

**MINUTES  
JOINT WORK SESSION  
MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL and the  
CAMP VERDE SANITARY DISTRICT BOARD  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS · 473 S. Main Street, Room #106  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2012 at 5:00 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**

Mayor Burnside called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

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

**Camp Verde Sanitary District Board**

Board Members Dick Rynerson, Carol Rynerson and Charlotte Chase, and District Manager Jan Grogan were present. Chairman Chip Norton was absent. Vice Chair Greg Freeman arrived at 5:11 p.m.

**Also Present**

Town Manager Russ Martin, Town Clerk Deborah Barber, and Administrative Assistant Stephanie Sunstrom were also present. Public Works Director Ron Long arrived at 5:12 p.m.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

Grogan led the pledge.

**4. Discussion to include, but not limited to issues and questions regarding possible dissolution of the Camp Verde Sanitary District and acceptance of the Trusteeship of the District by the Town.**

Martin advised that the purpose of this meeting was to discuss the possible dissolution of the Sanitary District with the Town accepting trusteeship. He explained that this opportunity allowed both governing boards to ask questions that could lead to a formal conclusion as to whether we go forward or not. He advised that December is the period in which to formalize actions that are necessary for the March election. He advised that staff would formalize the information from tonight's meeting and that it was very important to come to a collective decision that was supported by both boards. He explained that both the voters in the Sanitary District and in the Town would vote for both questions and that the measure had to pass in both elections to become effective. Martin also explained that there would be no conflict of interest by the Council or Board members to vote on the questions in the election.

The Council and Board members discussed at length concerns relative to assuming District employees who were certified in their fields. Some areas of concern included pay ranges, benefits including retirement, insurance, vacation, holidays, and sick leave. Martin advised that Town salaries are at approximately 90% of the market, noting that in some cases, District employees might receive an increase. He stressed that the Arizona State Retirement System is a requirement and that employees could see a 7% decrease in pay right away. However, as he pointed out, the Town matches the employee contribution. He assured both boards that the pay and benefits would be equitable to both Sanitary District and Town employees. Long advised that he held the proper professional registration to provide engineering services for the Sanitary District.

The group also discussed some benefits of the Town assuming the District, which included elimination of fees for engineering services, rent, utilities, equipment, equipment operators, and the future possibility of using effluent water from the treatment plant for the park.

Martin emphasized that the District's debt would remain with the District and that there would be no tax increases. However, the maintenance and operation levies would need to be addressed before the election

and he suggested adding a fee of approximately \$7.00 per month to the users, while eliminating the tax levy. He noted that this could be an increase to those who might not be able to afford it.

After further discussion about property taxes, assessments, and user fees, the Council wished to see additional information, such as the District's budget, information about the pros and cons of acquisition, information as to how acquisition would promote economic development, an attorney opinion, and any other information that might assist in making a decision to move forward.

Grogan explained that in order to protect the delicate environment of the Verde River, it should be the goal of the governing bodies to expand the sewer throughout the Town to eliminate the need for septic systems. Martin encouraged Council members to talk to Grogan if they had any questions. Burnside explained that the Board would remain intact for a period of time after the Town assumed trusteeship.

5. **Adjournment**

On a motion by Baker, seconded by Jones, the meeting was adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

  
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Bob Burnside, Mayor 11-8-12

  
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Deborah Barber, Town Clerk

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing Minutes are a true and accurate accounting of the discussion and direction 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 October 24, 2012. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 8 day of November, 2012.

  
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Deborah Barber, Town Clerk