



**NOTICE OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
OF THE TOWN OF CLARKDALE
TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2024 AT 5:00 PM**

In Person: Clark Memorial Clubhouse, 19 N. Ninth St., Clarkdale AZ

OR

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88206419646>

Meeting ID: 882 0641 9646

Unless otherwise stated, the public will have physical access to the meeting place 15 minutes prior to the meeting start time.

Town of Clarkdale Vision

The Town of Clarkdale connects our unique history, proximity to the Verde River, and small-town charm to a future with a vibrant economy.

We cultivate an environment where residents and businesses can thrive; providing services and jobs for our residents and capitalizing upon tourism.

We sustainably enhance our infrastructure, support the arts and education, and develop recreational opportunities to create a bright future for our entire community.

PURSUANT TO A.R.S. §38-431.02, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the members of the Common Council of the Town of Clarkdale and to the general public that the Town of Clarkdale Town Council will hold a Special Meeting open to the public on Tuesday, July 9, 2024, at 5:00 PM in a hybrid meeting via Zoom Video Conference or in person at 19 N. Ninth Street, Clarkdale, Arizona, Clark Memorial Clubhouse, Men's Lounge. Members of the Clarkdale Common Council will attend either in person or by telephone, video or internet conferencing. Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03, the Council may vote to recess the meeting and move into Executive Session on any item, which will be held immediately after the vote and will not be open to the public. Upon completion of Executive Session, the Council may resume the meeting, open to the public, to address the remaining items on the agenda.

Supporting documentation and staff reports furnished to the Council with this agenda are available for review on the Town website at www.clarkdale.az.gov and the Town Clerk's Office.

ALL ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA ARE SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

- 3. POSSIBLE VOTE TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION - The Council may vote to discuss the following matters in executive session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3) Legal advice from Town Attorney and § 38-431.03(A)(4) discussion or consultation for legal advice with the attorney or attorney's of the Town.**

A. Yavapai-Apache Nation Water Settlements

- 4. RESUMPTION OF REGULAR MEETING - Immediately following the executive session, the Council will resume public session.**

A. Yavapai-Apache Nation Water Settlements

Discuss, consider and act upon the Yavapai-Apache Nation Water Rights Settlement Agreement.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Values

Values are the guiding principles that provide an organization with purpose and direction. The Town of Clarkdale's organizational values are:

COPPER

Customer focused

Open, transparent and equitable

Preserving our history, charm, and environment

Planning for a sustainable future

Economic and social resiliency

Resourceful and innovative

Mission

The Town of Clarkdale serves the community by providing amenities, infrastructure, services, and public safety to enhance quality of life. We are stewards of our history while we sustainably and resiliently plan for the future with an emphasis on community engagement and transparency.

Persons with a disability may request reasonable accommodations by contacting the Town Hall at (928) 639-2400 (TTY: 1-800-367-8939) at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.



Staff Report

Item Number: 4.A.

Agenda Item: **Yavapai-Apache Nation Water Settlements**
Discuss, consider and act upon the Yavapai-Apache Nation Water Rights Settlement Agreement.

Staff Contact: Susan Guthrie, Town Manager

Meeting Date: July 9, 2024

Strategic Goal: This agenda item supports the following Clarkdale Strategic Goal Area:

- Goal Area 5 - Plan for the maintenance and growth of quality infrastructure that is sustainable and resilient.

Background: The Yavapai-Apache Nation (YAN) Tribal Council voted unanimously yesterday to approve the [Yavapai-Apache Nation Water Rights Settlement Agreement](#), an agreement negotiated with Verde Valley Communities and other stakeholders to bring new water supplies to the Verde Valley and settle the Nation's longstanding water rights claims. The Nation achieved this historic agreement after decades of negotiation among multiple parties, including local communities, the Salt River Project, the State of Arizona, and the United States.

The approval of the settlement paves the way for Congress to introduce and enact legislation to permanently resolve the Nation's water rights claims in the Verde River Watershed and provide critical infrastructure that will bring a renewable water resource to the Verde Valley.

The centerpiece of the settlement involves construction of a pipeline over existing Forest Service roads from the C.C. Cragin Reservoir on the Mogollon Rim to the Verde Valley that will deliver water to the Nation for treatment in a modern surface water drinking plant and distribution to the Nation's reservation communities. This imported source of water will allow the Nation to limit future groundwater pumping, which is a key factor in protecting flows in the Verde River, ensuring the continuation of important cultural resources for the people of the Yavapai-Apache Nation, maintaining the essential character of the Verde Valley as defined by the river, and driving tourism and economic development for the entire Verde Valley.

As part of the settlement, Staff and legal counsel negotiated an agreement between the Town of Clarkdale and YAN that recognized the Town's current and projected future water budget as well as the Town's water claims. This agreement also lays out processes to report water use by all parties and establishes a water budget for YAN's properties in Clarkdale.

Budget Impact: No budget impact.

Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Council approve the Yavapai-Apache Nation Water Rights Settlement Agreement and authorize the Mayor, Town Attorney and Town Clerk to execute all documents.