

**(corrected) MINUTES  
SPECIAL SESSION  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 473 S. MAIN STREET, ROOM #106  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2015 AT 6:00 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 6:00 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**

Mayor German, Vice Mayor Bruce George, and Councilors, Carol German, Brad Gordon, Robin Whatley, Jackie Baker and Jessie Jones are present.

**Also Present**

Town Manager Russ Martin, Finance Director Mike Showers, Community Development Director Mike Jenkins, CVMC Dispatch Supervisor Mary Newton, Town Clerk Virginia Jones and Recording Secretary Lynn Riordan.

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor German led the pledge.

**Public Hearing for comments on the proposed FY 2015/16 Budget**

• **Staff report**

Town Manager Russ Martin addressed the Mayor and Council expressing thanks to the Council and Staff for continued interest and hard work in considering and preparing the Fiscal Budget. Finance Director Mike Showers stated this budget has involved more discussion and continuous work than any other budget in recent years. Mr. Showers explained that the budget must make consideration for "potential" revenue, including revenue from sales tax and grants, and expenditures accordingly. Mr. Showers requested that the Council, and the public, keep in mind that if the revenue is not present, the expenditures will be cut accordingly.

• **Public hearing open for comments**

Patricia George addressed the Mayor and Council thanking them for their continuous service to the community, expressing support for the proposed Fiscal Budget 2015-16. Ms. George expressed distain for the residents that continuously complain, spawn discontent and fail to support the community.

Barbara Goetting addressed the Mayor and Council requesting her permit be approved to allow her to open for business (which supports the Town tax base).

David Higgins addressed the Mayor and Council thanking them for their service to the community and expressing support for the CVMC purchase of Spillman CAD standalone system.

Cheri Wischmeyer addressed the Mayor and Council questioning the line item in the budget showing Court anticipated revenue of \$250,000, when the actual revenue (as provided by the State website) consistently shows a decline and remains at below \$200,000 (\$110,000 for 2014, \$168,000 for 2013, \$172,000 for 2012). Ms. Wischmeyer also expressed support for the Council allocating additional and continuous funding for the Senior Center and Meals on Wheels.

Leah Robbins addressed the Mayor and Council stating support for community events and marketing, requesting the Town continue to tie together events, business and family. Ms. Robbins made suggestions for increasing Parks and Recreation programs and activities.

**Irene Peoble** addressed the Mayor and Council thanking them for their continuous service to the community. Ms. Peoble stated concerns that the 2015-16 budget is proposed with an increase of over \$333,000 in salaries alone, but expressing approval of the CIP proposed budget to accomplish some needed things for the Town and its residents. Ms. Peoble also stated support for the Town allocating additional and continuous funding for the Senior Center and Meals on Wheels.

**Tom Pitts** addressed the Mayor and Council stating he had attended several regional and state meeting, and stating support for marketing, increasing tourism and economic development. Mr. Pitts stated concern that the budget did not include money for advertising and marketing of Camp Verde.

**Kathy Davis** addressed the Mayor and Council thanking the Council for their service to the community and thanked the residents for attending the council meeting tonight and showing interest in the community. Ms. Davis stated support for the cost of living increase proposed for staff stating the staff has provided continuous quality service to the Town even during the "lean" years when no increases were available. Ms. Davis also stated support for the sales tax increase and believes the Council has, and continues to, serve and act in the best interest of the Town and its residents.

- Response from Mayor, Council or Staff: Vice Mayor Baker stated she did not support the \$20,000 Contract Attorney Services for CVMO, referencing the letter from Sheila Polk, Yavapai County Attorney. Mayor German stated support for the \$20,000 expenditure for the CVMO Contract Attorney Services and referred to a series of letters to/from the Mayor and Mr. Bast. These letters are attached hereto as part of the record (Minutes). Mayor German addressed the public's concerns regarding additional funding and support of the Senior Center and Meals on Wheels, stating the Council can and will revisit additional support in the future, however, all requests for statistical information regarding actual services and needs from the Senior Center has not been available, the operations of the Senior Center and Meals on Wheels are not transparent.

**Recess** proclaimed at 6:31 p.m. to allow the Mayor to Call to Order the Regular Session of the Common Council of the Town of Camp Verde.

Regular Session having been declared at recess, the Special Session resumed.

**Dave Boily** addressed the Mayor and Council stating he does not support 1) salary increases or cost of living increases for CVMO as the Council and public were misled last year creating wage increases across the board within CVMO of 4.5%, and no COLA increases for Town Staff, 2) \$20,000 for an attorney contract for CVMO when they should be utilizing the services of the County Attorney (free of charge).

**Steve Goetting** addressed the Mayor and Council-expressing disappointment with the Town's lack of marketing stating the Town has spent \$7,200 establishing a web site that still is inoperable, expenditure of \$60,000 for grant writing program that has produced no revenue, and spent \$21,000 on attorney fees for the Council. Mr. Goetting expressed support for marketing and signage on I-17 stating the Town needs to focus on creating revenue and providing services to the residents, families, the elderly and the young, not give out wage increases to Department Heads and Supervisors whose wages already exceed the area average.

- Response from Mike Showers: Mr. Showers acknowledged the Court struggles to meet its anticipated revenue, but the revenue stated for 2015 is only through April 2015, and is not an accurate figure. The numbers shown for the Court revenue is always in arrears. Taking in consideration the Court's revenue does not always meet the anticipated revenue; the Court adjusts its budgeted expenditures accordingly.
- **Public hearing closed**

4. **Discussion, consideration and possible approval of the FY 2015-16 Budget.** Staff Resource: Mike Showers On a Motion by Vice Mayor George, Seconded by Councilor Gordon, the Mayor and Council passed the proposed (Council version) of the FY 2015-16 Budget, with Councilor Baker and Councilor German voting "nay".

**Mayor German** stated support for the proposed FY 2015-16 Budget stating the Council has worked very hard to balance this budget and obtain the greatest benefit for the community from the potential revenue that may/will be available. The Mayor addressed the Council and public stating the proposed budget includes all sources of anticipated revenue, and that the Town will adjust expenditures according to actual revenue to continue operating within the limits of the actual revenue and grant money. Mayor German stated support for the expenditure of \$20,000 for attorney services for CVMO, as this expenditure may save the Town thousands in potential litigation.

**Councilor Jones** stated support for the proposed FY 2015-16 Budget. Councilor Jones spoke passionately and eloquently about her dedication and support, and the Council's continued dedication and support of the Town and its residents. Councilor Jones stated that every line item in the budget this year has been reviewed and considered, which has been difficult and time consuming. Councilor Jones stated support for staff, including CVMO, cost of living increases. Councilor Jones stated the budget is tight again this year, and cannot be reduced any more without eliminating services. Councilor Jones stated she would like to see an increase in services and recreation, however an increase in services requires more revenue and additional staff. Councilor Jones encourages the public, the residents, to join the Mayor and Council in investing in, and supporting their community.

**Councilor German** stated support in most areas of the proposed FY 2015-16, however she could not support passing the proposed FY 2015-16 budget as presented tonight. Councilor German advised the Town employees received 6% increase in wages over the past three years. Councilor German stated she also would like to see an increase in services and recreation, acknowledging that this requires additional funding and staff. Councilor German supports having all letters with respect to attorney services for CVMO be made part of the record. Councilor German applauded the Library Director for providing so many services with so few increases in budget requests, stating the Library is open 6 days a week, and the Library continues to apply for and receive a variety of grants and utilizing a wonderful volunteer staff.

**Councilor Whatley** stated support for the proposed FY 2015-16 Budget. Councilor Whatley objects to having all letters become part of the record (Minutes), as the letter(s) from Mr. Bast do not have any address, and she feels that Mr. Bast should present himself before the Council, not stand on a letter. Councilor Whatley supports paying the \$20,000 for a contract attorney. Councilor Whatley stated support for CVMO and cost of living increases for Town Staff, including CVMO. Councilor Whatley stated support for the expenditure of sewer sleeves along the 260 corridor, which will save thousands of dollars in the future to have this completed while the "trenches are open" and be available as infrastructure to market the Town for potential investors and businesses. Councilor Whatley would also like to see an increase in services and recreation, stating the Town currently has 118-acre parcel designated for a park, but currently is lacking the funding to develop the property and construct a road into the area.

**Councilor Baker** stated support in most areas, but not all areas, of the proposed FY 2015-16, stating support for cost of living increases for all Town employees as they stayed loyal, and continued to provide excellent service during the "lean" years. Councilor Baker said the budget process was easy and services were abundant when times were good, but now things are tight and the Council is doing the very best they can with the revenue available. Councilor Baker stated concern regarding the amount of money spent on staff and the reduction of services to the residents stating the Town provided more services with less staff and less budget years ago, and the Town should strive to regain that philosophy, rather than spending more on attorneys and additional staff.

**Councilor Gordon** stated support for the proposed FY 2015-16 Budget. Councilor Gordon advised the residents that this Budget process started months ago, and the Council, Manager and staff have been working diligently

and meeting weekly (sometimes twice weekly) to resolve all **issues**. Councilor Gordon stated he was pleased to see so many residents appearing and being involved tonight, and encouraged all residents to participate in next year's budget process, which generally begins in the spring. Councilor Gordon stated support for the \$20,000 expenditure for CVMO attorney services.

**Vice Mayor George** stated support for the proposed FY 2015-16 Budget. Vice Mayor George commented that the new sales tax increase goes into the general fund, however, the Council (per the proposed budget) has allocated all of the increased revenue for CIP projects for the benefit of the Town and its residents; expenditures, per the proposed budget, will be adjusted according to the actual revenue received.

#### **Adjournment**

Mayor German pronounced Adjournment of the Special Session at 7:23 p.m.

  
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Charles German, Mayor

  
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Lynn Riordan, 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 Special Session of the Town Council of Camp Verde, Arizona, held on July 15, 2015. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2015.

  
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Virginia Jones, Town Clerk