

**MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2013
6:30 P.M.**

**Minutes are a summary of the actions taken. They are not verbatim.
Public input is placed after Council motions to facilitate future research.
Public input, where appropriate, is heard prior to the motion**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Mayor Burnside, Vice Mayor Kovacovich, Councilors Whatley, George, Baker, Jones and German were present.

Also Present: Town Manager Russ Martin, Community Development Director Mike Jenkins, Town Clerk Debbie Barber, and Recording Secretary Margaret Harper

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was led by Jones.

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) There are no minutes for approval.

b) Set Next Meeting, Date and Time:

1) January 23, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. – Council Hears Planning & Zoning Matters

2) January 30, 2013 at 4:30 p.m. – CIP Work Session

3) February 6, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. – Regular Session

4) February 20, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. – Regular Session

5) February 27, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. – Council Hears Planning & Zoning Matters

c) Possible approval of Resolution 2013-878, a Resolution of the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Camp Verde, Yavapai County, Arizona, calling the 2013 Regular/Special Election for March 12, 2013, and setting the purpose of the election (election of Mayor and four Council members and submitting the question of accepting trusteeship of the Camp Verde Sanitary District.) Staff Resource: Debbie Barber

d) Possible approval of a proclamation declaring "January 21, 2013 as Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service". Staff Resource: Debbie Barber

On a motion by Kovacovich, seconded by Baker, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved as presented.

5. Special Announcements & Presentations.

- **Presentation of a Certificates of Appreciation to Joe Butner and Al Roddan in recognition of the valuable service they provided while serving on the Planning & Zoning Commission (Butner) and the Board of Adjustments and Appeals (Roddan).** Staff Resource: Mike Jenkins

- **Welcome to New Businesses:**

- ❖ **Copperstar Shooting Range – Camp Verde**
- ❖ **Little Stepping Stones Day Care – Camp Verde**
- ❖ **Energy Savings Heating – Prescott**
- ❖ **Blanchard Construction, LLC – Sedona**
- ❖ **Mike's Floor Covering, LLC – Munds Park**
- ❖ **Harmon Electric, Inc. – Phoenix**

Burnside announced that Certificates of Appreciation were to be presented to Joe Butner and Al Roddan in recognition of their service on the Planning & Zoning Commission and the Board of Adjustments & Appeals, respectively. They were not present; however, Community Development Director advised the Council that the Certificates had been mailed to the recipients. Burnside then welcomed the new businesses, as listed.

6. **Council Informational Reports.**

George reported on his attendance at a general meeting of the Verde River Basin Partnership; Vincent Randall, former Chairman of the Yavapai-Apache Nation spoke on how precious and sacred their people regard water, and his hope of keeping the water flowing in the Verde River. George distributed flyers regarding the upcoming Chili Cook-Off to be held by the Education Foundation Committee on February 19, at the Unified School.

Baker wanted to especially thank Superior Court Judge Mike Bluff for the recent ruling on bath salts and Spice that is going to help all aspects of law enforcement.

7. **Call to the Public for items not on the agenda.**

(Comments from the following individual are summarized.)

Traci e Schimikowsky, Operations Manager for Verde Valley Caregivers, explained that they are a non-profit organization that serves the Sedona-Verde Valley Region providing programs and services to support adults in need of assistance in maintaining their independence. Ms. Schimikowsky outlined the overwhelming number of requests for help and the lack of volunteers available. A Volunteer Orientation recruitment session is scheduled for February 5, 2013, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Camp Verde Marshal's Office; she urged everyone to seriously consider volunteering and help make a difference for their neighbors who need assistance.

There was no further public input.

8. **Quarterly reports and possible discussion from the following:**

- a) **Board of Adjustments and Appeals** Staff Resource: Mike Jenkins
- b) **Planning & Zoning Commission** Staff Resource: Mike Jenkins
- c) **Ft. Verde State Parks** Staff Resource: Russ Martin
- d) **Presentation and update by the Camp Verde Chamber of Commerce**

Jenkins presented the Quarterly Report for the Board of Adjustments and Appeals; there were no applications approved or submitted; Jenkins reviewed the items addressed by the Planning & Zoning Commission on October 4, 2012, and on November 1, 2012.

Martin said he had a draft of a new agreement with the Fort Verde State Park; the agreement that had been in effect lapsed in December, and for the time being they are handling the operations on their own and until a new agreement is signed, probably next month. Sheila Stubler then presented the Quarterly Report for the Park, including regular events, current improvements, and ideas for future activities. Ms. Stubler also distributed flyers for upcoming events.

Steve Goetting reported on the activities of the Camp Verde Chamber of Commerce, including mixers and an increase in membership, and handed out flyers on upcoming events. Goetting commented on the hiring of Steve Ayres as the new Economic Development Director, the number of applicants for the position, and the Chamber looking forward to helping with the business incubator proposal. Goetting said the Chamber Board would be approaching the Council regarding a partnership on the property at 260 and Oasis. He also described an upcoming River Fest Event in March.

9. **Discussion, consideration, and possible direction to staff to prepare a resolution increasing the \$50.00 per month Council salary.** Staff Resource: Russ Martin

On a motion by Baker, seconded by George, the Council **voted 6-1** to prepare a resolution increasing Council salary to \$250 a month, and bring the resolution back to the next meeting for consideration, with **German opposed**.

Martin explained that any proposed change would not take effect until the next Council. He said that State law precludes a Council giving itself a raise; however, budgets will be addressed shortly so this would be a good time to consider a change. Martin commented on people wanting to help serve their community, but concern that there may be a burden on their finances in doing so. Martin described instances where the members have had to use their own funds in representing the community as elected officials. Staff is suggesting a range of \$250-\$300, and would like direction from the Council on the issue.

PUBLIC INPUT

(Comments from the following individuals are summarized.)

Steve Goetting expressed his opinion that the members are grossly underpaid for what they contribute to the Town.

Brad Gordon, who will be a new member on the Council, said he had no expectations of being paid for the job, but does feel the stipend should at least be something more than \$50 a month.

Charlie German said he feels it is important to begin to establish a reasonable amount, since other communities have; the cost of gas alone is significant.

There was no further public input.

Each Council member expressed an opinion based on experience as well as concern about public perception. Baker commented that from the standpoint of respect, many times people equate what you are doing with compensation received, and she believes there should be an increase as proposed. George referred to the "shocking" amounts paid to Council members of other communities; an increase might help toward getting more people interested in serving Camp Verde. German said she has difficulty considering an increase; times are hard for people, they are being asked to put up with a lot; she personally cannot favor an increase for that reason. Whatley commented on the problem of getting people to run for the office, and questioned whether part of the reluctance might be the anticipated related expense of serving; she also pointed out the expense of attending events and meetings, as well as paying for memberships to show support for organizations. George suggested as an alternative that any increase be deferred until January 2014 in order to build up funds in the budget. Kovacovich said that probably it should be raised a little bit; it will still basically be a volunteer job. Jones said she agrees with what she believes is the majority opinion, and stressed the importance of being able financially to help make a difference for the community; she would support an increase, but she also found the issue of the Council increasing the pay for themselves was very awkward. Martin assured the Council that the funds to cover the proposed increase do exist in the budget; the issue is not a political one and this is the perfect time to consider the raise, and he would appreciate direction from the Council in order to move forward. Burnside said he believes that the consensus of the majority is to move on and look at the issue again, in the form of a resolution.

10. **Call to the Public for items not on the agenda.**

(Comments from the following individuals are summarized.)

Sheila Stubler wanted to bring to the attention of the Council an error in one of the flyers she had distributed; the fee for adults for the Buffalo Soldiers event will be \$5.00. She also invited all bakers to participate in the pecan pie contest at the Pecan & Wine event.

Adrienne Martin, with the Yavapai County Americorps Project wanted to remind everyone about the Martin Luther King Day is right around the corner, on January 21; the parade will commence at 11:30 a.m., leaving

from the parking lot at the Horn Saloon. There will be ABC 15 coverage of the event. She personally invited the Mayor to attend and read the formal Proclamation.

Carol German announced the AARP Tax-Aide Program to again be held at the Camp Verde Senior Center; it is free, and is all done by volunteers who have had extensive training and are certified each year. German also announced the January 26-27 BeneVet bowling event that benefits veterans; teams are invited to participate.

There was no further public input.

11. **Manager/Staff Report**

Martin gave an update on the Capital Improvements Plan that had been included in the members' computers, and will be on the website tomorrow. The members will be asked for decisions or directions at the meeting scheduled for January 30 including prioritizing projects, leading into budget time.

12. **Adjournment**

On a motion by Baker, seconded by Jones, the meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

 2-6-13

Bob Burnside, Mayor


Margaret Harper, 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 the 16th day of January 2013. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 13th day of February, 2013.


~~Debbie Barber, Town Clerk~~
VIRGINIA JONES