

**MINUTES  
REGULAR SESSION  
MAYOR and COMMON COUNCIL  
TOWN OF CAMP VERDE  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 2006  
6:30 P.M.**

Minutes are a summary of the actions taken. They are not verbatim.  
Public input is placed after Council motions 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 Gioia, Vice Mayor Baker, Councilors Hauser, Smith, Kovacovich, and Parry were present; Councilor Parrish was absent.  
  
**Also Present:** Town Manager Bill Lee, Town Attorney Brad Woodford, Finance Director Dane Bullard, Parks & Rec Director Lynda Moore, Town Clerk Debbie Barber, and Recording Secretary Margaret Harper.
  
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**  
The Pledge was led by Kovacovich.
  
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) May 31, 2006 – Special Session
    - 2) May 31, 2006 – Joint Work Session
    - 3) May 30, 2006 – Budget Work Session
    - 4) May 24, 2006 – Council Hears Planning & Zoning
    - 5) May 22, 2006 – Budget Work Session
  - b) **Set Next Meeting, Date and Time:**
    - 1) Budget Work Session – June 20, 2006 at 5:00 p.m.
    - 5) Regular Session – June 21, 2006 at 6:30 p.m.
    - 6) Council Hears P&Z – June 28, 2006 at 6:30 p.m.
  - c) **Possible approval of Resolution 2006-692, a resolution of the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Camp Verde, Yavapai County, Arizona, adopting an Intergovernmental Agreement with Yavapai County for Unified Emergency Services.**  
On a motion by Baker, seconded by Kovacovich, the Council unanimously approved the Consent Agenda as presented.
  
5. **Call to the Public for Items not on the Agenda.**  
There was no public input.
  
6. **American Legion Post 93 will present a Blue Star Flag to the Town. The flag represents all military personnel.**  
There was no action taken.

Prior to the presentation of the Blue Star Flag, Mayor Gioia shared the history of the Flag from its inception during World War I in 1917, explaining that the Flag is traditionally displayed by family members to represent loved ones serving in the military during any period of war or hostilities the United States may be engaged in, and acknowledging that Camp Verde has its own family members engaged in the current military operation. Following the formal presentation of the Flag to the Town by Joe Dugan and Keith Tucker, Mayor Gioia said that it will be proudly flown by the Town; Councilor Baker commented that both of those individuals were excellent examples of the volunteers who contribute so much to the Town helping and honoring the Veterans.

There was no public input.

7. **Kate Blevins of Sedona Recycles will present an award to the Town.**

Mayor Gioia announced that because of family issues, Kate Blevins was unable to be present; Item 7 will be moved to a future Council agenda.

**The following Item 8 was set aside and then addressed at 8:23 p.m.**

8. **Presentation by Verde Valley Senior Center (VVSC) Executive Director Elaine Bremner followed by discussion, consideration, and possible approval to fund the Senior Center in the amount of \$24,000 to help VVSC provide services to Camp Verde citizens.**

Staff was directed to incorporate the request from the Verde Valley Senior Center into the proposed budget to work through and determine how to assist in paying for the services that are being rendered to the Camp Verde senior citizens.

Elaine Bremner referred to the packet of information that had been distributed to each Council member for information including the mission statement of the Verde Valley Senior Center. Ms. Bremner reviewed the Meals on Wheels program that has been serving the Camp Verde area of the Verde Valley, as well as Clarkdale, Cornville, Cottonwood, Verde Village, and Lake Montezuma. Following her presentation the Council discussed the importance of the program, including personal anecdotes, and the real need for financial support from the communities; there was agreement on working to include funding in the upcoming budget year.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

**Bob Johnson**, Camp Verde, wanted to know how the requested amount of \$24,000 was arrived at; Ms. Bremner responded.

**Christine Bryson-Lazo**, President and Chair of the Verde Valley Seniors Coalition, a non-profit organization based in the Verde Valley acting as advocates for the older citizens on issues that come up in their community. She pointed out that lives have been saved because of the connection to the seniors through the Meals On Wheels program and cited a recent example. She stressed that It is important to keep in mind the service that Ms. Bremner's program is providing to Camp Verde pending the development of the Town's own program.

**Norma Garrison** described her own experience with the Meals On Wheels program and how it proved to be an important part of her aging father's quality of life.

**Brenda Leesa**, from the Sedona Community Center, confirmed that even that Center has to do a lot of fund-raising, begging and a lot of shuffling of finances, just as Ms. Bremner has described. She said that Arizona is one of the few states who do not provide funding for the senior centers, and added her support for the request that Ms. Bremner is making.

There was no further public input.

9. **Discussion, consideration, and possible approval of Resolution 2006-688, a resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Town of Camp Verde, Arizona, declaring as a public record that certain document filed with the Town Clerk and entitled "The 2006 Amendments to the Tax Code of the Town of Camp Verde".**

On a motion by Gioia, seconded by Baker, the Council voted unanimously to adopt Resolution 2006-688, a resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Town of Camp Verde, Arizona, declaring as a public record that certain document filed with the Town Clerk and entitled "The 2006 Amendments to the Tax Code of the Town of Camp Verde."

Finance Director Dane Bullard explained that the League is once again requesting review and approval of the Resolution and Ordinance bringing the Town Tax Code into compliance with the State Tax Code, an action that is done regularly on either an annual or bi-annual basis. Bullard confirmed that the minor changes have been reviewed, and recommended that both Items 9 and 10 be approved.

There was no public input.

10. **Discussion, consideration, and possible approval of Ordinance 2006-A328, an ordinance of the Town of Camp Verde, Arizona, relating to the Privilege License Tax; adopting "The 2006 Amendments to the Tax Code of the Town of Camp Verde" by reference; establishing an effective date; providing for severability, and providing penalties for violations.**

On a motion by Gioia, seconded by Kovacovich, the Council unanimously approved Ordinance 2006-A328, an ordinance of the Town of Camp Verde, Arizona, relating to the Privilege License Tax; adopting "The 2006 Amendments to the Tax Code of the Town of Camp Verde" by reference; establishing an effective date; providing for severability, and providing penalties for violations.

Bullard confirmed that the subject Ordinance is adopted typically in tandem with the foregoing Resolution, and staff is recommending its adoption as well.

There was no public input.

11. **Discussion, consideration, and possible acceptance of the FY 2004/05 Annual Audit.**  
On a motion by Kovacovich, seconded by Baker, the Council voted unanimously to accept the FY 2004/05 Annual Audit.

Finance Director Bullard said that State law requires an annual audit of all municipal operations of towns and cities; staff is requesting Council acceptance of the subject Annual Audit that contains the Town's financial statements documenting the Town's fiscal operations during Fiscal Year 2004-05. Bullard cited from the Audit the opinion of the independent auditor that found that the document ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles of the U.S. Bullard pointed out that the Town has once again had an unqualified audit. After a brief discussion and concern expressed over the need to build a greater reserve to meet increasing community expenses, the Council commended Bullard for doing an excellent job.

#### **PUBLIC INPUT**

**Bob Johnson** questioned what percentage that the Town has to pay on the money borrowed for the Marshal's Office, as well as what percentage will have to be paid for money borrowed for the Park; Bullard explained that the rate fluctuates, but the average rate of the recent bonds is approximately 5.4 percent; there are different interest rates for the different bonds and depend on the existing market rate.

There was no further public input.

12. **Discussion, consideration, and possible direction to staff concerning the number of special events.**

Staff was directed as follows: Council would like to have the Parks & Recreation Commission review the events and look at reducing the number of events; find sponsors to take over some of the events; have staff use timecards to track their time in future events; prepare accurate Profit & Loss statements in a consistent format; and schedule a Work Session to address the foregoing issues as discussed.

Parks & Rec Director Lynda Moore gave a short Power Point presentation on the Town special events including a breakdown of the current annual expenditures and revenue illustrating a profit higher than projected as well as a higher sponsorship total than estimated, and highlighting the increased benefits to the merchants and the Town through tourism and taxes.

In the ensuing discussion with Moore, with input from Finance Director Bullard and Town Manager Lee, the Council expressed major concern over the excessive hours the employees have to work on the events with no breaks for weekends, and the resulting stress they are dealing with. The Council also questioned whether regular community services are being neglected. The issue was raised about a need to show a better breakdown of actual payroll expenses, not just the overtime hours, with considerable debate over the suggestion to use timecards to accurately document hours spent during the normal workday on special event activities. Bullard pointed out that revenue has consistently exceeded costs and that the regular payroll remains the same regardless of the activities of the employees. The possibility of finding sponsors to take over running some of the events was discussed, together with the need for better budget control. The members agreed that it would be helpful to arrange a Work Session with the Parks & Rec Commission, with community input, during the current budget time in order to refocus on the priorities for holding special events. A consistent format, or template, that would present an accurate Profit and Loss statement for each event was also suggested.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

**Jerry Tobish**, business owner of Ancient Bear Gallery, and citizen, believes that using the timecards as suggested would be a case of over-regulating and a waste of time. In summary, the business people need help, and the events are a tremendous infusion into the Town's economy. He also commented that the vendors take away business from Main Street, and questioned the lack of the promised signage.

**Bob Johnson** thinks that Smith and Parry had good ideas; the Council needs the best information possible in order to make decisions. It is possible to allocate hours worked.

**Jim Bullard** said that he had heard a radio station in Phoenix talking about Camp Verde; that made him feel good about that.

**Therese Tobish** strongly objected to a comment from Parry regarding the employees apparently questioning the time they put into their duties, saying it offended her; they work very hard for the community.

**Judy Gilbert** recalled how she and Baker with three others worked on putting on Fort Verde Days several years ago, with no financial support from the Town or the Chamber. She said the community is really fortunate now to have the support from the Town and the people to work them. As far as timecards, the Town is not running a business; it is running a community.

**Chuck Barnes**, from the Territorial Town Inn, said that his business depends on each event when it is put on; without those events and the Casino overflow the Inn would not be in business.

**Jim Switzer**, Camp Verde, suggested just a coding system that would give the employee a code for the type of work assigned. He approved of the set-up for the events and beer sales and suggested raising the entrance fee to help cover insurance costs. He also commented that the volunteer level is exceptional in Camp Verde; perhaps more volunteers could be recruited.

There was no further public input.

**A recess was called at 8:15 p.m.; the meeting was called back to order at 8:23, at which time Item 8 was addressed prior to Item 13.**

13. **Discussion, consideration, and possible approval to set a hearing date to establish development fees pursuant to ARS §9-463.05, AND GIVE AT LEAST SIXTY DAYS NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO ASSESS SUCH FEES.**

There was no action taken.

August 30, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. is set for the first hearing on the notice of intention to assess development fees.

Town Manager Lee said that in connection with the proposal to establish impact fees, Tischler-Bise recently presented to the Council the results of their work with the Town. Lee added that if Council desires to move forward on the proposal, it will be necessary to set a date at least 60 days ahead, as the first step in giving notice of the intention to implement impact fees, and following that there will be other required periods of time for public hearings. The Council discussed a date for the first hearing, and decided on August 30, 2006 at 6:30 p.m.

14. **Discussion, consideration, and possible approval of Resolution 2006-679, a resolution of the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Camp Verde, Yavapai County, Arizona, amending the Personnel Manual relating to the driver's license status of employees who use Town vehicles in performing their job duties.**

On a motion by Baker, seconded by Kovacovich, the Council unanimously approved Resolution 2006-679, a resolution of the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Camp Verde, Yavapai County, Arizona, amending the Personnel Manual relating to the driver's license status of employees who use Town vehicles in performing their job duties.

Lee explained that the Town's insurance carrier, Southwest Risk, has recommended adoption of the proposed Resolution which provides an additional way to make sure that employees have good driving records; the Town Attorney has approved the wording of the Resolution.

There was no public input.

15. **Discussion, consideration, and possible direction to staff concerning placing the sale of the 5-acre parcel located in the Bluffs subdivision on the ballot for voter approval.**

On a motion by Gioia, seconded by Baker, the Council unanimously directed staff to place the sale of the five-acre parcel located in the Bluffs subdivision on the ballot for voter approval.

Lee said that the intent has been to sell the five-acre parcel received from Scott Simonton to benefit the library. State statute requires voter approval to sell any property that has a value higher than \$500,000. Since the Town proposes to present the issue of a General Obligation Bond to the voters in November, it would be possible to include the proposed sale of the five

acres on the ballot, probably at no extra cost. Staff will still plan to request RFPs in connection with the sale of the property after voter approval.

There was no public input.

16. **Discussion, consideration, and possible approval to budget approximately \$10,718 or \$1.00 per person population for the Verde Valley Land Preservation Institute.**  
On a motion by Hauser, seconded by Baker, the Council unanimously approved budgeting \$10,718 for the Verde Valley Land Preservation Institute for preservation of open space.

Councilor Hauser reminded the members of the recent presentation by the subject Institute and commented that the request is in the nature of a follow-up. She pointed out that they will need some funding to get started, and said it is important to invest in efforts to preserve some pockets of open space, if possible. There was a brief discussion on conservation easements and agreement on supporting the efforts of the VV Land Preservation Institute as requested.

There was no public input.

17. **Discussion, consideration, and possible approval to change the Travel Policy that restricts mileage reimbursement for Council members to miles in excess of 100 miles.**  
On a motion by Gioia, seconded by Hauser, the Council voted unanimously to remove the Travel Policy that dictated no mileage reimbursement until after 100 miles, effective immediately.

Hauser said that in the past, although the members have never been unduly concerned with requesting reimbursement, with the current gas prices and the increasing travel to meetings, she believes that the members should now be permitted to recover those costs. After a brief discussion there was general agreement on the suggestion and a decision to eliminate the restriction on reimbursement.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

**Norma Garrison** said that she is in total agreement with the proposal to remove the restriction because she feels the members deserve being reimbursed for their mileage

There was no further public input.

**Council agreed to address Item 19 prior to Item 18.**

18. **Discussion with designated representatives in order to consider Council's position and possible instruction to representatives regarding negotiations for the purchase, sale, or lease of Forest Service land.**  
A motion by Baker, seconded by Smith, to go into Executive Session to discuss the Forest Service land purchase, sale or lease, failed by a 3-3 vote, with 'no' votes by Hauser, Gioia and Parry.

Lee recommended that the Council go into Executive Session on this item. There was some discussion with conflicting opinions on the need to adjourn for an Executive Session since it is understood that the price is already public. Lee said that there may be other another issue that needed to be considered apart from the public portion of the meeting; furthermore, if it is then determined that there is no need for the Executive Session, the Town Attorney can then direct the Council to return to the public meeting. Attorney Woodford also confirmed that there appears to be the need for an Executive Session in order to direct the Manager to proceed with negotiation over matters that are not public; it will be up to the Council to make them public.

Following the formal action by Council, Lee announced that there was nothing to discuss as to this agenda item.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

**Steve Ayres**, as an individual and a reporter for the Camp Verde Bugle, said that the paper's attorney had voiced his opinion that the agenda item lacked sufficient specificity to permit discussion in an Executive Session. Attorney Woodford disagreed with that opinion and explained that specificity would compromise the negotiation instructions that are being sought and is therefore permissible under the law.

There was no further public input.

**19. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF TO NEGOTIATE THE PURCHASE OF APPROXIMATELY 4.4 ACRES OF PROPERTY LOCATED NEXT TO THE BLACK BRIDGE AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF TO OPEN AN ESCROW ACCOUNT AT YAVAPAI TITLE TO PURCHASE PROPERTY.**

On a motion by Baker, seconded by Kovacovich, the Council voted unanimously to instruct staff to open an escrow account at Yavapai Title to purchase the 4.4 acres located next to the Black Bridge, in the amount of \$252,000, which includes shared costs of up to \$2,000.

Lee advised the Council that he saw no need to go into Executive Session since the price of \$250,000 has been negotiated for the 4.4 acres; a SLIF grant has been received that will help pay for the property and develop the site as proposed. The archaeological study has been completed. The property has been appraised at \$280,000, and the sale price remains at \$250,000. During a brief discussion Lee confirmed that the Town will still be responsible for its commitment of \$86,000 for development of the land.

There was no public input.

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

**Jim Bullard**, of Camp Verde Water Company, strongly suggested that the Town and the Water Company get together and talk further.

**21. Advanced Approvals of Town Expenditures**

There were no advanced approvals.

**22. Manager/Staff Report**

There was no Manager/Staff Report.

**23. Council Informational Reports**

Hauser displayed some posters on the meth problem, saying that on Friday there will be an educational Open House on Friday at Mingus Union High School, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., with registration at 8:30 a.m.

Kovacovich thanked the community for supporting the Crawdad Festival, another great event.

Baker added her appreciation for the Crawdad Festival; she also announced that the proposed NACOG/ AOT event to be held in June has been postponed to the fall of 2006.

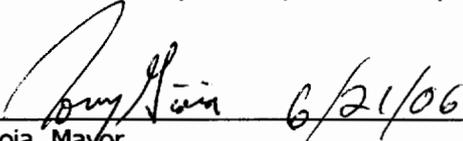
Parry said the Marshal's Office is looking good, and should be occupied this month.

Gioia reported on the recent activities of the Stewards of Public Lands and another proposed clean-up day, commending the public for taking an interest in volunteering efforts. Gioia outlined

a letter he is drafting for the State legislature to protest the "typical" annual attempt to cut percentages in State-shared revenue, and expressing concern over how proposed tax cuts will adversely affect the smaller communities. Gioia also reported on the Highway 260 issue and said that, based on research of traffic fatalities and injuries he is drafting a letter proposing that ADOT start redevelopment in the area where I-17 redevelopment stopped and go towards Cherry Road as far as possible, instead of starting at Western as has now been suggested.

**24. Adjournment**

On a motion by Hauser, seconded by Baker, the meeting was adjourned at 9:39 p.m.

  
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Tony Gioia, 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 Session of the Town Council of Camp Verde, Arizona, held on the 7th day of June 2006. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 22 day of June, 2006.

  
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Debbie Barber, Town Clerk