

**COTTER CITY
COTTER COUNCIL MINUTES
August 27, 2020
6:00 p.m.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

The regular meeting of the Cotter City Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Caradine. He asked for roll call by Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray. Present were: Council Members Chuck Sugg, Carolyn Gill, Cameron Ross, Kerry Ann White, Mertice Kray and John Bell.

The invocation was given by Councilman Cameron Ross followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance by all present.

REPORTS

Approval of the July 23, 2020, regular minutes was the first item of business. Councilwoman Kerry Ann White moved to accept the minutes with noted corrections from Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray with a second provided by Councilman Cameron Ross. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Public Works Report was given by Mayor Caradine

Fire Department Report was given by Chief Lyle Jack

Police Department Report was given by Chief Travis Hopson

Building Permit Report was given by Andrea Kray

There was no Planning & Zoning Commission Report

Cotter/Gassville Sewer Commission Minutes from previous month is in packets, but no meeting this month.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

In the first order of New Business, Council considered Resolution 2020-09 - A Resolution to amend 2020 operating budget to rename ARC Grant for Community Depot to ARC Grant for Park Restroom Building Renovations. These renovations will be for handicapped accessible doors, motion lights, self-flushing toilets, automatic water faucets and air dryers. Councilwoman Carolyn Gill questions the removal of the community depot building from the city's projects. She is also concerned with the park surveillance overnight as vandalism is a problem that has occurred in the past. Councilwoman Mertice Kray is in favor to renovate as park use has increased with Movie in the Park, Jerry Hopper performing, baseball tournaments, etc. She encourages the use of sustainable materials in the rehab of the current bathrooms suggesting a visit to Yellville's City Park to see their bathrooms as they used sustainable materials. Councilman John Bell wants to keep the dream alive of a Community Park Depot Building and suggests using only half of the available funds for this rehab project. Councilman Cameron Ross moves to pass Resolution 2020-09 - A Resolution to amend 2020 operating budget to rename ARC Grant for Community Depot to ARC Grant for Park Restroom Building Renovations with a second provided by Councilwoman Mertice Kray. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the second order of New Business, Council considered Resolution 2020-10 - A Resolution to separate the Highway Roadside Park from the Water Improvement Fund and move to the General Fund and Street Department Fund. Mayor Caradine explained the history of how the City received this property. Councilwoman Kerry Ann White asked is Mayor Caradine foresees any downside and he stated none that he is aware of. Councilwoman Mertice Kray mentions that the Tree Board plans to spruce the area and honor the family that donated the land. Councilman Cameron Ross moves to pass Resolution 2020-10 - A Resolution to separate the Highway Roadside Park from the Water Improvement Fund and move to the General Fund and Street Department Fund with a second provided by Councilman John Bell. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the third order of New Business, Council considered Resolution 2020-11 - A Resolution to apply for USDA Grant for Fire Department Rescue Vehicle. Mayor Caradine explains the current savings for a fire engine. Chief

Lyle Jack asked the Mayor to consider replacing the 1996 Emergency/Medical Rescue truck instead. Cotter has been approved for an USDA grant for 55% of a rescue truck leaving \$18,171 to be used of the current \$39,000 that is in savings. Councilwoman Carolyn Gill asks is the truck will have to be outfitted and yes, it will, but that cost is provided in the specs provided in the packets. Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to pass Resolution 2020-11 - A Resolution to apply for USDA Grant for Fire Department Rescue Vehicle with a second provided by Councilman John Bell. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the fourth order of New Business, Resolution 2020-12 - A Resolution requested by the Cotter Tree Advisory Board to apply for a \$2,500 Grant from "Greening for Arkansas". Councilman Chuck Sugg shared the plans of for the grant funds. This grant is 100% funded (no matching). Councilman Cameron Ross moved to pass Resolution 2020-12 - A Resolution requested by the Cotter Tree Advisory Board to apply for a \$2,500 Grant from "Greening for Arkansas" with a second provided by Councilman Chuck Sugg. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the fifth order of New Business, Mayor Caradine shared his plans to change the scope of the current budgeted street paving special projects. He presented Council with a list of areas needing paved for this year's budget. He would like to defer the chip and seal plans for Denton Ferry Road until after the county does their paving and would like to overlay the paving on the Roadside Park in Hwy 62. He states there is some other paving at the Youth Center that he does not have quotes on yet, and stonework at the Roundhouse. He states that there is a master list ranked on order of need created by the Public Works Department that has been submitted for Street Aide from the State Department that could potentially happen next fiscal year. The first on that list is the road to the Big Spring Park. Councilwomen Kerry Ann White and Carolyn Gill want clarification on need as they feel more citizens use the road to the Big Spring Park instead of the roadside park on Hwy 62. Both are hesitant to move forward on paving the roadside park prior to Big Spring Park. Councilman John Bell states his road (Monroe Street) among others that needs to be paved before paving the roadside park. Discussion is had among Council, but most members agree that the paving of the roadside park be reconsidered at this time. Councilman Cameron Ross moves to table this discussion until paving figures can be reassessed with a second provided by Councilwoman Mertice Kray. **Motion passed unanimously.**

INFORMATION

During information, Mayor Caradine announced that the Iron Horse Disciple's Motorcycle Rally and Festival - Fundraiser for Cotter Backpack Program is set for August 29, 2020. A Movie in the Park is set for September 25, 2020. He thanks to Paul and Jan Stone for their Donation for upkeep of Stone Family Park on Combs Ave.

SIGN-UP SHEET REQUESTS

No sign-up sheet requests.

AUDIENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

No audience announcements.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Chuck Sugg thanks everyone for attending and states that Council will figure it out.

Councilwoman Kerri Ann White brings up the topic of two camping trailers on new construction lots being used. She has tried to research P & Z regulations but cannot find any rules addressing the issue. She is completely against living in campers on lots with new construction. Mayor Caradine stated that he was just following previous protocol from former Public Works Directors. The guidelines are that owners have a 1-year timeline from the permits being issued. Mayor Caradine suggests reviewing our current ordinances to make this matter clearer.

Councilwoman Carolyn Gill shares that she sees the beauty in the differences among the Council members. She sees where some are strong in areas and some are weaker in other areas, but that is what makes it all better for Cotter. She feels tonight's discussions are not conflicts but an exchanging of ideas.

ORIGINAL

Councilwoman Mertice Kray dittos what Councilman Ross states. She says Cotter is progressing. She thanks both John Bell and Kerry Ann White for their service on the Council and congratulates Linda McCarthy.

Councilman Cameron Ross states that good things are happening in Cotter. He states that we all may disagree on the order of importance of things, but it is a privilege to work with every one of the Council Members.

Councilman John Bell appreciates audience attendance. Announces this will be his last term on City Council due to work restrictions. He apologized for missing last month but continues to be amazed at what growth is coming back to life in the City of Cotter.

Mayor Caradine everyone in attendance and appreciates Councilwoman Kerry Ann for bringing the temporary housing issue to his attention.

Councilman Cameron Ross moved to adjourn with a second provided by Councilwoman Mertice Kray.
Motion passed unanimously. Meeting ended at 8:01 p.m.

APPROVED:



Mayor MacGeorge Caradine

ATTEST:



Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray

ORIGINAL