

**MINUTES  
REGULAR SESSION  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
473 S MAIN STREET, SUITE 106  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2014 at 6:30 P.M.**

Minutes are a summary of the discussion. They are not verbatim.  
Public input is placed after Council discussion to facilitate future research.

1. **Call to Order**  
Mayor German called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.
  
2. **Roll Call**  
Mayor Charles German, Vice Mayor Jackie Baker, Councilors Robin Whatley, Bruce George, Brad Gordon, and Jessie Jones were present. Carol German was absent  
  
**Also Present**  
Town Manager Russell Martin, Economic Development Director Steve Ayers, Finance Director Mike Showers, Deputy Clerk Virginia Jones, and Recording Secretary Saepyo Choe.
  
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**  
Mayor German led the pledge.
  
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) Work Session – October 22, 2014
    - 2) Regular Session – October 15, 2014
  - b) **Set Next Meeting, Date and Time:**
    - 1) November 12, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. – Work Session
    - 2) November 19, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. – **Combined Regular/Council Hears P&Z Matters**
    - 3) November 26, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. – Council Hears Planning & Zoning Matters – **CANCELLED**
    - 4) December 3, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. – Regular Session
    - 5) December 10, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. – Work Session
    - 6) December 17, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. – **Combined Regular/Council Hears P&Z Matters**
    - 7) December 24, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. – Council Hears Planning & Zoning Matters - **CANCELLED**
  - c) **Possible approval of and authorization for the Mayor to execute a Public Road Easement and Maintenance Agreement for non-exclusive use to parcel 404-32-220A (3262 S. Terrace Lane, Verde Lakes Subdivision).** Staff Resource: Ron Long
  - d) **Possible approval as Trustees to the Camp Verde Sewer District of the First Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Town of Camp Verde, Arizona and the Camp Verde Sanitary District. This amendment amends the effective date of the original IGA to July 1, 2013, specifies the exact relationship between the Town and the District, and defines how District assets and liabilities will be handled in the Town's accounting system.** Staff Resource: Mike Showers
  - e) **Possible approval as the Mayor and Common Council of the First Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Town of Camp Verde, Arizona and the Camp Verde Sanitary District. This amendment amends the effective date of the original IGA to July 1, 2013, specifies the exact relationship between the Town and the District, and defines how District assets and liabilities will be handled in the Town's accounting system.** Staff Resource: Mike

## Showers

On a motion by George, seconded by Vice Mayor Baker, Council unanimously approved the Consent Agenda as presented.

5. **Special Announcements and presentations:**
  - **Possible approval of a proclamation declaring November as American Diabetes Month**  
Mayor German proclaimed November as American Diabetes Month.
6. **Call to the Public for Items not on the Agenda.**  
There was no public input.
7. **Discussion, consideration, and possible direction to staff relative to referendum petitions submitted to refer Ordinance 2014-A398, establishing a 3% sales tax on food for home consumption.** Staff Resource: Debbie Barber  
On a motion by George, seconded by Vice Mayor Baker, Council voted unanimously to direct staff to prepare an ordinance to repeal Ordinance 2014-A398, noting that this must be done prior to November 25.

Martin stated that there was an executive session on this topic and explained the options before Council:  
1) Continue with the referendum process, 2) Prepare an ordinance to repeal the ordinance that passed the food tax, or 3) Prepare an ordinance to repeal the food tax ordinance and send the question of a food tax to the voters at a future election.

### Public Hearing

Steve Goetting spoke to several hundred people in support of the petition against the food tax, including prominent families and long-time business owners committed to seeing Camp Verde succeed. All signers of the petition, even those who have supported the new library building, agree that Council has not communicated an adequate vision for the food tax revenue. Capital Improvement Projects and sewers along Hwy 260 do not justify the need for the food tax.

Jim Meredith asked Council to acknowledge the fact that food costs are already high, and to do the right thing: cancel the tax, and look at bonding or other options for revenue. He stated that everyone could already predict the outcome of a public vote.

### Discussion

Mayor German said he spoke with several families who supported the food tax, and preferred it to a property tax. Camp Verde needs to be ready within the next 1 ½ - 3 years with the infrastructure needed for those who want to invest in the Town. Mayor German stated that the sleeves across Hwy 260 would allow for sewer lines for future new businesses, and relieve some of the tax burden on the residents who have been paying the highest tax in Yavapai County, noting that many of those residents have not even had access to the sewer services for which they have been paying. Mayor German stated that Camp Verde needs to invest in engineering support to provide Verde Valley Medical Clinic with the answers they need for the placement of sidewalks, and acceleration / deceleration zones.

Mayor German stated he does not wish to make enemies by voting for something the people do not want. If the Council decides to continue with the Referendum process, the cost of an election would be \$30,000. Mayor German reminded everyone that highway 260 was a dead issue until our Town Manager, Russell Martin, revived it; and now it is a hot issue.

Councilor George stated he does not want to waste \$30,000 on a special election, and recommended Council agree to Option 2, directing staff to bring back an Ordinance repealing the food tax.

Vice Mayor Baker stated that Steve Goetting expressed the issues well, and that Council appreciates how actively the public has been communicating their wishes. She stated that it is to Camp Verde's credit that Council rarely has to guess what its citizens are thinking.

Councilor Whatley stated that Camp Verde needs economic development, to complete Capital Improvement Projects, to build the new library, to improve Hwy 260, and to bring in Verde Valley Medical Clinic--all at the same time. The \$30,000 it would cost for a special election could pay for half of the gym roof. We need the money, but perhaps it is not the right time for a food tax.

Councilor Jones stated that she is eager to take the extra steps needed to get Camp Verde closer to bigger opportunities. \$400,000 from the food tax, is only a small portion of the several million needed for what Council would like to do for the Town, but she wants to make the commitments necessary to inch toward the goals--which include Hwy 260, the park, and the library.

Councilor George requested Item #8:

**8. Presentation of by Verde Valley Care Givers Executive Director Kent Ellsworth regarding transportation for person with special needs.**

Director Kent Ellsworth, Kim Miller, and two Driver/Call-Center Volunteers were introduced to Council. The presentation is attached and becomes part of the public record.

Ellsworth reported all the services the Verde Valley Care Givers provide, explained that they anticipate a partnership with Rainbow Acres for use of their transportation fleet, and highlighted that they are a nationally-awarded organization.

Councilor Whatley stated that she was impressed by the work of the volunteers and recognized them for their accomplishments.

Cindy Walker, a Volunteer, explained that at least three people in Camp Verde have to go to Cottonwood three times a week for dialysis. This becomes difficult to juggle with various appointment times on the same day with only a few volunteers. It would be much more efficient to have a large vehicle to be able to transport everyone at one time. The organization reimburses mileage, but that becomes a large expense, so she budgets for the cost of the extra miles. There are only 11 volunteers available to serve more than 250 Camp Verde clients, so they must prioritize medical appointments, then food needs, then routine requests. She asked others to consider being a Verde Valley Care Giver Volunteer.

Vice Mayor Baker said they just presented a great case for the need to have dialysis available at new VVMC in Camp Verde.

**9. Discussion, consideration, and possible acceptance of a grant from the Friends of the Verde River Greenway in the amount of \$50,000 for the development of a River Recreation Master Plan for the Town of Camp Verde. Staff Resource: Steve Ayers**

On a motion by Gordon, seconded by Vice Mayor Baker, Council voted unanimously to accept a grant from the Friends of the Verde River Greenway in the amount of \$50,000 for the development of a River Recreation Master Plan for the Town of Camp Verde.

Steve Ayers stated that the Verde River is an important resource with economic value that offers the Town a sense of place. It has long been the Town's desire to increase access and recreation along the river, but that it needs support to overcome some of the obstacles. We hope to learn from Clarkdale's success. This grant from the Walton Family Foundation, for which we received notice in September, would allow Camp

Verde to employ people to engage the public, the Nature Conservancy, private property owners, and local stakeholders in the process of maximizing the river's potential. Ayres stated the Town has also received \$35,000 from the National Parks Service. Out of the 30 recipients of the grant, three were from the Verde Valley—including Rimrock and Clarkdale.

Vice Mayor Baker stated that this is a big undertaking with many agreements needed in order to accomplish the goals, and that it will not be easy. She commended Ayers for the bold venture.

Ayers explained that they have already met with many landowners, and have seen an energetic response. No matching fund are needed, in fact, AZ State Parks has verbally committed to an additional \$10,000, if needed. An Engineer candidate has been selected, and Ayers will bring the matter before Council for approval before hiring. Ayres indicated there is a significant need for a river management plan; and this grant will help with that.

Steve Goetting stated that he is the Vice President for Diamond S. Ditch, near White Bridge and that he is excited to see more access points and improvements.

Ayers stated that the White Bridge area is definitely a key feature, for which there are exciting plans in store.

10. **Discussion, consideration, and possible approval of Resolution 2014-932, a resolution of the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Camp Verde, Yavapai County, Arizona extending the terms of the sitting Mayor and Council members pursuant to ARS §16-204 as amended, related to consolidated elections.** Staff Resource: Debbie Barber

On a motion by Vice Mayor Baker, seconded by George, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution 2014-932, a resolution of the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Camp Verde, Yavapai County, Arizona extending the terms of the sitting Mayor and Council members pursuant to ARS §16-204 as amended, related to consolidated elections.

Town Manager, Russell Martin explained that the Legislature changed the law allowing Candidate elections in only even number years and passed a law that communities could only extend the terms of existing Council held seats. Martin continued that in the past the Town has always had candidate elections in odd numbered years. The Resolution will extend the Mayor and Council terms.

Vice Mayor Baker explained that the League of Cities and Towns worked very hard to fight against the decision by the State Legislature, in order to prevent this problem, but that the State Legislature moved forward in spite of their objections.

Mayor German joked that he did not go behind closed doors to extend his tenure, but that a Resolution of this nature is required to abide by State law.

11. **Call to the Public for items not on the agenda.**  
There was no public input.

12. **Council Informational Reports.** These reports are relative to the committee meetings that Council members attend. The Committees are Camp Verde Schools Education Foundation; Chamber of Commerce, Intergovernmental Association, NACOG Regional Council, Verde Valley Transportation Planning Organization, Yavapai County Water Advisory Committee, and shopping locally. In addition, individual members may provide brief summaries of current events. The Council will have no discussion or take action on any of these items, except that they may request that the item be placed on a future agenda.

Baker: Trick or Treat on Main Street was a great success, Councilor George's dog dressed as a lion was a bit hit; she attended the second meeting of Focus Future, a tool for economic development with great ideas

and participation.

Gordon: Attended Leaders of the Verde, hosted by Verde Valley Land Preservation, new judge's welcome party, Planning & Zoning meeting, String of Pearls meeting, and the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of American Heritage School. He is impressed with AHA for promoting American values.

Mayor German: acknowledged AHA as a very interactive school, which teaches American history and civic involvement; they also volunteer for trash pick-up along Finnie Flat Road.

13. **Manager/Staff Report** Individual members of the Staff may provide brief summaries of current events and activities. These summaries are strictly for informing the Council and public of such events and activities. The Council will have no discussion, consideration, or take action on any such item, except that an individual Council member may request that the item be placed on a future agenda.

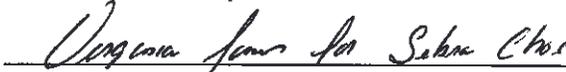
Martin encouraged Council to invited everyone to the 5:30 p.m. Work Session next Wednesday about Hwy 260 and the sewer. He would like all concerned citizens to be a part of the brainstorming and join the discussion early on. He will also with the newspaper to keep the public informed. He recognized the effort it takes to host an event as big as Trick or Treat on Main Street. It was a big success and he hopes the Town will keep up year after year. The Library project is posted for bidding. Pre-bid is Nov 17<sup>th</sup>, and he hopes to bring the matter before Council January 1st for a decision.

14. **Adjournment**

On a motion Vice Mayor Baker, seconded by Jones, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:51pm.



Charles German, Mayor



Saepyo Choe, 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 November 5, 2014. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2014.



Debbie Barber, Town Clerk *Deputy clerk*