

**MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION
MAYOR and COMMON COUNCIL
TOWN OF CAMP VERDE
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2005
at 6:30 P.M.**

Minutes are a summary of the actions taken. They are not verbatim.
Input is placed after Council motion to facilitate future research.
Public input, where appropriate, is heard prior to the motion.

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**

Mayor Dickinson, Vice Mayor Reddell, Councilors Gioia, Baker, Kovacovich, Parrish and Teague were present.

Also Present: Finance Director Dane Bullard, Town Attorney Bill Sims, Town Marshal Dave Smith; Council candidates Helen Zimmerli and Robert Johnson; Town Clerk Debbie Barber and Recording Secretary Margaret Harper.

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Councilor Baker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. **Consent Agenda** – All those items listed below may be enacted upon by one motion and approved as consent agenda items. Any item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered as a separate item if a member of Council requests.

a) Approval of the Minutes:

1) Regular Session – January 5, 2005

b) Set Next Meeting, Date and Time:

1) Council Hears Planning & Zoning – January 26, 2005 at 6:30 p.m.

2) Regular Session – February 2, 2005 at 6:30 p.m.

3) Regular Session – February 16, 2005 at 6:30 p.m.

4) Council Hears Planning & Zoning – February 23, 2005 at 6:30 p.m.

c) Possible approval of a letter indicating Council support of the League of Women Voters declaration of April 2005 as Water Awareness Month.

On a motion by Reddell, seconded by Kovacovich, the Council unanimously approved the Consent Agenda, with Item 4c) pulled for separate consideration.

On a motion by Gioia, seconded by Baker, the Council voted unanimously to support the League of Women Voters declaration of April 2005 as Water Awareness Month.

Councilor Gioia requested that Item 4c) be pulled from the Consent Agenda in order to highlight the importance of Water Awareness Month and the fact that the League of Women Voters have endorsed water issues as one of their primary issues for 50 years; Gioia reviewed the extensive list of water issues and supporting activities being sponsored by the League, some of which are set forth in their correspondence requesting the Council's support of their Declaration.

5. **Call to the Public for Items not on the Agenda.**

Steve Harris said he was present to represent Character First, and wanted to leave some literature in order to make the Council aware of the Character First Program, the goal of which is to raise the character level of the people in the community. As of September 153 communities have adopted the program in the United States, and several outside, Payson being the latest one. The program draws together the government, media, law enforcement, education, faith and business communities. Mr. Harris requested that the subject be placed on the next Council's agenda in order better acquaint the public and Council with the Character First Program and to call for a Resolution; literature was left with the Town Clerk.

Robert Johnson said that in connection with Water Awareness Month, it would be nice for the people of Camp Verde to be made aware of the water that the Camp Verde Water Company has available, adding that the best idea would be an outside assessment.

Karen Keel, from Verde Lakes, thanked the Town for now being able to drive over Verde Lakes Drive.

There was no further public input.

6. **Discussion, consideration, and possible approval to fund a rate study for the Camp Verde Sanitary District. The rate study is expected to cost \$19,000 plus out of pocket expenses that are not expected to exceed \$2,000.**

On a motion by Teague, seconded by Reddell, the Council voted unanimously to table Item 6 and also to direct staff to look into the possibilities of some type of grant to fund a future rate study as discussed.

Mayor Dickinson said the idea of the item originated from the discussions between the Town and the Sanitary District, and one of the things that was recommended to the Town by an individual from WIFA was to consider an assessment by Dan Jackson, who has helped other communities, to study the different facets involved in a sewer expansion in order to give a community some idea of the possible revenue stream that might be generated if a project moved forward that would require funding. Mr. Jackson visited Camp Verde and held a workshop at which four of the Council members were present. There was a general consensus among the Council members that, not knowing the plans of the Sanitary District and just where the Town stands, to fund such a study would be premature; there are too many unknowns at this time. A strong suggestion was also made to first research grant funding available for the assessment. There was also appreciation expressed for the presentation made by Mr. Jackson, acknowledging that it was definitely an option to pursue at a later date.

Jim Ash, of the Sanitary District, informed the Council that the District had a meeting last Wednesday, the study was discussed, and the District voted to not support the study with any funding at this time because of the difference in parameters as to the Town and the District.

Further discussing the issue, it was generally agreed that when more is known regarding how and where the Sanitary District is headed, the Town will then be able to adjust accordingly.

7. **Presentation and discussion of the Conceptual Drawings for the new Marshal's facility.**

There was no action taken.

Marshal Dave Smith displayed the conceptual drawings prepared by Stroh Rogers Architects for the remodeling of the First Baptist Church, the result of discussions with the architects and subsequent modifications and revisions; the estimated cost of approximately \$770,000 for the 8500 sq. ft. remodel is well within the proposed budget amount of \$1.2 million. Discussion of the project pointed out that the remodel also provides for a dispatch facility, and some other communities have been approached regarding a regional dispatch center for sharing the expense; nothing has yet been resolved. Marshal Smith added that a meeting is planned for February 1st to discuss some of the issues involved in developing a regional dispatch center. A general discussion of the remodel project and the estimated cost then followed. The next step is to give the architect the go-ahead on the construction plans; the architect has advised that construction could start on the 1st of May and be completed in five months. All of the Marshal's Department personnel have approved the plans. The Council agreed that the architect should be notified to proceed accordingly.

On a closing note, Marshal Smith announced that the Marshal's Office Citizens Police Academy starts a week from tomorrow, a ten-week program, and there are still some openings.

8. **Discussion, consideration, and possible approval of Resolution 2005-625, a Resolution of the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Camp Verde, Yavapai County, Arizona, adopting fees for Town services.**

On a motion by Baker, seconded by Teague, the Council voted unanimously to table Item 8 until the meeting next week on hearing Planning & Zoning.

Finance Director Bullard said that this item is an exercise that is done each calendar year in January to review and recommend changes to fees charged by the Town. Staff's recommendations are included in the agenda packet, with the changes highlighted in the staff report. There was a brief discussion and some questions regarding Planning & Zoning fees with a suggestion to consider them separately. It was decided that it would be more efficient to table the matter until next week's Council meeting at which Planning & Zoning staff will be present to address those questions.

9. **Discussion, consideration, and possible approval of the Grants Administration Department's budget for the remaining FY 04/05 Budget Cycle.**

On a motion by Baker, seconded by Kovacovich, the Council unanimously approved the Grants Administration Department's Budget for the remaining FY 04/05, not to exceed \$26,000.

Finance Director Bullard said that staff had been authorized to reestablish the Grants Administrator position; Carol Keefer has been hired to fill that position and is now getting underway. The request is to approve a budget for Ms. Keefer to continue for the next six months; following that the position will be included in the Town Budget for the next fiscal year. An itemized list of the amount requested was prepared by Administration and is included in the agenda packet, and Bullard pointed out two changes he would recommend, asking Council to approve the amount of \$26,000 which would allow Bullard to go back and establish the further line items needed in the list. Bullard confirmed that administrative fees are primarily funded by the 3-year CDBG grant.

10. **Discussion, consideration, and possible direction to staff concerning the \$500 donation that the Town received to assist with flood damage in Verde Lakes.**

On a motion by Dickinson, seconded by Baker, the Council voted unanimously to forward the \$500 to the Verde Lakes Property Association to assist with the flooding damage in any way they see fit.

Finance Director Bullard said that he understood that during the flooding an anonymous individual had dropped off a \$500 donation to the Camp Verde Fire District, who in turn turned the funds over to Town staff. Now staff is looking for direction as to how to best utilize the donation; one of the suggestions by staff is to donate the money to the Verde Lakes Property Owners Association, since they would have firsthand knowledge of who suffered the most damage by the floods. The Council agreed with that suggestion; Attorney Sims confirmed that such a disposition would be allowed from the legal standpoint since it appears that the benefactor's desires were generally to help with flooding damage.

PUBLIC INPUT

Winogene Harris, Chairperson for the Verde Lakes Property Owners Association, agreed that the Association could accept the money, and requested direction from the Council as to the use of the funds.

11. **Call to the Public for Items not on the Agenda**

Cheri Wischmeyer said that at the last Council meeting she had expressed concerns about the Town's over-expenditure of funds on the Ramada project, and recalled that Town Manager Lee and the Town Attorney had assured the Council that all procurement processes had been

adhered to. In summary, Ms. Wischmeyer outlined in detail her research into those processes, and her assertion that there are no bids on file. Ms. Wischmeyer also questioned the reference to the justification for the expenditure based on public safety, having researched the fact that there was no building permit for the Ramada, and therefore asserted that without documentation, the liability for the Town will be much greater if someone is injured. She also said she is filing a formal complaint regarding Finance Director Dane Bullard's "misuse of public funds, malfeasance of office, and abuse of authority and position" for the writing of a check to himself in the amount of \$5,027.20, allegedly for vacation cash-out, but the vacation time was never written off the books. Ms. Wischmeyer then detailed what she claims were improper signatures on the check, citing that as unacceptable behavior on the part of the Town Management team. She asserts that Bullard has taken advantage of his position of trust through his "misuse of public funds," and requests that Bullard be placed on administrative suspension during the investigation, and based on the finding in connection with the check that he be terminated, and looks forward to receiving the Council's written response to her formal complaint, advising her that Bullard has been dealt with appropriately for what she asserts is Bullard's "gross abuse of authority, misuse of public funds and malfeasance of office."

There was no further public input.

12. **Advanced Approvals of Town Expenditures**

On a motion by Reddell, seconded by Parrish, the Council unanimously authorized Mike Dumas of the Maintenance Department to purchase the two pieces of equipment as described this evening.

13. **Manager/Staff Report**

There was no Manager/Staff report.

14. **Council Informational Reports**

Kovacovich said he had attended a WAC meeting today, and one of the items discussed impacts the Town; namely, that Fish & Wildlife Service would like to expand the critical habitat for the Willow Flycatcher, basically the whole Verde River through the Verde Valley and down to Beasley Flats; the Town needs to write a letter in opposition, which would be due by the end of March.

Baker wanted to remind everyone about the Main Street Extravaganza this coming Saturday; it will help support the businesses, and promises to be a lot of fun for the community, with prizes being offered.

Gioia said that Fish & Wildlife will be presenting an open seminar to the public so that the public can review their plans and input personal ideas and suggestions for their plan. Gioia also requested an agenda item for a presentation by Mr. Munderloh from Yavapai County Water Advisory; he would present the Power Points that were presented to the Board of Supervisors. Input from the various communities is wanted.

Parrish reported on the Verde Valley Transportation meeting last week that he attended together with Baker and Reddell; some of the information was that the Village of Oak Creek will be built out in 2017, and there was a discussion on the 260 corridor bypass.

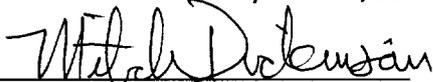
Reddell shared his understanding from one of the landowners that they had a telephone conversation with Ken Bennett who has agreed to meet with the Town and ADOT officials and the property owners on the 260 corridor in the near future. Reddell also commented that the Fish & Wildlife move on the Willow Flycatcher will affect a large number of Verde Valley people who have water rights that have existed since the 1860's, an issue that personally affects approximately 1500 people on the ditches alone. That has to be seriously looked at with Fish & Wildlife. Also, FEMA is coming in to assess the damage on the ditches. Dickinson added that everyone should be keeping a list of property damages and expenditures to submit to FEMA.

Teague said that in telling his story last week about Verde Lakes being built in the bottom of the creek he did not mean to insinuate that the Town should not do anything to correct the problem; he only meant to point out that it has been happening for a long time.

Dickinson commented on the Town's concern about the number of dead, blown-up tumbleweeds along the 260 corridor, and some ideas for taking care of the problem. For the time being, with the project still under the management of Ames, ADOT has advised that Ames will be required to clean up the roads before everything is turned over to the Town. Final minor repairs are being made along Main Street now; there will be walkthroughs on January 20th, and again on February 9th. Dickinson anticipates that the project will have been turned back over to the Town by the 1st of March; the one-year warranty on the landscaping will start from that point forward.

15. **Adjournment**

On a motion by Reddell, seconded by Baker, the meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.



Mitch Dickinson, Mayor



Margaret Harper, Recording Secretary

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the foregoing Minutes are a true and accurate accounting of the actions of the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Camp Verde during the regular meeting of the Town Council of Camp Verde, Arizona, held on the 19th day of January, 2005. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 1st day of February, 2005



Deborah Barber, Town Clerk