

**COTTER CITY
COTTER COUNCIL MINUTES
February 22, 2024
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, Shelia Wingard, Mertice Kray, Ben Woodard, and Linda McCarthy.

The invocation was given by Councilwoman Mertice Kray followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance by all present.

REPORTS

Approval of the January 25, 2024, regular minutes was the first item of business. Councilwoman Linda McCarthy moved to accept the minutes with noted corrections from Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray with a second provided by Councilwoman Mertice Kray. **Motion with 5 in favor. Council member Shelia Wingard abstained as she was absent from the January 2024 meeting.**

January 2024 Financials were included in the packets
Public Works Department Report was given by Mayor Caradine
Fire Department Report was given by Chief Lyle Jack
Police Department Report was given by Sergeant Michael Paterson
Building Permit Report was given by Andrea Kray
Planning & Zoning Commission Report was given by Jason Nazarenko
Cotter/Gassville Sewer Commission was given by Carolyn Gill
Tree Advisory Board Report was given by Marcia Taylor

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

In the first order of New Business, Council considered Resolution #2024-07: A Resolution Allowing One-time Sale of Craft Beer and Wine the evening of Cotter Trout Festival event in Big Spring Park on May 4, 2024. The timing of the alcohol sales was brought up. Discussion was had to why the need to start alcohol sales earlier, and it was explained that it adds another element during the day for festival goes as well as providing more opportunity for sales for those particular vendors. Jason also explained that it was the vendors responsibility to not over serve. Councilwoman Shelia Wingard originally moved to pass Resolution #2024-07: A Resolution Allowing One-time Sale of Craft Beer and Wine the evening of Cotter Trout Festival event in Big Spring Park on May 4, 2024, with a second provided by Councilman Chuck Sugg. During discussion, Councilman Chuck Sugg moved to amend the original motion to include a time limit from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm with a second provided by Councilwoman Shelia Wingard. **Amendment passed with 5 in favor and Councilwoman Mertice Kray opposed.** Then Council considered the originally motion of passage of Resolution #2024-07: A Resolution Allowing One-time Sale of Craft Beer and Wine the evening of Cotter Trout Festival event in Big Spring Park on May 4, 2024, from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm. **Motion passed 5 in favor and Councilwoman Mertice Kray opposed.**

In the second order of New Business, Council considered Resolution #2024-08: Resolution Allowing One-time Sale of Craft Beer and Wine at FT3 Fly-fishing Film Tour Special Movie Event in Big Spring Park on May 25, 2024. Councilman Chuck Sugg moved to pass Resolution #2024-08: Resolution Allowing One-time Sale of Craft Beer and Wine at FT3 Fly-fishing Film Tour Special Movie Event in Big Spring Park on May 25, 2024, with a second provided by Councilwoman Shelia Wingard. **Motion passed 5 in favor and Councilwoman Mertice Kray opposed.**

ORIGINAL

In the third order of New Business, Council considered Resolution #2024-09: A Resolution for a FEMA Assistance to Firefighters 95/5% Match Grant program for a New Fire Truck. This is a pumper/tanker with 3000 gallons with a cannon. According the Fire Chief Lyle Jack, this truck would need very little additions. Councilman Ben Woodard moved to pass Resolution #2024-09: A Resolution for a FEMA Assistance to Firefighters 95/5% Match Grant program for a New Fire Truck with a second provided by Councilwoman Mertice Kray. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the fourth order of New Business, Council considered Resolution #2024-10: Approve Legal Service Agreement for the remainder of Phase II Sewer Rehabilitation Project. Councilman Chuck Sugg moved to pass Resolution #2024-10: Approve Legal Service Agreement for the remainder of Phase II Sewer Rehabilitation Project with a second provided by Councilwoman Shelia Wingard. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the fifth order of New Business, Council reviewed the Water and Sewer Rate Study for year 2022, prepared by Arkansas Rural Water Association received January 26, 2024, as required by Ordinance 2023-01 to perform an annual rate study by ACT 605. Council may need to set a workshop to discuss have to proceed with the new rate study.

INFORMATION

During information, Mayor Caradine shared that a Special Election will be held in the City of Cotter, Arkansas (the "City") on March 5, 2024, for the purpose of financing \$2,400,000 to pay for the remaining portion Phase II Sewer Rehabilitation Project. He read into Meeting Minutes the Annual Cash-flow Financials for 2023 City Municipal Funds and 2023 Water Dept Funds will be posted for 30 days at Cotter City Hall and US Post office on February 23, 2024. He shared that the Cotter Warrior Foundation 5K and 10K Race on April 13, 2024 in Cotter. He also shared that the Solar Eclipse will take place on April 8, 2024. The Annual Cotter Trout Festival is Saturday, May 4, 2024, and the F3T Fly Fishing Film Tour is May 25, 2024, with the Cotter Fly Casting Contest on the same day. Finally, he shared that Coffee with the Mayor shall be on March 15, 2024 at 8:00 am at Cotter Bridge Market.

SIGN-UP SHEET REQUESTS

No sign-up sheet requests.

AUDIENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jason Nazarenko thanks the Council for working together for the good of the community.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Chuck Sugg thanks everyone for attending.

Councilwoman Shelia Wingard commends Michael Patterson for shaving his head and requests prayers for his mom. She is proud of the Fire Department for coming together to handle loss of family members of those in the department.

Councilwoman Carolyn Gill commented on the inspections of the new fire hydrants.

Councilwoman Mertice Kray thanked both the Police and Fire Departments. She appreciates all their hard work. She also loved getting to see Mrs. Phyllis Burnett at the meeting.

Councilman Ben Woodard thanked everyone for attending and appreciates all the hard work that Jason Nazarenko puts into the Trout Festival and the F3T Film Festival.

Councilwoman Linda McCarthy thanked all the volunteers that helped make the Taco Dinner a success for the Ladies Auxiliary's fundraiser. She also thanked Shelia Wingard for the wonderful suggestion of Brett Walker as the auctioneer.

ORIGINAL

Mayor Caradine also thanked the Fire Department and Ladies Fire Auxiliary for pulling off an excellent event.

Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to adjourn with a second provided by Councilwoman Shelia Wingard.
Motion passed unanimously. Meeting ended at 7:15 p.m.

APPROVED:



Mayor MacGeorge Caradine

ATTEST:



Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray

ORIGINAL