



**MINUTES
TOWN OF CAMP VERDE
WORK SESSION
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
473 S MAIN STREET, SUITE 106 , CAMP VERDE, AZ 86322
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2024, at 5:30 P.M.**

Note: Council Member(s) may attend Council Sessions either in person, by telephone, or internet/video conferencing.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Dee Jenkins called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

2. Roll Call

Councilor Jackie Baker, Councilor Wendy Escoffier, Councilor Robin Godwin, Councilor Cris McPhail, and Mayor Dee Jenkins were present. Councilor Jesse Murdock and Vice Mayor Marie Moore were absent.

Also Present

Town Manager Miranda Fisher, Town Attorney Trish Stuhan, Risk Management Director Heather Vinson, School Resource Officer Kristen Robertson, Town Clerk Leah Rhodes, Administrative Clerk Jadie Edwards and Recording Secretary Mary Frewin.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Councilor Godwin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Active Shooter Training Staff Resource: Risk Management Director Heather Vinson.

The Active Shooter Training was conducted by Risk Management Director Heather Vinson and Town of Camp Verde School Resource Officer Kristen Robertson. The training followed the ALICE protocol—Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate. Officer Robertson oversaw the implementation of the ALICE program within the local schools.

The training commenced with staff presenting the Council a video on ALICE, focusing on active threat response strategies and survival preparedness.

Director Vinson explained that the training is being implemented throughout the Town, and the purpose of this Work Session was to acquaint the Council with the program. Director Vinson noted that the town has internal staff, along with two Marshal's Officers, who are certified to instruct ALICE training.

Director Vinson stated that the training is suitable for any public setting, as it is flexible and can be tailored to varying levels of comprehension. As a result, it can be effectively delivered to adults as well as elementary and high school students. The ALICE program is approved by both the Department of Education and the State of Arizona.

Mayor Jenkins inquired whether this training has been conducted at the private and charter schools in town, given their significant population. Director Vinson responded that efforts are underway to expand the training to other schools. Director Vinson noted that they have already conducted a session at one of the online schools in Camp Verde, as well as at the transportation barn. The goal for the upcoming year is to train additional individuals within the town to help implement the program in other locations. Additionally, the goal is to have staff in every town department complete the training.

Director Vinson broke down the acronym ALICE:

- A- Alert- first notification of danger, recognizing signs and acknowledging something is going on.
- L- Lockdown- if evacuation is not safe, you lockdown, but it's not the traditional lockdown, it's an active lockdown.
- I- Inform- communicate real time information to authorities.
- C- Counter- distract the person that's coming in and use your resources to protect yourself.
- E- Evacuate- get out as soon as possible.

Director Vinson stated the program is based off situational awareness and making the best decision possible with the information and resources.

Officer Robertson briefed the Council on the frequency of such incidents and the need for proactive measures. As the School Resource Officer for the Camp Verde Unified School District, she expressed her honor in introducing the program to the district and looks forward to extending it to other schools in the area. She also provided a comparison between traditional lockdown procedures and the ALICE program, which serves as an enhanced lockdown strategy. The purpose of ALICE is to provide the public with multiple response options rather than solely relying on a lockdown until law enforcement arrives.

Director Vinson noted that traditional lockdowns often have shortcomings in effectively notifying parents and the public. In contrast, ALICE is an empowering program designed to enable individuals to take control and respond proactively. It is not tactical or self-defense training; rather, it focuses on teaching participants how to protect themselves using the resources available in their immediate environment.

Councilor Escoffier questioned if there is a "what if" component to the ALICE Training.

Officer Robertson responded that all of the scenarios are "what if". It teaches you to think about many "what if" scenarios in your day-to-day life. It also gives assistance in creating your own plan for your own environment.

Mayor Jenkins requested an example of the appropriate response in the event that an assailant entered the Council Chambers during a meeting.

Director Vinson explained that the training teaches individuals to be able to react to their specific location and encourages individuals to think outside the box and on a whim.

Councilor Baker referenced a previous incident in which a citizen made a threat against

the town, leading to the presence of a Marshal in the audience during Council meetings for several years. She expressed her gratitude to Director Vinson for presenting this training, emphasizing its importance for preparedness and the safety of all, particularly in schools.

Councilor Godwin inquired about the protocol for addressing a situation in which a citizen brings a firearm to a Council meeting.

Officer Robertson responded that an individual's best course of action would be to call Marshal's office.

Director Vinson concluded by explaining the functionality of the Town's Emergency Notification System and providing instructions on how to sign up.

5. Adjournment

Mayor Dee Jenkins adjourned the meeting at 5:40 PM.

CERTIFICATION



Mayor Dee Jenkins



Town Clerk Leah Rhodes

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 Work Session of the Town Council of Camp Verde, Arizona, held on September 18th, 2024. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 17 day of October, 2024.



Leah Rhodes, Town Clerk