

**MINUTES  
REGULAR SESSION  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
TOWN OF CAMP VERDE  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2009  
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 Hauser, Councilors Garrison, Smith, and Kovacovich were present; there are two seats vacant.

**Also Present:** Town Manager Mike Scannell, Town Attorney Bill Sims, Community Development Director Nancy Buckel, Parks & Recreation Director Lynda Moore, Town Clerk Debbie Barber, and Recording Secretary Margaret Harper.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge was led by Garrison.

**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) Retreat – February 25, 2009
- 2) Regular Session – February 18, 2009

**b) Set Next Meeting, Date and Time:**

- 1) March 18, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. – Regular Session
- 2) March 25, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. – Council Hears Planning & Zoning
- 3) April 1, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. – Regular Session
- 4) April 15, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. – Regular Session
- 5) April 22, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. – Council Hears Planning & Zoning

**c) Possible authorization to pay the Town's portion of the legal expenses related to the League of Cities and Towns v. Martin/Napolitano in challenging the constitutionality in Section 47 of HB2209 that required cities and towns to deposit \$29.7 million into the State General Fund. The Town's portion is \$576.00. The Supreme Court ruled in favor of the League's position; however, legal fees were not awarded.** This is a non-budgeted item in legal services. (Staff Resource: Michael Scannell)

**d) Possible authorization to transfer funds in the amount of \$3,605.00 from Special Events Supplies to Wine Reimbursement.** This is a budgeted item. (Staff Resource: Lynda Moore)

**e) Possible approval of Resolution 2009-761, a resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Town of Camp Verde, Yavapai County, Arizona, establishing hours of operation and setting the 2009 Holiday Schedule.** (Staff Resource: Debbie Barber)

**f) Possible authorization to pay \$5,806.10 for loss adjustment expenses to Southwest Risk/Arizona Municipal Risk Retention Pool for Alton v. Town of Camp Verde.** (Staff Resource: Michael Scannell)

**g) Possible acceptance of Gene McIntyre's resignation from the Board of Adjustment and possible presentation of a Certificate of Appreciation for his volunteer service.** (Staff Resource: Debbie Barber)

**h) Discussion, consideration, and possible approval of the Proclamation declaring February 14 – 21, 2009 as "Arizona Adult Literacy Week".** (Councilor Garrison requested this item.)

**i) Possible approval of budget appropriation corrections for the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 budget. The total amount of increased appropriations is \$3,030.** (Staff Resource: Lisa Elliott)

**j) Possible appointment to the following commissions: Parks & Recreation Commission – term expires in September 2010. There is one application from Karen Thomas and possible appointment to the Trails & Pathways Commission – term expires in September 2011. There is one application from Ed Mezulis.** (Staff Resource: Debbie Barber)

**k) Possible approval of an agreement between Donald E. Zelechowski, a Certified Public Accountant, and the Town of Camp Verde for a tax payer education program designed to increase compliance with our tax program, as well as, for sales tax audit services that would verify 'privilege' tax (Privilege Sales Tax) reporting and payments to the degree that said audits are required.** (Staff Resource: Michael K. Scannell).

On a motion by Hauser, seconded by Kovacovich, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved as presented, with the exception of **items 4.h) and j).**

Garrison requested that Items 4.h) and j) be pulled for separate consideration.

**4.h) Discussion consideration, and possible approval of the Proclamation declaring February 14 – 21, 2009 as “Arizona Adult Literacy Week.”**

On a motion by Gioia, seconded by Garrison, the Council unanimously approved the Proclamation declaring February 13-21, 2009 as “Arizona Adult Literacy Week.”

Garrison said she found that the Proclamation that previously had been brought to Council had not been voted upon as required; it has been brought back in order to correct that omission.

**4.j) Possible appointment to the following commissions: Parks & Recreation Commission – term expires in September 2010. There is one application from Karen Thomas and possible appointment to the Trails & Pathways Commission – term expires in September 2011. There is one application from Ed Mezulis.**

A motion by Hauser, seconded by Kovacovich, to appoint the two candidates to the subject Commissions failed by a 3-2 vote; **with Smith and Garrison opposed.**

Garrison said she would like to have the two applicants come to the podium and be recognized; Town Clerk Barber said that one of the candidates is out of Town and the other one may or may not be present.

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

(Comments from the following individuals are summarized.)

**Joe Butner** spoke on behalf of the Camp Verde Cavalry to once again request funds to cover the cost of a special dinner to honor the White Mountain Sheriff’s Posse on this year’s occasion of their delivery of the mail from the Pinetop-Lakeside area; a bid from Babe’s Roundup has been received in the amount of \$2350 for the event.

**Carlie Androus** expressed her concern regarding the ethics and accountability of the Town’s representatives, citing an occasion on which she believes the Mayor acted independently in his contacts with the Yavapai-Apache Nation on the issue of Prop. 202 Funds, the actions of which are in direct conflict with the Town’s Code of Ethics. Ms. Androus asked that this issue be made an agenda item for discussion and resolution at the earliest Council meeting available.

**Howard Parrish** said he has received phone calls about organizing a group of people in connection with the Arizona Centennial; he has been advised that one of the ladies would appear before Council and explain details as they get more involved.

**Jackie Baker** commented that she agrees with Carlie Androus; she recalled a similar problem in connection with the Liaison to the Sanitary District; it is very refreshing that the citizens are paying attention in this time of apathy.

There was no further public input.

**6. Council Informational Reports**

**Smith** outlined two agenda item requests he has made; one dealing with discussion and possible Council direction to respond to disagreement and a dispute concerning the distribution of highway funding in Arizona, authorizing a letter to the State opposing a cut in the funding; also, an agenda item to look into the request from Carlie Androus in connection with the Liaison and lack of response to Council.

**Garrison** reported on some interesting meetings she attended this week, and quoted some “punch lines” on the issue of stimulus money and concerns about next year’s budget; the Advisory Council on Aging has a phone number to call with any questions about services available to senior citizens, 877-521-3500. Garrison also reiterated her request in January for an answer regarding a point of order and would like that to be given in a public meeting. Garrison referred to two draft documents from NACOG for the Council to seriously consider relating to the Economic Recovery Funds for Transportation. Garrison added that she will sponsor Mr. Butner’s request for the funds for the White Mountain Sheriff’s Posse event.

**Hauser** said that MatForce is holding its March Against Meth event this year on March 28<sup>th</sup>, with the March starting from the Cottonwood Fairgrounds and ending at Dead Horse Ranch; Hauser described the many related planned activities, ending with the good news that her Marine is going to the war zone.

**Gioia** said he had assured the White Mountain Sheriff’s Posse people that they would be very welcome in Camp Verde; the Mail Trail Ride is a real boost to tourism, and the fiscal situation was also discussed with them. The tourist signs directing people to downtown Camp Verde have gone up. Progress is being made with the Forest Service regarding funding for the sign at Montezuma Castle Highway. Gioia said he had discussions with the Yavapai-Apache Nation recently concerning issues that had

been raised in other communities; the outcome of the discussions was favorable. Gioia also reported on the Fossil Creek legislation and contacts with State Parks regarding the Fort, as well information from the Intergovernmental Meeting in Sedona.

*Councilor Garrison and Mayor Gioia requested item #7:*

7. **Yavapai Apache Nation will present and Council will accept a check in the amount of \$56,058 to the Town as a contribution from the Cliff Castle Gaming Facility, pursuant to Section 12(d)(1) of the Tribal-State Gaming Compact.**  
There was no action taken.

Chairman Thomas Beauty presented a facsimile check for the \$56,058, with the request that the money go to the Camp Verde School District and the South Verde High School, with the other 25% to the Camp Verde Parks & Recreation. Mayor Gioia accepted the check, expressing appreciation on behalf of the community and the Council. Chairman Beauty comment that this year all the funds will go to education within the Verde Valley, and there was some unfortunate miscommunication that occurred; he explained that to prevent a recurrence of that, every November a letter will be sent to those who will benefit from the funds to arrange a meeting to share communication and understanding. Garrison extended a special thanks to the Chairman for making it a point to open the doors of communication and sharing between the Town and the Nation since his election.

#### **PUBLIC INPUT**

(Comments from the following individual are summarized.)

**Perry Haddon** described how Prescott sponsors a Thanksgiving Eve event to get together with all the community leadership and the Tribe; he encouraged Camp Verde to do likewise. *Gioia advised him that the Town has done that, with a barbecue.*

There was no further public input.

*Mayor Gioia requested items #8 and 9:*

8. **Discussion, consideration, and possible vote to reconsider the reaffirmation made on January 13, 2009 and/or the approval made on December 17, 2008 of Ordinance 2008-A354A (amending Ordinance 2008-A354 approved on October 22, 2008, but not processed based on attorney advice) an Ordinance of the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Camp Verde, Yavapai County, Arizona amending Section 118 of the Zoning Ordinance to define A-frame signs, add exceptions for projecting signs and A-Frame signs into the right-of-way for businesses and Main Street under Prohibited Signs, and define the criteria under which projecting signs may be used under Business/Commercial/Industrial signs.**

On a motion by Smith, seconded by Kovacovich, the Council voted unanimously to readdress this item.

Gioia asked the members if they would choose to readdress the item as proposed, there was general agreement expressed, and action was taken accordingly.

There was no public input.

9. **Discussion, consideration, and possible direction to staff relative to Ordinance 2008-A354A (amending Ordinance 2008-A354 approved on October 22, 2008, but not processed based on attorney advice) an Ordinance of the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Camp Verde, Yavapai County, Arizona amending Section 118 of the Zoning Ordinance to define A-frame signs, ADD EXCEPTIONS FOR PROJECTING SIGNS AND A-FRAME SIGNS into the right-of-way for businesses and Main Street under Prohibited Signs, and define the criteria under which projecting signs may be used under Business/Commercial/Industrial signs.**

On a motion by Gioia, seconded by Hauser, Council unanimously directed staff to assemble a group of those involved in the A-Frame signs issue, bring back within 30 days remedies to the situation, suggestions; if Council chooses at that time it can go forward with the process of public notification and public hearing in Planning & Zoning and public notification and public hearing in Council; also staff to hold in abeyance any enforcement of the present A-Frame sign Ordinance with the existing indemnity agreement in the Ordinance.

Gioia said that the reason for asking for reconsideration is based on the outcry from the merchants who use the A-Frame signs; Gioia said he would ask Council to direct staff to take 30 days and report back to Council after discussion with the merchants, or those folks who are involved in the need for the A-Frame signs, with a plan or suggested Ordinance for Council to review and perhaps choose to proceed with the process for public hearings through Planning & Zoning and then back to Council.

Town Attorney Sims confirmed that it would be appropriate for Council to take the proposed step; it is not a step toward rezoning, but simply a request to the Town Manager to consult with members of the community to glean information as to how the Council may direct Planning & Zoning to modify the Ordinance in the future. Sims said it would be a discussion with interested stakeholders as to what lessons have been learned, and it should be strictly related to the A-Frames, applying the terms of the

existing Ordinance to A-Frames only and to require the indemnity agreement; enforcement of the Zoning Code would be held in abeyance for a short period of time to allow the effort to resolve the conflict, and the Town will be protected.

There was some discussion regarding the direction to consult with the merchants for a resolution; it was pointed out that time is of the essence since a decision on the commitment should be made before the next Council is seated, whether it involves a modification to the existing Ordinance or a recommendation from P&Z for a new Ordinance. In response to a question as to how he would follow through on consulting with the community, Town Manager Scannell said he would defer to Bill Carter to identify key players in the process, with no specific number of people comprising the group.

#### **PUBLIC INPUT**

(Comments from the following individuals are summarized.)

**Jim Lawson** questioned whether the Town just recently decided to enforce the Code, or "what happened with that." (*Gioia briefly explained and discussed with Lawson the history of why the Code had not been enforced because of the development of Main Street and the bypass situation, and the current steps being taken to try to resolve the problems.*)

**Bill Carter** said he wanted to thank the Mayor, Council and staff for taking a hard look at the challenge facing everyone; it is an opportunity to better the Town and the attitudes of the merchants; your campaign signs are important for you, and the merchants are campaigning every day to let everyone coming through Town know what they do. Mr. Carter believes that working with the Town as planned, there will be resolution and the problem will be gone forever.

**Ginger Mason** also believes that moving forward on a progressive plan will benefit all; she was speaking for the Chamber of Commerce who will also participate in a cooperative effort for resolution. Without such a forward thinking effort, the business community will continue to suffer and that will affect the entire community.

There was no further public input.

Gioia outlined a proposal for staff to work on a resolution within 30 days; Scannell commented that Council should anticipate that the issue will be brought back to Council at the April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

Sims explained the issue of requiring the indemnity agreement, in that seldom do governments decide to suspend enforcement of their police power, which is being contemplated. In doing so, there is a potential risk to the Town, that there could be a liability-causing event arising out of the use of an A-Frame at a location not on Main Street which technically is not permitted by the Town Code. Sims confirmed that it would be appropriate for a short period of time to suspend the effectiveness of the Ordinance to allow the Manager to collect data for the Council to review and try to resolve the existing problem, and it would be appropriate to impose the same rules on those using A-Frames outside of the downtown area as those being imposed on the current downtown merchants.

Gioia reiterated his appreciation for the way the merchants have represented themselves, and the mutual respect that has been shown; the Council is doing its best, and this has been an excellent experience for everyone in problem solving.

#### **10. Discussion, consideration, and possible authorization to fill the position of Parks Administrative Assistant. (Staff Resource: Lynda Moore)**

This item will be continued; staff will meet with Moore to consider a number of options to determine what is in the realm of possible, and then come up with a comprehensive report for Council by the April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, including an analysis of the possibility of funding an employee from the Park Fund and then fund the Event Coordinator from the General Fund.

Director Moore said that the subject position has been open for some time; it is a very important one involving coordination of special events as well as administrative duties; at this time the burden of those responsibilities falls directly on her as the department head because of inadequate staffing, which has created a difficult if not impossible situation.

The members discussed at length with Moore, with input from Scannell, the issue of whether the Town should continue to sponsor special events, their importance to the Town, the expense of an events coordinator/administrative assistant, and the importance of that position to the department and success of those events. Also discussed was the need for volunteers in the activities, as well as the problems faced by the private sector in possibly taking over some, if not all, of the events. Deep concern was expressed throughout the discussion over the outlook for the economy for next year, and the related necessary budget constraints.

Gioia commented on the lack of any budget analysis and the financial ramifications inherent in Moore's request; without such information a decision to hire new personnel would be difficult. Gioia added that normally this type of manpower issue comes

before Council during budget work sessions. Scannell pointed out that with respect to this budget year the funding is available; if the private sector steps up and takes over activities the need for the position would be obviated; however, if the Town continues to sponsor events, it is not fair to Moore to require her to continue without that help. Moore outlined the planned events and programs coming up between now and budget time, which need to be dedicated to by someone full time. Gioia discussed with Scannell the need for an evaluation of whether the Town can afford to continue the existing schedule of events considering the projections for the next fiscal year 2010. Scannell suggested continuing this item, that he would meet with Moore, consider options and bring back a comprehensive report by April 1, including the possibility of funding an employee from the Park Fund to fund an events coordinator.

#### **PUBLIC INPUT**

(Comments from the following individuals are summarized.)

**Linda Buchanan** said she had no idea the Council would go this far afield from the agenda item; 30 minutes have just been spent discussing the issue. A tremendous amount of public would have been present if they had known what was to be talked about; this is one of the frustrations that the public feels in trying to stay abreast of what the topics are.

**Bea Richmond** commented that it is amazing that the question of whether these events make a profit has not come up at all; investing in community events is strictly an expense to the Town. *(Garrison responded that the events have cost thousands of dollars.)*

**Robin Whatley** stated that the Town is not in the business of making money; it provides services to the community, and a profit motive should not be on the table. The private sector has stepped up and the number of events has been reduced. Ms. Whatley said she will fight to keep Ft. Verde Days above all others; that is Camp Verde.

**Howard Parrish** said that Ft. Verde Days used to make money; that is what helped build the library.

There was no further public input.

Garrison requested that when the agenda item comes back, that it will cover more of what the discussion will include so that there will be no question of the content, such as special events.

**A recess was taken at 8:15 p.m.; the meeting was called back to order at 8:24 p.m.**

11. **Presentation and possible reconsideration of Council's decision to have Town Staff enforce the Town's regulations concerning the youth livestock project activity for 2009 based on new information submitted by the FFA advisors, allowing the FFA advisors to proceed with the enforcement regulations for 2009.** *(Staff Resource: Nancy Buckel)*  
On a motion by Hauser, seconded by Garrison, the Council unanimously directed staff to take action to allow the FFA advisors to proceed with the enforcement regulations for 2009.

Director Buckel said that the request for reconsideration is based upon additional information received. After Council's decision to have Town staff take over enforcement of the youth livestock activity based on non-performance by the FFA, a meeting was held with the FFA advisors and it appears that the problems that led to miscommunications have been resolved. Buckel said staff would like to allow the FFA advisors to handle the first phase of enforcement in the field, as originally planned; staff will continue to monitor and would have the ultimate authority for any decision regarding compliance.

The members briefly discussed the issues that had come up and expressed appreciation that they had been resolved; Gioia suggested that future problems of communication be worked out before they come to Council.

#### **PUBLIC INPUT**

(Comments from the following individual are summarized.)

**Linda Buchanan** said she admired the members when they are brave enough to reconsider an issue based on new information; however, as a point of order she said she is confused about having to first vote to reconsider an item, as in Item 8, and on this item just launch into a reconsideration without first voting. *(Gioia said the difference is that this item was proposed by staff, not a Council member; it probably could have gone either way.)*

**Jackie Baker** thanked Nancy Buckel for doing a good job of explaining what had happened and what needed to be corrected.

There was no further public input.

12. **Presentation of the financial status of the Town followed by discussion, consideration, and possible direction to staff**

**regarding actions to take to ensure that expenditures are kept within the revenues collected for the remainder of the 2008-2009 fiscal year. (Staff Resource: Lisa Elliott)**  
 There was no action taken.

Scannell reviewed the details from his staff report dated February 27, 2009 outlining the status of the Town's budget. The report indicated that the Town should make it through this fiscal year without any substantial reductions; next year is the big issue. Scannell said the next financial report will be made on April 1, 2009. The external auditor, Ms. Lombard, will be presenting her report on the audit for the Town at the March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting for the period ending June 30, 2008.

The members briefly discussed with Scannell the report and the accompanying graphs, with recommendations for clarification for the benefit of the Council as well as the public.

There was no public input.

**13. Discussion, consideration, and possible direction to staff relative to setting a policy for legal expenses as they relate to unauthorized citizen and media contact with the Town Attorney. (Staff Resource: Michael Scannell)**

The Town Attorney was directed not to bill for items or conversations unauthorized outside of Council's direction or staff needs; it is up to the Counselor to choose to converse with press directly but it is not to be at the expense of the Town.

Scannell said it had been called to his attention recently that a member of the press had made contact with the Town's Legal Department and the Town had received a billing for that; there also had been contact with the Legal Department by one candidate. Scannell felt that the policy for such contacts should be reestablished, in that it was not fiscally prudent to have members other than Council and staff consulting with the Town's legal staff.

Town Attorney Bill Sims spoke briefly to explain how the conversations with both the reporter and the candidate occurred, his philosophy and integrity on how he bills the Town, praise for a very strong, knowledgeable Town staff, and assurance that similar misunderstandings will not occur.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

(Comments from the following individual are summarized.)

**Robin Whatley** questioned whether the proper procedure for outside inquiries to legal staff should go through the Town Manager, for example, the call from the candidate. *(It was suggested that would be the better approach.)*

There was no further public input.

*Councilor Smith requested item #14:*

**14. Discussion, consideration, and possible direction to staff relative to a) holding in abeyance any actions relative to enforcing the transaction privilege tax on residential rental properties in the Town of Camp Verde and b) to prepare an analysis for the Council's review and to deliver said analysis on or before March 18, 2009 of those options that exist with respect to developing new sources of revenue to offset the loss of revenue that may flow from the rescission of the transaction privilege taxes currently levied on residential rental properties in the Town of Camp Verde.**

Staff was directed to provide data by the next meeting on the yield on the subject tax generally, broken out by residential and commercial, for review by the Council and decision on what action to take; the data will be based on the current level of compliance.

Smith explained that because of the "marginal living areas" in Town, to start levying a 2 percent residential rental tax might be taking away meals from families, and he referred to some existing low-cost rentals. Smith said he is looking for an open discussion on how Council feels about the possibility of the tax making attainable housing even more difficult to find.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

(Comments from the following individuals are summarized.)

**Ethel Fabrin** said she is an assistant to a landlord, and she is "totally dismayed" at the idea of raising new revenue on the backs of those who are already cinching their belts and can least afford it; there continues to be less income all the way around and the prospect of a 2 percent tax "is abominable."

**Dobie Champion** said that she has to agree with everything that Ms. Fabrin just stated, particularly at this time, with the economy like it is; it is almost unconscionable that money is to be extracted from people who are barely making it as it is. This is adding to all the negativity that is going on in the Town right now.

**Linda Buchanan** believes the timing is wrong, the topic should be held in abeyance, it is not fair. Camp Verde is not known for luxury tax units; this is truly borne on the backs of the people who are least equipped to pay it; hold it in abeyance until more data would be available. Perhaps Mr. Zelachowski could lead a discussion in a work session; the Town is desperate for the money but Ms. Buchanan questions the mechanism. *Following a later statement by Mayor Gioia*, Buchanan spoke again to explain that some confusion arose from the meetings with Mr. Zelachowski, and the Consent Agenda authorized him to now start doing his work. She said there are landlords who had not been aware of the tax provision, and so it feels like a new tax and that is why there is the request to hold it in abeyance.

**Pete Roulette**, a landlord, said that his tenants are struggling to pay the rent right now; the timing is wrong and the issue should be held in abeyance.

There was no further public input.

Gioia pointed out that the discussion is about taking an existing tax off the book, not that the Council is talking about a new tax. Smith said he is concerned about the impact on affordable housing while trying to be fair in collecting taxes; he is aware that there are a lot of units in the community that are not in compliance but would recommend that Council hold it in abeyance and research what the financial impact is relative to the Town, and if significant remove it from the Code. Gioia reminded him that the Council is only asking for information from staff at this point. Attorney Sims cautioned that the members are getting into the Model Tax Code, and gave examples of how the Town could choose operations on which to impose the privilege tax, and the rate to impose; it would be irrational to charge residential less than commercial, but if the Council wanted to do so, Sims believes that could be justified.

Scannell summarized what he understood was expected from staff, and that was to give the Council data at the next meeting on the yield on the tax generally, broken up by residential and commercial, and Council can then decide what they would like to do; that data to be based on the current level of compliance; the members agreed with that understanding.

15. **Discussion, consideration, and possible direction to staff to prepare an ordinance adopting Robert's Rules of Order, as modified that best fits the Town's needs for Council consideration at the earliest possible date.** (Staff Resource: Michael Scannell)

Staff was directed to proceed with drafting a Standard Procedure Policy based on a modification of Robert's Rules of Order.

Scannell commented that Councilor Garrison had brought up the issue of Rules of Order regarding an incident in the past, and that goes to the heart of this agenda item, Robert's Rules of Order. Scannell reviewed the history leading to this subject, primarily Garrison wanting answers to the question of how to operate appropriately and consistently. Without that consistency, rules from time to time appear to change. Scannell said that many jurisdictions employ Robert's Rules of Order as a rule book, modifying some of those Rules to fit their particular culture. Scannell said he believes that adopting and modifying the Robert's Rules of Order to fit the Town's needs and interest would address the concern expressed by Garrison, and would be the guide that the Council would use in its deliberations and actions and would maintain order to the process.

Garrison confirmed what Scannell had summarized, and cited some examples, including research she had done to try to find answers; the League of Cities and Towns said that without a Standard Procedure Policy based on a modification of Robert's Rules, they were unable to discuss her concerns. Garrison said that there should be basic, clear rules set forth in a book for reference and guidance. Smith outlined a previous unsuccessful attempt to try to adopt a version of Robert's Rules of Order, and agreed it was time to revisit adopting a "road map" for guidance. The members discussed their past experience with different Mayors and their interpretations of the Rules; Garrison suggested that establishing a Standard Procedure Policy now would also be helpful for the new Council coming in. Gioia said that if Council wishes, staff would be directed to draft such a policy based on modifying Robert's Rules of Order.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

(Comments from the following individuals are summarized.)

**Pete Roulette** said he is glad the topic came up because he has observed conflicts in responding to the public when they came to the podium to speak. (Gioia explained the responsibility of the Mayor, or Chairperson, to maintain order in a meeting, and the difference between being able to respond to an item that had not been agendaized and one that had. A brief discussion followed to reiterate the need for consistency.)

**Robin Whatley** outlined the procedure for the public to follow to be able to agendize a subject for discussion; she added that she is getting the feeling from the public that the meetings are not run properly. Ms. Whatley said that, to the contrary, she believes the Council consistently allows the public to speak and that everyone is being heard. She added that she understands that strict Robert's Rules of Order do not work for cities and towns, but that seems to be what the public wants. (*Garrison again explained the concept of a Standard Procedure Policy based on Robert's Rules of Order.*)

**Linda Buchanan** outlined her experience with Robert's Rules of Order in the past; she suggested that if the Council would hear the public speak and not feel the need to respond, the meetings could be expedited, and the public would appreciate that.

**Jackie Baker** said that in her eight years on the Council she found that different Mayors had different styles, but as long as she was on the Council a modified version of Robert's Rules of Order had been followed. The Chair, or Mayor, instead of staff, has the responsibility for keeping the meeting in line. Writing out rules based on a modified version to follow will certainly be of value.

There was no further public input.

- 16. **Call to the Public for Items not on the Agenda.**  
There was no public input.

- 17. **Advanced Approvals of Town Expenditures**  
a) **There are no advanced approvals.**  
There was no advanced approvals.

- 18. **Manager/Staff Report**  
There was no Manager/Staff report.

- 19. **Adjournment**  
On a motion by Hauser, seconded by Smith, the meeting was adjourned at 10:06 p.m.

  
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 4<sup>th</sup> day of March 2009. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 27 day of March, 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Debbie Barber, Town Clerk  
*Virginia Jones - Deputy Town Clerk*