DRAFT MINUTES
WORK SESSION
MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL
Of the TOWN OF CAMP VERDE
COUNCIL CHAMBERS · 473 S. Main Street, Room #106
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.

1. **Call to Order**
Mayor Charlie German called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

2. **Roll Call**
Mayor Charlie German, Vice Mayor Bruce George, Councilors Jackie Baker, Carol German, Brad Gordon, and Jessie Murdock, Councilor Robin Whatley absent.

Also Present:
Town Manager Russ Martin, Public Works Director Ron Long, Deputy Public Works Director Troy Odell, Marshal Nancy Gardner, Fire Marshal Kristy Gagnon, Human Resource Specialist Barbie Bridge and Recording Secretary Marie Moore.

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
Vice Mayor Bruce George led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. **Update and follow up from the March 9, 2016 work session regarding the requirements of adequate fire flow.**

Town Manager Russ Martin recapped the March 9, 2016 work session and clarified that members of the audience could voice their concerns and opinions on the subject. Mr. Martin explained that the John Bassous with Tierra Verde Builders was unable to attend and has asked to have the opportunity at the next meeting to speak on the matter.

Councilor Jackie Baker expressed her support in allowing further discussion on the matter at future meetings and feels that there are many citizens and contractors who have opinions to be heard on the matter. Councilor Baker indicated her hope for Council Members to keep in mind what the attorney spoke of as well as the Fire Marshal recommendations when taking the matter into consideration. Councilor Baker gave an example of a business in town that is very short of reaching the required distance to a hydrant and therefore will need to incur the expense meeting the distance for adequate fire protection and suggested looking into what the town can do in assisting businesses who will incur large costs to become compliant.

James Bennett, Granite Basin Engineering, Tierra Verde Representative explained that there is more to take into consideration than the surface of fire safety and his main concern will be transition. Mr. Bennett voiced his concern regarding the impact that will happen on residents and businesses and asked the Council to consider the need to mitigate for those in non-compliance, which eventually could drop home values as well as limits individuals who are on fixed budgets and cannot afford to come into compliance. Mr. Bennett clarified that he is not discouraging fire safety, but explained that there must be a reasonable plan so that people can plan for it.

Fire Marshal, Kristy Gagnon, explained to Council members that her enforcement is not so stringent so that if a fire hydrant were a few feet from the required distance that the resident or business would be required to

install a new hydrant. Gagnon explained that each situation has different circumstances that have to be dealt with accordingly and applies common sense to all situations. Gagnon explained that when development happens, developers are required to extend sewer and water if it has not already been done but this situation is different. There are options available that meets needs for different situations. Camp Verde is one the first towns to have to make these decisions but regardless, the national standards cannot be ignored and the City is required to follow the State Fire Marshal Requirements. The process is meant to maintain a certain level of safety and Gagnon indicated she is willing to work with individuals to meet those requirements.

Councilor Carol German questioned what the minimum requirement for a water storage tank is. Gagnon explained the size required is in correlation to the building structure and exposure. A formula with those factors are used to determine the size required. Gagnon also reiterated that there are options available to help in meeting compliance requirements.

Councilor Brad Gordon questioned what the minimum pressure requirement for a hydrant is. Gagnon explained that 20 psi calculates fire flow and the situation determines the required needs.

Councilor Jessie Murdock stated that when a developer comes in to community, they should be thoroughly researching if infrastructure is in place or not. A developer should know this information when they purchase a property, and as a developer, they understand the cost of providing the infrastructure to the property. If the town is expected to front the costs, then budgeted money would need to be removed from other project to provide funds for hydrants.

Mayor Charlie German spoke of his previous experience with the Fire Department and explained that fire behavior doesn't change and if the fuel source is removed, a fire won't sustain. Mayor German explained that from what he can see of the area in question, there is a serious lack of fire fuel. Mayor German also reminded the Council and public that the Verde River is a physical barrier that prevents the water company from reaching the development and feels that using common sense would mitigate the situation.

Councilor Jackie Baker pointed out that with the exception of the center of town; there is a large part of the community that does not have fire flow prevention and access to hydrants.

Warren Harris, member of the public expressed that he does not see the fuel density in the area and stated that situations such as this is why individuals carry insurance.

David White recommended upgrading the Fire Department with a water tinder to get through this time as an option for Council to take into serious consideration.

Ed Lee, member of the public questioned if there was a fire flow problem that is requiring a tinder to control. Mayor German explained that the tinder requires work force, which currently is not possible. Mr. Lee questioned if due the fact that the town is not equipped properly, are developers overlooking the area to develop because they expect the town to absorb the cost of the water. Mayor German indicated that he didn't feel that was the situation.

Councilor Brad Gordon expressed that he doesn't feel it does any good to continue going on by not requiring guidelines to be met and indicated he would not be willing to agree to a subdivision that the Fire Marshal doesn't approve.

Vice Mayor Bruce George expressed his appreciation for Fire Marshal, Kristy Gagnon's comments and willingness to work with developers to obtain compliance. Vice Mayor George also indicated that the fire code was developed by the State and if it is not followed, the Town of Camp Verde could be subject to

Mayor German called a five-minute recess at 7:03 pm. The meeting resumed at 7:09 pm.

6. **Update followed by discussion relative to the 52nd State Legislature Session, to include, but not limited to SB 1350 regarding vacation rental and short-term rental regulations. Council may also discuss other bills passed by the Legislature and sent to the governor for signing.**

Town Manager Russ Martin explained to Council that this is not a monthly rental issue but rather a nightly rental issue. At this point, anyone can rent out his or her house nightly, there are no regulations in place, and this will fundamentally change single-family residential neighborhoods. The only regulation that can occur is if a neighborhood has an HOA that restricts such rentals. Mr. Martin asked Council to speak with others at the League of Cities Conference on how other municipalities are handling this situation. Martin also indicated that municipalities are prohibited from regulating unmanned aircraft, Silver Living Assistance Homes and collecting fees when purchasing a water company from new customers.

7. **Discussion, and possible direction to staff regarding letter from Clear Creek Cemetery Association, to include, but not limited to possible funding.** Requested by Mayor Charles German

Mayor Charlie German suggested that the town fund a certain level and not to exceed a certain amount in matching funds from residents to contribute to the upkeep and maintenance of the historical cemetery.

Councilor Brad Gordon reminded Council that per State Statute, if a town gives money, there must be a return of some sort. Councilor Gordon indicated he supports the idea but questioned the justification and questioned if it was designated. Mayor German indicated that the cemetery is owned by the US Forest Service.

Town Manager Russ Martin presented a possible option as a cemetery district that places a small amount on property taxes. The district promotes community well-being and would assist in one form or another. Unfortunately, Martin has not found such thing in Arizona so far, but is going to continue searching and will also look into the return needed if the money were to be given by the town.

David Boily, member of the public stated there are service groups in town that have charge of the cemetery and the legion is one of them. Their problem is man-power, but if they rotate a few people every few weeks it would be possible. Another option would be to create a Go Fund Me account.

Councilor Jessie Murdock questioned if there are community workdays. Mayor German suggested contacting the American Legion for that information.

8. **Adjournment**

Mayor German adjourned the meeting at 7:42 pm

Charles German, Mayor	**Marie Moore, Recording Secretary**

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing Minutes are a true and accurate accounting of the actions of the

litigation. Vice Mayor George requested that the Town Manager, Russ Martin speak with developers and other towns to see how the situation is being handled.

Councilor Carol German indicated that if such information is going to be researched, it needs to be a town that is similar is geography, as Camp Verde has natural barriers.

5. **Discussion and possible direction to staff regarding the positive and negative impact on the Town regarding the potential use of Speed bumps.** Requested by Mayor German

Mayor Charlie German indicated that he has received several requests from members of certain subdivisions for speed control. Mayor German expressed that if the subdivisions wants speed bumps and are willing to pay for it, and there are 2/3 vote of residents, it is due course of the subdivision to install them.

Director of Public Works, Ron Long stated that speeding is a problem regardless of the area and although speed bumps are effective, there is a lot of maintenance and once they are installed on the roads, they become the town's responsibility. Speed bumps are damaged easily, expensive to install and maintain, cause damage to low clearance cars , increase noise detrimental to environment, create flooding issues, slow response times for emergency vehicles, elevates headlights, road maintenance, including street sweeping and snow removal is difficult or impossible and lower property values due to unsightly appearance.

Deputy Director of Public Works, Troy Odell expressed that people don't realize that the decibel level increases and speed bumps are almost always removed. Mr. Odell recommended Council consider a speed sign that is effective and less cost in maintenance.

Councilor Jessie Murdock suggested a permanent sign similar to the one on Cornville road prior to reaching the switchbacks.

Director of Public Works, Ron Long stated that he would suggest installing a solar powered digital sign before a speed bump and explained that the cost of the sign is $10,000 compared to the cost of a speed bump at $7,500.00, which could eventually cost more money and most likely would be removed.

Mayor Charlie German suggested speaking to the subdivision about purchasing the sign for themselves.

Councilor Jackie Baker expressed her concerns regarding liability and insurance issues that could be caused by speed bumps.

Councilor Bruce George read statistics for Council, stating that there are 10 lives lost to every 1 saved due to the loss of time created by speed bumps and how they impede response time for emergency vehicles.

Councilor Carol German suggested that the Town of Camp Verde work with the subdivisions in sharing the cost for a solar sign.

Marshal Nancy Gardner stated that she is unaware of any complaints or requests for extra enforcement in areas, but would be happy to increase enforcement in those areas of concern as well as utilize the speed trailer that the department currently has.

Mayor German indicated that there have been complaints from residents of Jordan Meadows, specifically concerning people speeding through the development with horse trailers.

Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Camp Verde during the Council Meeting of the Town of Camp Verde, Arizona, held on June 8, 2016. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this _____day of _____, 2016.

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Virginia Jones, Town Clerk