation Coordinator, suggested having icebreakers for those arriving early and having a DJ to play music when speakers aren't in session.

Ms. Garcia noted that the Mayor was impressed with Teen Council's handling of the symposium and has invited them to speak at the upcoming State of the Town address.

Jeff Graves, Communications & Intergovernmental Relations Manager, stated that the address will be great opportunity for the Teen Council to share with the public their accomplishments. He noted some of the highlights from the Teen Council's previous year. He stated that the Teen Council have been provided with topics for questions the Mayor could ask and invited them to a State of the Town rehearsal in February.

Discussion/Approval/Disapproval on attendance of the National League of Cities 2026 Congressional City Conference in Washington, D.C., and other future National League of Cities conferences. (Lisa Garcia)

Ms. Garcia stated that the registration window for the NLC conference in Washington, D.C. closed the morning of the Teen Council meeting and that staff had reached out to ask about an extension with no luck. She stated that alternative conferences are being looked at, and inquired if the Teen Council would like to have a selection process for who would attend conferences in the future.

Chair Heimann stated that there should be a points system based on participation that awards the active members.

Ms. Garcia noted that the Teen Council were in agreement on implementing something like a points-based system and that the parents of the Teen Council were alright with members of the Teen Council attending out-of-state conferences.

No action was taken on this item.

Discussion and review of Community Services Programming. (Steven Gallagher)

Steven Gallagher, Recreation Superintendent, recapped the Hometown Holiday Parade, the November Teen Night, and early release Wednesdays at the Community Center. He stated that the Community Services team is seeking input from the Teen Council and assistance from them in advertising upcoming teen-centered events. He noted there are volunteering opportunities for the upcoming Historic Home Tour in February.

Ms. Garcia inquired how the Teen Council felt about the Hometown Holiday Parade.

Chair Heimann stated that the Teen Council's outfits did not properly light up and requested that the Teen Council have their own float for the next parade instead of sharing with the Town Council.

Ian Newcomb, Deputy Town Clerk, inquired how the Teen Council felt about the drone show, expressing his excitement for the show.

Councilmember Garcia stated that her younger brother and herself enjoyed the show and requested that the next show incorporate Florence High School themes, such as a gopher.

Mr. Gallagher stated that there is an opportunity to help edit the show and that the Teen Council could assist for the next one.

Chair Heimann stated that she enjoyed the drone show better than fireworks.

Councilmember Atwell inquired if more characters from classic Christmas movies like The Grinch could be included.

Chair Heimann inquired if other winter holidays can be incorporated into the drone show for the next year.

Mr. Newcomb thanked Vice-Chair Fedor for his assistance in cleaning up following the Hometown Holiday Parade.

Ms. Garcia noted that the parade was very crowded and suggested spreading out the parade to help keep streets and sidewalks accessible.

Mr. Newcomb inquired if the Teen Council had received any news of the upcoming teen events.

Chair Heimann stated that she was not aware of any advertisement of the event sent via email and that the best way to get the attention of teens is through Instagram.

Councilmember Atwell suggested utilizing Florence High School's morning announcements to advertise the teen events.

Councilmember Garcia stated that Student Council could assist in the advertisement through flyers and posters.

Ms. Garcia inquired if the early release Wednesday programs are for all ages or just for teens.

Mr. Gallager stated that the program is for youth ages 13 and up.

Chair Heimann noted that the early release program is not advertised at Florence High School.

Secretary Coffey stated that the National Honors Society utilizes posters and flyers for advertising and that it would work for teen events.

Chair Heimann suggested having different student groups and clubs provide presentations on early release Wednesdays at the Community Center.

Liaison Reports

Mr. Newcomb stated that he is excited to return to regular meetings after the winter break.

Ms. Garcia stated that plans for a Third Friday scavenger hunt are in the works as well as opportunities for Teen Council merchandise. She requested that the Teen Council send in ideas for Teen Council service programs.

Council Liaison Bedford suggested the creation of a podcast space at the Viney Jones Library.

Mr. Gallagher thanked the Teen Council for their suggestions.

Call to the Teen Council

Councilmember Derasin expressed her happiness at being back from winter break.

Councilmember Atwell requested that the next Hometown Holiday Parade include more interactive events for attendees.

Secretary Coffey encouraged everyone to support the upcoming NHS blood drive.

Vice-Chair Fedor thanked all the Teen Council parents for attending the meeting.

Councilmember Garcia thanked everyone for her first meeting and reminded everyone of the upcoming Sadie Hawkins dance.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilmember Garcia, seconded by Chair Heimann and carried (7-0) to adjourn the meeting at 7:19pm.

Maddison Heimann, Chair

ATTEST:

Ian Newcomb, Deputy Town Clerk



TOWN OF FLORENCE TEEN COUNCIL ACTION FORM

AGENDA ITEM 7a

MEETING DATE: March 11, 2026

DEPARTMENT: Town Clerk's Office

STAFF PRESENTER: Lisa Garcia

SUBJECT: Expanding Public Speaking Opportunities and Leadership Development

- Action**
- Information Only**
- Other**

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION:

Discussion and possible action on supporting support expanding opportunities for members to develop public speaking and presentation skills, including exploring participation in speech competitions, leadership events, and related activities

SUGGESTED MOTION:

I move that the Florence Teen Council support expanding opportunities for members to develop public speaking and presentation skills, including exploring participation in speech competitions, leadership events, and related activities.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

Over the past six months, members of the Florence Teen Council have had several opportunities to speak publicly and represent the youth of our community. These experiences have demonstrated passion, confidence, and leadership potential within this group. Public speaking is a skill that can open doors in the future, whether in college, careers, community leadership, or public service.

Seeing the enthusiasm and commitment from this council has sparked an idea to create more opportunities for our members not only to speak publicly, but also to receive constructive feedback that will help each of you grow into stronger and more confident speakers.

As part of this effort, I recently spoke with the Florence Rotary Club, and they are willing to help bring the Rotary Speech Competition to our community. This would allow Florence students to compete locally and potentially advance to state and even national speaking competitions in the future. We are hopeful that this could become an exciting opportunity for Teen Council members and other students in Florence next year.

In the meantime, we will begin strengthening our public speaking skills through upcoming Teen Council activities. I have asked Mari Benitez, a leader of Toastmasters, to attend our April 8 meeting.

During that meeting, each Teen Council member will present a short speech (3-5 minutes timed) inviting other students to apply for the Florence Teen Council. This will give you a chance to practice speaking clearly, confidently, and persuasively.

Following that meeting, we will spend the next month identifying students who you believe would be strong additions to the next Teen Council. Your role will be to help recruit and encourage future leaders who can continue building on the work this council has started.

Thank you for your dedication to serving Florence and for the enthusiasm you bring to this council. I look forward to seeing how each of you continues to grow as leaders.

VOTE OF NO WOULD MEAN:

We would not explore opportunities for building skills in presentations and speech writing.

A VOTE OF YES WOULD MEAN:

We are exploring opportunities in speech writing and presentations.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

None at this time

GOALS:

Expanding speech writing and presentation opportunities for the Florence Teen Council will help members build confidence and strengthen their public speaking abilities while developing leadership and professional communication skills that will benefit them in school, college, careers, and community involvement.

ATTACHMENTS:

None



TOWN OF FLORENCE TEEN COUNCIL ACTION FORM

AGENDA ITEM 7b

MEETING DATE: March 11, 2026

DEPARTMENT: Administration

STAFF PRESENTER: Ian Newcomb, Deputy Town Clerk

SUBJECT: Spring Make a Difference Day/ Global Youth Service Day

- Action**
- Information Only**
- Other**

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION:

Authorize staff to begin preparing for a Spring Make a Difference Day led by the Florence Teen Council as part of the 2027 Global Youth Service Day.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

Launched in 1988 as National Youth Service Day, and expanding to a global initiative in 2000, Global Youth Service day celebrates 38 years of mobilizing community youth to participate in community service projects. Each year, millions of youth aged 5-25 participate with the goals of fostering lifelong civic engagement, leadership, and advocacy by having these young citizens lead service projects and developing an understanding of what it takes to make an impact and seeing the long-term impact of these service projects.

The Florence Teen Council has been looking for more ways to make a long-lasting, meaningful, and sustainable impact on their community. Global Youth Service Day presents an amazing opportunity for our young leaders on the Teen Council to take charge and create a legacy moment: Spring Make a Difference Day. By authorizing staff to begin this initiative in 2027, the Florence Teen Council will be able to pave the way for future members of the Florence Teen Council to build upon what they have done and continue growing and developing a meaningful day of service for our community.

With the Florence Teen Council leading the way with the Spring Make a Difference Day, the Town can focus on messaging this day of service as an event in conjunction with Global Youth Service Day and bring in local partners from the schools and youth-focused organizations in our community. As we have seen with our past Make a Difference Days, many local youth are already making an impact in our community, but this is a catalyst to multiply their impact and bring in additional youth who would otherwise not be inclined to get involved. The Teen Council would help staff plan the service projects for the community and set what areas of the community they would like to bring those service projects to.

Youth Service America, the organization behind Global Youth Service Day, and their corporate partners, offer grant funding for youth-led initiatives that are taking place on Global Youth Service Day. Allowing staff to begin preparations for the 2027 GYSD will allow us to explore this grant funding, as well as other potential sources for funding.

VOTE OF NO WOULD MEAN:

Staff would not prepare a Spring Make a Difference Day led by the Florence Teen Council for the 2027 Global Youth Service Day.

A VOTE OF YES WOULD MEAN:

Staff would prepare a Spring Make a Difference Day led by the Florence Teen Council for the 2027 Global Youth Service Day.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

None.

GOALS:

A major part of serving on the Florence Teen Council is finding ways to make a difference in our community through long-lasting, sustainable projects. By taking the first steps to create a springtime Make a Difference Day, the Teen Council can start a program that will be able to be continued by future generations of the Florence Teen Council.

Additionally, tying this Make a Difference Day with the activities of Youth Service Month, and more specifically Global Youth Service Day, we will encourage the youth of Florence and the surrounding communities to get involved with community service and working to make a positive impact.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.



TOWN OF FLORENCE TEEN COUNCIL ACTION FORM

AGENDA ITEM 7c

MEETING DATE: March 11, 2026

DEPARTMENT: Town Clerk's Office

STAFF PRESENTER: Lisa Garcia, Deputy Town Manager/Town Clerk

SUBJECT: Third Friday Request

- Action**
 Information Only
 Other

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION:

Discussion and possible action regarding a request to partner with the Florence Teen Council to host a gaming trailer at the April 17, 2026, Third Friday event on Main Street, in an amount not to exceed \$_____.

SUGGESTED MOTION

I move to participate in the April 17 Third Friday downtown event by providing a gaming trailer in the amount not to exceed \$_____.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

The Teen Council has received a request from the owners of Peyton's Hidden Treasures and Sweet P's Candy Shoppe, who currently organize the monthly Third Friday events in downtown Florence, to partner with the Town's Teen Council to host a gaming trailer during the April 17 Third Friday event.

The Third Friday events occur monthly from October through April, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and are organized by downtown business owners to encourage community engagement and increase awareness of downtown Florence businesses.

Event organizers have requested that the Florence Teen Council partner with them to provide a gaming trailer activity during the April 17 event. The intent is to attract teenagers and families to the downtown area and provide an activity that appeals to younger residents.

Staff has reviewed the request and believe the activity aligns with the Town's goals of supporting local businesses, fostering youth engagement, and encouraging community participation in downtown events.

Downtown Florence businesses have worked collaboratively to host Third Friday events during the fall and winter season. These events are intended to:

- Encourage residents to visit and explore downtown Florence
- Support local businesses and economic activity
- Provide a family friendly community gathering space
- Create additional programming during evening hours

The Town's Teen Council was created to provide leadership opportunities for local youth while encouraging civic engagement and community involvement. Teen Council members regularly participate in community events and outreach activities.

Event organizers believe that including a gaming trailer at the April event would attract teenagers who may not otherwise attend the event and provide a structured activity designed specifically for youth.

VOTE OF NO WOULD MEAN:

The Teen Council would direct staff to write a letter to state that the Teen Council will not participate.

A VOTE OF YES WOULD MEAN:

The Teen Council would work on the event and provide community outreach to the Third Friday events.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

We are still waiting on a quote from Gamez on Wheelz, but the last event cost a total of \$645.73 for three hours.

GOALS:

The Teen Council partnership would support youth engagement in community events while providing a safe and structured activity for teens. The gaming trailer would help attract younger residents to the downtown 3rd Friday event while allowing Teen Council members to actively participate in community service and civic engagement.

ATTACHMENTS:

Pictures of Trailers.

Paula Butterworth Letter



THE ULTIMATE IN WOBLE ENTERTAINMENT!

SAMEZ
ON
WHEELZ

480.442.5058

New MOBILE LASER TAG

SAMEZ
ON
WHEELZ





February 11, 2026

Florence Teen Council

775 N Main Street

Florence AZ 85132

We are the owners of Peyton's Hidden Treasures and Sweet P's Candy Shoppe on Main Street. We currently are the event organizers for the 3rd Friday Events in the downtown. The event is from October through April on the third Friday of each month. The event is from 5 – 8 pm. The purpose of the event is to bring people together to see what we have in our downtown businesses that they may no know is there. We would like to have more of our community and the neighboring communities come to Florence.

We, along with the other businesses, strive to bring people of all ages down to the event to eat, socialize, shop and play! We would like to partner with the Teen Council to host a gaming trailer at our April 17th 3rd Friday event. This would encourage more teens in our community to come and join us downtown and have an activity that they might enjoy.

We look forward to hearing from you and would like to attend your next meeting.

Thank you,

Paula & Danielle

Paula Butterworth & Danielle Spriggs

707-479-5697

707-543-6850





TOWN OF FLORENCE TEEN COUNCIL ACTION FORM

AGENDA ITEM 7d

MEETING DATE: March 11, 2026

DEPARTMENT: Administration

STAFF PRESENTER: Lisa Garcia, Deputy Town Manager/Town Clerk

SUBJECT: ASU 2026: Logic, Leadership & Life Skills Camp

- Action**
- Information Only**
- Other**

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION:

Discussion and possible action on the Teen Council participation in Arizona Summer Camp 2026: Logic, Leadership, & Life Skills at Arizona State University

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this item is to determine whether the Town Council has interest in supporting or promoting participation in the Arizona Summer Camp 2026: Logic, Leadership, & Life Skills Program hosted.

Town staff recently received information regarding a youth leadership summer camp hosted at Arizona State University designed for students ages 12–18 (7th–12th grade). The program is a four-day leadership training camp focused on helping teens build confidence, develop leadership skills, and learn practical life skills.

The program includes:

- Personal development and goal setting
- Understanding stress management and the teenage brain
- Communication and relationship building
- Public speaking and leadership development
- Team-building activities and mentorship from professional instructors

Students who complete the program receive a Leadership Training Certificate equivalent to 20 credit hours of professional development along with curriculum materials.

The camp is offered at several ASU campuses during Summer 2026, including sessions in Tempe, Mesa, and Glendale.

Program Details

- Cost: \$350 per student
- Duration: 4 days

- Daily Schedule:
 - Main Leadership Session: 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
 - Optional College & Career Preparation: 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM
- Family Graduation Ceremony: Final day celebration and student presentations
- Overnight Camps are \$600 per student.

The program reports strong outcomes from past participants including increased confidence, improved stress management, and leadership skill development.

FAQ from Website

Is there an age requirement for the summer camp?

This is a summer camp for teens. It is open to all students 12 and up. Students who are starting 7th grade in the fall may attend.

What is the deadline to get into the summer camp?

There are no deadlines for the summer camp but each session has a limit of 60 students. When the limit is reached, registration will close for that session. Students should try to sign up as soon as possible in order to secure a slot in our summer camp.

Is there any way to learn more about the summer camp?

Yes, you can learn more about our programs by exploring our [free courses](#) or by emailing us at team@leadaz.org.

Does the Logic & Leadership Life Skills summer camp include an overnight option?

No. Out-of-state students will have to arrange their own accommodations. We do offer 3-Day overnight camps. Find out more [here](#).

Is lunch provided?

No, lunch is not provided. Each student is required to bring their own lunch and water. Students will be given a break and escorted to nearby fast-food restaurants offered on the Arizona State University campus. Snacks will be provided.

What type of student is this camp for?

There are no requirements to attend this summer camp. We have a wide variety of students who range in academic abilities and interests. Our summer programs are ideal for students who are motivated to improve themselves or teens who are struggling with social issues or confidence (but would like to overcome their challenges). Please email Team@leadaz.org to arrange a free assessment where we can tell you exactly how this program will benefit your child.

VOTE OF NO WOULD MEAN:

The Town would not look into the day leadership camps discussed her, or the overnight leadership camps.

A VOTE OF YES WOULD MEAN:

Staff would develop a parent night to discuss participation in either the day or overnight ASU Leadership Camp.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Day camp fiscal impact is \$350 per participant plus per diem for lunch. Staff would drive students to and from each day. The overnight camp is \$600 per participant.

GOALS:

The goal of this program would be to provide Florence youth with leadership training, personal development skills, and mentorship opportunities that support the Town's ongoing efforts to develop confident, engaged future community leaders through programs such as the Florence Teen Council.

ATTACHMENTS:

None