

**MINUTES
TOWN OF CAMP VERDE
REGULAR SESSION
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
473 S. MAIN STREET, SUITE 106
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2023 at 6:30 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 6:30 PM.
2. **Roll Call.** Council Members: Jackie Baker, Wendy Escoffier, Robin Godwin, Cris McPhail, Jessie Murdock, Vice Mayor Marie Moore, and Mayor Dee Jenkins.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance** Councilor Escoffier led the Pledge of Allegiance.
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) Regular Session – September 20, 2023
 - 2) Special Session – September 20, 2023
 - b) **Set Next Meeting, Date and Time:**
 - 1) Special Session – Wednesday October 18, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.
 - 2) Regular Session – Wednesday October 18, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.
 - c) **Approval of the IGA (Intergovernmental Agreement) between the Yavapai Apache Nation (YAN) and the Town of Camp Verde for Law Enforcement Dispatching Services to continue to be provided by the Camp Verde Marshal's Office (CVMO) to the Yavapai Apache Police Department (YAPD) as approved by the Yavapai Apache Nation Tribal Council by Resolution number 153-23 dated September 6, 2023.** Staff Resource: Heather Vinson

Mayor Jenkins clarified that the Special Session on October 18th is not actually a Special Session, but an off-site Council retreat, and therefore they'll need more time than an hour and a half. She asked that Council find a date and time that would work for all of them to have at least 4 hours together.

The Council discussed a date and time that would work for all of them.

It was decided that they would meet on Thursday, October 19th from 3 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Town Attorney Trish Stuhan will be in attendance, as well as Town Manager Ted Soltis. The Clerk's Office, however, will not be there, as they have a prior engagement.

On a motion by Councilor Escoffier, seconded by Councilor Godwin, Council moved to approve the consent agenda with some minor corrections to the minutes and a change in the upcoming schedule.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Baker: Aye

Councilor Escoffier: Aye

Councilor McPhail: Aye

Councilor Murdock: Aye

Councilor Godwin: Aye

Vice Mayor Moore: Aye

Mayor Jenkins: Aye

Motion Carried 7-0.

5. **Call to the Public for items not on the Agenda. (Please complete Request to Speak Card and turn in to the Clerk.)** Residents are encouraged to comment about any matter NOT included on the agenda. State law prevents the Council from taking any action on items not on the agenda. At the conclusion of an open call to the public, individual members of the public body may respond to criticism made by those who have addressed the public body, may ask staff to review a matter or may ask that a matter be put on a future agenda. However, members of the public body shall not discuss or take legal action on matters raised during an open call to the public unless the matters are properly noticed for discussion and legal action. (Pursuant to ARS §38-431.01(H))

Kelly Roberts, Office Manager for the Camp Verde Adult Reading Program, provided an update on the progress they've made this year. She shared stories of positive outcomes that they've had through the programs they offer. Nine students passed the GED test this year, giving them many opportunities that they would otherwise not have had. Additionally, they have been tutoring potential recruits who want to join the military and are struggling to pass the basic math and reading tests to do so. The Reading Program works with many ESL students to help get them ready to further their education.

She thanked the Town for all the support they give them.

Michael Dunegan shared with Council that he was involved in an incident in the Town where he was held at gunpoint. As a result of this incident, he was arrested, and feels that this was done wrongly. Mr. Dunegan said he has tried to get a hold of the Town Manager, or really anyone in the Town that could help him sort this out but hasn't been successful in reaching anyone. He would like to be contacted about this. Mr. Soltis said that he had contacted him and turned it over to the Town Marshal.

6. **Special Announcements and Presentations:**

- **Proclamation designating October 2023 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month**

Mayor Jenkins proclaimed October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Executive Director Jessye Johnson received the proclamation and spoke on Domestic Violence and the important roles of the public, private sectors, non-profit

organizations, communities, and individuals in helping to prevent and address Domestic Violence, and additionally create a culture that refuses to tolerate abuse.

On behalf of the Verde Valley Sanctuary, she thanked Mayor Jenkins and Council for making the proclamation.

- **Public Works Sports Complex Update.** Staff Resource: Ken Krebbs

Director of Public Works Ken Krebbs gave Council updates on the Camp Verde Sports Complex. His updates included:

- The lights are now working at the multipurpose fields. They experienced an issue last week where the lights were not working, but they are now back up. They are hoping that the ballfield lights will be running again soon.

- Over-seeding is occurring on the multipurpose fields, and fields are currently shut down. It will be completed on October 11th, and then the ball fields will be shut down for overseeding soon after. The overseeding will ensure that they stay green all year.

- The North baseball field has had some problems with rocks, due to a contractor mistake when laying in the topsoil. They have rectified it and will continue to work on it. However, it is playable and ready to go for a big tournament this weekend.

- Maintenance and Streets have been doing a lot of work to clean up the Complex, including getting rid of big dirt and rock mounds.

- The water line went out to bid, so it should be moving forward shortly, as they already have all the material.

- As for the concession stand and restroom, Joel Westervelt, the Architect, is back, and they are trying to scale down the project to be more affordable.

- The walking trail has had problems due to the microburst washing areas out. These problems have been fixed.

- Drainage is still being worked on and will be an ongoing project.

- The irrigation lines and pump are under redesign right now, as they're moving from the upper pond to the lower. As soon as the redesign is done, they will be going out to bid. Leaks have been fixed.

- The lift station force main is ready to go to the County to be approved so they can get it out to bid.

- They have extended the regular parking lot out to capacity. They have cleared out some rock mounds to create overflow parking. Temporary ADA parking is also being offered between the two ball fields.

- In the near future, Streets will go in and stripe. He would like to put in four

crosswalks to make it safer.

-They are working with both the 501c3 as well as Community Development to get the batting cages going.

-Score boards have been installed and will be operational next week.

Vice Mayor Moore wondered about the overseeding. She wanted to know if this was going to be something that happened every year. Shutting down the fields during AYSO soccer is very unfortunate.

Mr. Krebbs explained that there is a very specific time of the year that they must over-seed for best results. It will be every year at this time, as the only other option is to let the grass go dormant and die.

Vice Mayor Moore said she understands that and hopes that all the right people are contacted to be prepared for the yearly overseeding.

Mr. Krebbs said that they have the equipment and are also working on the other fields in Town to bring them up to par for play as the Sport's Complex fields. It will open a lot more options for sport's leagues.

Councilor Baker wondered about a turn lane into the park, as previously discussed by ADOT.

Mr. Krebbs said that he and Martin Smith are looking into it. They have some draft contracts to look at.

Mayor Jenkins wondered about the drainage issues he mentioned. Is this a big deal? Can staff take care of it this year?

Mr. Krebbs told her that it's an ongoing problem they're working on and addressing, but they are going to need to find a long-term fix. The culverts aren't going to handle the water.

Councilor Murdock wondered if there will be a new design at the entrance to help with drainage.

Mr. Krebbs said that part of the fix that needs to be done is the Forest Service, and they are looking into it. He realizes it is an issue.

7. Discussion, Consideration and Possible Approval for the Town Manager to begin discussions with the Yavapai Family Advocacy Center to occupy the brick building located at 546 S. 1st Street. Staff Resource: Marshal Rowley

Camp Verde Marshal Corey Rowley shared that this was one of the most important presentations that he will ever do before Council. He's very passionate about this and has a lot of background in this area of work. He's been working on this project in Camp

Verde for 4 of the 5 years he's been here. He feels this property would be more than perfect for this center.

Mr. Rowley shared that the closest Family Advocacy Center is in Prescott. This makes it very difficult when the many cases come to them that would require such a place. He feels it is a huge need in the community.

Sargeant Richardson spoke to Council. He too has a lot of background in this area of work and feels that this Advocacy Center would be more than needed in Camp Verde. Mr. Richardson explained to Council what occurs when they receive calls of this manner. As it stands right now, it is very inconvenient for both officers and victims to have to drive to Prescott for a facility. He would like to make it the best possible experience for these victims, and the Advocacy Center would be the way to make that happen.

Missy Sikora, Director of Yavapai Family Advocacy Center, spoke to Council about the Yavapai Family Advocacy Center. She gave them background information on the center and what the center does. Last year, they gave service to over 1,300 victims. She knows there are even more people that they're not reaching. Ms. Sikora went into detail on all the services that they offer. Opening a center in Camp Verde brings so much potential to people that they can open this service too. Their center is 100% about the victims, and having a location closer to the proximity of the victims will help victims come forward easier.

Councilor Baker thanked Ms. Sikora for the great information. She wondered what the process would be to get the building set up.

Ms. Sikora told her that upon approval, Mr. Soltis will then begin conversations with their Board of Directors and CFO. Grants would be pursued to get the center put together.

Councilor Escoffier wondered if it would benefit the whole Verde Valley if they were to move forward with this. Ms. Sikora said yes. Anybody who needs services would be welcome.

Councilor Escoffier also wondered about staffing and hours of operation. Ms. Sikora told her they are open from 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday. However, if it's after 5:00 p.m., or on weekends, they have an entirely different staff who works after hours.

Vice Mayor Moore said this is something that she's in total support of. For her, she said one of the biggest takeaways from this presentation is that this center is there and available immediately for victims. She also loves all the continued support that victims would get from this center.

On a motion by Vice Mayor Moore, seconded by Councilor McPhail, Council moved to approve for the Town Manager to begin discussions with the Yavapai Family Advocacy Center to occupy the brick building located at 546 S. 1st Street.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Baker: Aye
Councilor Escoffier: Aye
Councilor McPhail: Aye
Councilor Murdock: Aye
Councilor Godwin: Aye
Vice Mayor Moore: Aye
Mayor Jenkins: Aye
Motion Carried 7-0.

Mr. Rowley told Council that 55% of cases they see in Prescott are from the Verde Valley area and Payson will also use this facility.

8. Discussion, Consideration and Possible Approval of the Verde Valley Senior Center's request for funding through the Town's Community Outreach budget.
Staff Resource: Mike Showers

Finance Director Mike Showers shared with Council that this item was before them because the Verde Valley Sanctuary requested funds from the Community Outreach budget, and Council wanted to see the financial statements to get some feedback from that. He said it is up to the Council to decide what they want to do. Council has given out \$9,500 of the \$60,000 total in the budget.

Councilor Baker asked Elaine Bremner, Executive Director of the Verde Valley Senior Center, what HDM stands for. Ms. Bremner told her, "home delivered meals". Councilor Baker said she was surprised that the County meals are as cheap as they are, with the County not chipping in with funding. Additionally, she wondered what the extra funding was. Ms. Bremner told her it was COVID money left over from the prior year. NACOG was able to come up with extra money at that time, as they were delivering two meals during the lockdown.

Councilor Escoffier clarified that this funding would not be for the congregate meals at the Camp Verde Senior Center, but just for home delivery meals.

Ms. Bremner shared with Council some of the things they've done in the past and want to do in the future at the Senior Center.

Vice Mayor Moore said she does not want to exhaust all the funds out of the account. She doesn't mind giving \$25,000 but would rather wait to give any more until they see what's left. She also wondered if there was another way that they could support Meals on Wheels in the Town. Does Meals on Wheels advertise themselves? She suggested having a booth at Fort Verde Days, or possibly the Town doing a fundraiser and giving them half the funds.

Ms. Bremner said they have advertised for themselves as much as they could with the volunteers and staff they have. COVID also made it very hard to do that. Her focus is to make sure that there are not individuals on waiting lists for food in Camp Verde. The purpose of the amount of money she is asking for is to fill the gap so that doesn't happen. She was not happy when this was the case.

Councilor Godwin proposed bumping it up to \$30,500, as the cost of food is very expensive right now with inflation. She knows how important it is to get these meals out.

Councilor Escoffier asked Mr. Showers if they've earmarked any of the money for anything else. Mr. Showers said if they do \$30,500, they'd have \$20,000 left, since they've only made a \$9,500 contribution so far to something else. His initial math was incorrect. At the moment, there are no other requests for the current fiscal year.

On a motion by Councilor Murdock, seconded by Vice Mayor Moore, Council moved to approve up to \$30,500 to the Verde Valley Senior Center's request for funding through the Town's Community Outreach budget.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Baker: Aye

Councilor Escoffier: Aye

Councilor McPhail: Aye

Councilor Murdock: Aye

Councilor Godwin: Aye

Vice Mayor Moore: Aye

Mayor Jenkins: Aye

Motion Carried 7-0.

9. **Summary of Current Events.** The Town Council and the Town Manager may provide brief summaries of current events and activities. These summaries are strictly for informing the public of such events and activities. The Council will not propose, discuss, deliberate or take action on any such item, except that an individual Council member may request that the item be placed on a future agenda. Summaries may include committee meetings that Council members attend. The Committees are: Copper Canyon Fire & Medical District, Yavapai College Governing Board, Yavapai-Apache Nation, Intergovernmental Association, NACOG Regional Council, Verde Valley Regional Economic Organization (VVREO), League Resolutions Committee, Arizona Municipal Risk Retention Pool, Verde Valley Transportation Org, Verde Valley Transit Committee, Verde Valley Water Users, Verde Valley Homeless Coalition, Verde Front, Verde Valley Steering Committee of MAT Force, Public Safety Personnel Retirement Board, Phillip England Center for the Performing Arts Foundation.

Councilor Godwin had nothing.

Councilor McPhail discussed Team Game Night and the Yavapai Apache Nation. They will be seating their new Council on Thursday, October 5th. She will be attending the swearing-in. She also went to the National Night Out.

Vice Mayor Moore said that this Saturday is the last farmer's market. She shared that she went to National Night Out, and felt it was a great turnout. Next weekend is Fort Verde Days.

Councilor Baker said she was sorry that she missed the National Night Out. She did go to the Verde Valley Sanctuary Event, though. She also wanted to mention that Fort Verde Days is like the Town's homecoming. She suggested that Council participate in

the parade and ride in the back of an old truck.

Councilor Escoffier said they served 600 hotdogs at National Night Out. She wanted to remind people that Friday, October 6th from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the library is a presentation on the Arizona Water Adjudication, put on by the Verde Natural Resource Conservation District. It would be important for private well owners to attend.

Councilor Murdock said it's homecoming for the High School this week. There is a powderpuff game on Thursday at 7:00 p.m. and the homecoming football game on Friday at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Jenkins attended and spoke at the 50th Anniversary of Rainbow Acres. She also had opening ceremonies at the Rainbow Acres sponsored Bocce Ball Tournament. She attended the Verde Valley Sanctuary Gala and spoke on behalf of the Town. Additionally, she attended the Verde Valley Transportation meeting via Zoom. She went to the Verde Valley Mayor/Manager Meeting. Lastly, she praised the National Night out for being such a wonderful event.

Mr. Soltis said that he too attended the Verde Valley Sanctuary Gala. He also attended the Verde Valley Mayor/ Manger's meeting. Additionally, he was at National Night Out, and felt it was a great event.

10. **Adjournment** Mayor Dee Jenkins adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m.



Mayor Dee Jenkins



Attest: Town Clerk Cindy Pemberton

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 October 4th, 2023. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 19th day of October, 2023.


Cindy Pemberton, Town Clerk