



TOWN OF JEROME

POST OFFICE BOX 335, JEROME, ARIZONA 86331
(928) 634-7943
www.jerome.az.gov

AGENDA

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE TOWN OF JEROME COUNCIL CHAMBERS, JEROME TOWN HALL 600 CLARK STREET, JEROME, ARIZONA

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025, AT 6:30 PM

Due to the length of this meeting, Council may recess and reconvene at the time and date announced.

Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.02 notice is hereby given to the members of the Council and to the General Public that the Jerome Town Council plans to hold the above meeting. Persons with a disability may request an accommodation such as a sign language interpreter by contacting Kristen Muenz, Deputy Clerk, at 928-634-7943. Requests should be made early enough to allow time to arrange the accommodation. For TTY access, call the Arizona Relay Service at 800-367-8939 and ask for the Town of Jerome at 928-634-7943.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to A.R.S. 1-602.A.9, subject to certain specified statutory exceptions, parents have a right to consent before the State or any of its political subdivisions make a video or audio recording of a minor child. Meetings of the Town Council are audio and/or video recorded, and, as a result, proceedings in which children are present may be subject to such recording. Parents in order to exercise their rights may either file written consent with the Town Clerk to such recording, or take personal action to ensure that their child or children are not present when a recording may be made. If a child is present at the time a recording is made, the Town will assume that the rights afforded parents pursuant to A.R.S. 1-602.A.9 have been waived.

We acknowledge we are on the traditional lands of the Yavapai and Apache People and we, the Town of Jerome, pay respect to the elders both past and present.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**
Mayor/Chairperson to call meeting to order
Town Clerk to call and record the roll.
- 2. NEW BUSINESS**
Discussion/Possible Action

A. Budget Workshop: Discussion and Possible Direction Regarding Staff Wage Adjustments, Health Insurance and Other Personnel Related Items for FY 2026 Budget Formulation Along with Potential Continued Discussion on Capital Budget Items

This is a discussion only item with Council potentially providing staff direction

B. Melissa Garcia from the Community Health Center of Yavapai County Will Provide a Brief Presentation on Their Services Offered

- 3. ADJOURNMENT**

The Town Council may recess the public meeting and convene in Executive Session for the purpose of discussion or consultation for legal advice with the Town Attorney, who may participate telephonically, regarding any item listed on this agenda pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03 (A)(3). The Chair reserves the right, with the consent of Council, to take items on the agenda out of order.

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING OF NOTICE

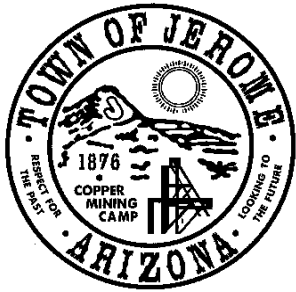
The undersigned hereby certifies that this notice and agenda was posted at the following locations on or before 7 p.m. on _____ in accordance with the statement filed by the Jerome Town Council with the Jerome Town Clerk: (1) 970 Gulch Road, side of Gulch Fire Station, exterior posting case; (2) 600 Clark Street, Jerome Town Hall, exterior posting case; (3) 120 Main Street, Jerome Post office, interior posting case.

Kristen Muenz, Deputy Town Clerk

File Attachments for Item:

A. Budget Workshop: Discussion and Possible Direction Regarding Staff Wage Adjustments, Health Insurance and Other Personnel Related Items for FY 2026 Budget Formulation Along with Potential Continued Discussion on Capital Budget Items

This is a discussion only item with Council potentially providing staff direction



TOWN OF JEROME

POST OFFICE BOX 335, JEROME, ARIZONA 86331
(928) 634-7943 FAX (928) 634-0715

Founded 1876
Incorporated 1899

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT

FROM: Brett Klein, Town Manager/Clerk
ITEM: **Item: Discussion on FY 2025-2026 Personnel Budget Priorities**
MEETING DATE: January 14, 2025

Summary:

During this Budget discussion, staff is seeking Council input and direction related to one of the largest Town expenditures, personnel-related costs. This year the SSA COLA is 2.5% and the CPI-U All is 4.1%. In talking with colleagues in other Verde Valley communities, most are seeking an average of a 4% annual adjustment. The Town is still a bit behind in terms of other benefits, with surrounding communities paying 85-98% of dependent insurance premiums. The Town is also the only community in the area that does not participate in the Arizona State Retirement System. Those contributions are set at 12.27% for cities and towns. The current contribution for the Town of Jerome is 10% with the potential of 12% based on employee matching.

Provided the budget numbers can sustain the fiscal impact, staff are recommending the following: 1) A modest 3.75% wage adjustment for non-public works employees, with public works employees receiving 4.75% across the board; 2) Increasing the dependent insurance premiums to a flat 85% from the current 80%; and 3) Addressing the disparity in the funding portion of the Health Savings Account. For years it has been set at \$118.15 per pay period regardless of whether an employee has family, single or single plus. This is contrary to common practice and does not provide an incentive for employees to utilize the High Deductible Health Plan, which is far less costly for the Town. Staff are proposing a tiered system consistent with all other communities and the private sector with \$118 / pay period for single; \$140 / pay period for single plus and \$170 / pay period for family.

Fiscal Impact:

The overall cost of this proposal will be calculated prior to the next budget meeting if Council is amenable to the plan otherwise, and / or provides additional input.

Recommendation:

Provide input and direction for subsequent budget meetings.