

COTTER CITY
COTTER COUNCIL REGULAR MINUTES
July 25, 2024
6:00 p.m.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Regular meeting of the Cotter City Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. and roll call was taken by Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray. Present were: Council Members Chuck Sugg, Carolyn Gill, Mertice Kray, Ben Woodard, and Linda McCarthy. Mayor Caradine was absent.

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

REPORTS

In the first order of New Business, Councilwoman Linda McCarthy moved to accept the minutes of a meeting of the City of Cotter, Arkansas, City Council held on June 25, 2024, with a second provided by Councilwoman Mertice Kray. **Motion passed unanimously.**

June 2024 Financials were included in the packets
Public Works Department Report was given by Andrea Kray
Fire Department Report was given by Chief Lyle Jack
Police Department Report was given by Sergeant Michael Patterson
Building Permit Report was given by Andrea Kray
Planning & Zoning Commission Report-none at this time
Cotter/Gassville Sewer Commission was given by Carolyn Gill
Tree Advisory Board Report-none at this time

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

In the first order of Unfinished Business, Council to consider the appointment of Joe Bass for the open council seat of Ward 1, Position 2. Councilman Chuck Sugg moved to appoint Joe Bass to the open council seat of Ward 1, Position 2, with a second provided by Councilman Ben Woodard. **Motion passed unanimously.** Recorder/Treasurer swore Joe Bass into office with the term ending on December 31, 2024.

NEW BUSINESS

In the first order of New Business, Jason Nazarenko introduced Richard Pickers to the Council members. Mr. Pickers is interested in serving on the Planning and Zoning Commission. Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to approve Mayor Caradine's appointment of Richard Pickers to the P & Z Commission with a second provided by Councilman Ben Woodward. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the second order of New Business, Jason Nazarenko addressed Council presenting a petition to be on the November 5, 2024, ballot to adjust the City's rules on alcoholic beverages sales on Sunday's for off-premise consumption. He states that this will be good for our town and isn't a negative and he along with other canvassers have acquired 69 signatures in favor of adding a referendum to the November ballot and provided Pam Milton serving as Recorder/Treasurer the originals of the signatures. Councilwoman Carolyn Gill asked if the City has anything on the books preventing this. City Attorney Roger Morgan states there is a state law prohibiting the sale of alcohol on Sunday, and there is an Ordinance referencing the sale of alcohol on Sunday. This is the first step in requesting a change in the City. Members of the audience Joe Ross and Cameron Ross expressed their concerns against the sales of alcohol on Sunday as it only benefits a 1 to 2 businesses and could bring other potential problems for our area. Councilman Joe Bass stated that he did sign the petition, but doesn't want to see the peacefulness of Cotter disturbed by what comes next. Recorder/Treasurer Andrea also expressed that she agreed with Councilman Joe Bass and that the peace should be at our forefront as the current businesses that sale alcohol in the City has had to ban citizens from their business due to alcohol consumption issues. Councilman Chuck Sugg is in favor of it as it is "good the City of Cotter".

In the third order of New Business, Council considered Resolution 2024-16: A Resolution calling for a Referendum on the November ballot to authorize the sale of alcohol on Sunday. When reading the Resolution, Recorder/Treasurer Andrea noted a correction in the wording presented. Councilman Ben Woodward moved to

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pass Resolution 2024-16: A Resolution calling for a Referendum on the November ballot to authorize the sale of alcohol on Sunday with a second provided by Councilman Chuck Sugg. **Motion passed with 5 in favor and Councilwoman Mertice Kray opposed.**

In the fourth order of New Business, Council considered Ordinance 2024-03: An Ordinance establishing tapping fees for water meters and Sewer Taps. Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to place Ordinance 2024-03: An Ordinance establishing tapping fees for water meters and Sewer Taps on its 1st reading by title only with a second provided by Councilman Chuck Sugg. **Motion passed unanimously.** Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray read Ordinance 2024-03: An Ordinance establishing tapping fees for water meters and Sewer Taps by title only for its 1st reading.

Councilwoman Carolyn Gill moved to place Ordinance 2024-03: An Ordinance establishing tapping fees for water meters and Sewer Taps on its 2nd reading by title only with a second provided by Councilman Ben Woodard. **Motion passed unanimously.** Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray read Ordinance 2024-03: An Ordinance establishing tapping fees for water meters and Sewer Taps by title only for its 2nd reading.

Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to place Ordinance 2024-03: An Ordinance establishing tapping fees for water meters and Sewer Taps on its 3rd reading by title only with a second provided by Councilman Chuck Sugg. **Motion passed unanimously.** Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray read Ordinance 2024-03: An Ordinance establishing tapping fees for water meters and Sewer Taps by title only for its 3rd reading.

Councilwoman Linda McCarthy moved pass Ordinance 2024-03: An Ordinance establishing tapping fees for water meters and Sewer Taps with a second provided by Councilman Joe Bass. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Councilman Ben Woodard moved pass Ordinance 2024-03: An Ordinance establishing tapping fees for water meters and Sewer Taps as an emergency with a second provided by Councilman Chuck Sugg. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the fifth order of New Business, Council considered Ordinance 2024-04: An Ordinance establishing accounts and deposits for new water service. Councilwoman Linda McCarthy moved to place Ordinance 2024-04: An Ordinance establishing accounts and deposits for new water service on its 1st reading by title only with a second provided by Councilman Ben Woodard. **Motion passed unanimously.** Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray read Ordinance 2024-04: An Ordinance establishing accounts and deposits for new water service by title only for its 1st reading.

Councilman Chuck Sugg moved to place Ordinance 2024-04: An Ordinance establishing accounts and deposits for new water service on its 2nd reading by title only with a second provided by Councilwoman Mertice Kray. **Motion passed unanimously.** Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray read Ordinance 2024-04: An Ordinance establishing accounts and deposits for new water service by title only for its 2nd reading.

Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to place Ordinance 2024-04: An Ordinance establishing accounts and deposits for new water service on its 3rd reading by title only with a second provided by Councilman Chuck Sugg. **Motion passed unanimously.** Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray read Ordinance 2024-04: An Ordinance establishing accounts and deposits for new water service by title only for its 3rd reading.

Councilman Joe Bass moved pass Ordinance 2024-04: An Ordinance establishing accounts and deposits for new water service with a second provided by Councilman Ben Woodard. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Councilman Chuck Sugg moved pass Ordinance 2024-04: An Ordinance establishing accounts and deposits for new water service as an emergency with a second provided by Councilwoman Mertice Kray. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the sixth order of New Business, Council considered Ordinance 2024-05: An Ordinance Establishing Procedure for Electronic Transfer Funds for Payments and Receivables. Councilwoman Linda McCarthy moved to place Ordinance 2024-05: An Ordinance Establishing Procedure for Electronic Transfer Funds for Payments and Receivables on its 1st reading by title only with a second provided by Councilman Ben Woodard. **Motion**

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passed unanimously. Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray read Ordinance 2024-05: An Ordinance Establishing Procedure for Electronic Transfer Funds for Payments and Receivables by title only for its 1st reading.

Councilman Chuck Sugg moved to place Ordinance 2024-05: An Ordinance Establishing Procedure for Electronic Transfer Funds for Payments and Receivables on its 2nd reading by title only with a second provided by Councilwoman Mertice Kray. **Motion passed unanimously.** Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray read Ordinance 2024-05: An Ordinance Establishing Procedure for Electronic Transfer Funds for Payments and Receivables by title only for its 2nd reading.

Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to place Ordinance 2024-05: An Ordinance Establishing Procedure for Electronic Transfer Funds for Payments and Receivables on its 3rd reading by title only with a second provided by Councilman Chuck Sugg. **Motion passed unanimously.** Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray read Ordinance 2024-05: An Ordinance Establishing Procedure for Electronic Transfer Funds for Payments and Receivables by title only for its 3rd reading.

Councilman Joe Bass moved pass Ordinance 2024-05: An Ordinance Establishing Procedure for Electronic Transfer Funds for Payments and Receivables with a second provided by Councilman Ben Woodard. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Councilman Chuck moved pass as an emergency Ordinance 2024-05: An Ordinance Establishing Procedure for Electronic Transfer Funds for Payments and Receivables with a second provided by Councilwoman Mertice Kray. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the seventh order of New Business, Council considered Ordinance 2024-06: An Ordinance prohibiting the use of Shipping Containers and Semi-Truck for storage. Discussion between Jason Nazarenko and Councilwoman Carolyn Gill and Councilman Joe Bass pertaining to existing shipping containers. Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to place Ordinance 2024-06: An Ordinance prohibiting the use of Shipping Containers and Semi-Truck for storage on its 1st reading by title only with a second provided by Councilman Chuck Sugg. **Motion passed unanimously.** Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray read Ordinance 2024-06: An Ordinance prohibiting the use of Shipping Containers and Semi-Truck for storage by title only for its 1st reading.

Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to place Ordinance 2024-06: An Ordinance prohibiting the use of Shipping Containers and Semi-Truck for storage on its 2nd reading by title only with a second provided by Councilman Chuck Sugg. **Motion passed 5 in favor with Councilwoman Carolyn Gill opposed.** Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray read Ordinance 2024-06: An Ordinance prohibiting the use of Shipping Containers and Semi-Truck for storage by title only for its 2nd reading.

Councilman Ben Woodward moved to place Ordinance 2024-06: An Ordinance prohibiting the use of Shipping Containers and Semi-Truck for storage on its 3rd reading by title only with a second provided by Councilman Chuck Sugg. **Motion passed 5 in favor with Councilwoman Carolyn Gill opposed.** Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray read Ordinance 2024-06: An Ordinance prohibiting the use of Shipping Containers and Semi-Truck for storage by title only for its 3rd reading.

Councilman Ben Woodard moved pass Ordinance 2024-06: An Ordinance prohibiting the use of Shipping Containers and Semi-Truck for storage with a second provided by Councilwoman Mertice Kray. **Motion passed 5 in favor with Councilwoman Carolyn Gill opposed.**

Councilman Chuck Sugg moved pass as an emergency Ordinance 2024-06: An Ordinance prohibiting the use of Shipping Containers and Semi-Truck for storage with a second provided by Councilman Ben Woodard. **Motion passed 5 in favor with Councilwoman Carolyn Gill opposed.**

In the eighth order of New Business, Councilwoman Linda McCarthy moved to table Ordinance 2024-07 - An Ordinance Establishing Construction Permit Application and Fees with a second provided by Councilman Ben Woodard

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INFORMATION

During Information Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray shared that the City is seeking an ARDOT Intersection Improvement Program Grant for a Traffic Light at Hwy 412. The committee requesting citizens to submit form supporting a Traffic Light. Please contact City Hall for a copy of the form to fill out. She read into meeting meetings the 2024-01 Semi-annual report of inventory purchased and retired. She announced the Cotter Farmer's Market in Big Spring Park every Saturday from 7 am – 5 pm. Email cotterfarmersmarket@gmail.com for more information. She also explained that notice of Elections in November for all City Council Positions and the Recorder/Treasurer. Filing date opens July 31, 2024 and closes by noon on August 7, 2024. She updated Council on approved and pending grant projects, and announced that Coffee with the Mayor is scheduled for August 16, 2024, at 8:00 a.m. at Cotter Bridge Market.

SIGN-UP SHEET REQUESTS

Jason Nazarenko shared that Danny Montgomery owner of the Denton Ferry RV Park will be contacting the Council regarding the storm causing clogged up pipes on Denton Ferry Road.

AUDIENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Karen Montgomery gave Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray a well done running the meeting in Mayor Caradine's absence.

Jason Nazarenko commended the Council here tonight for conducting themselves well.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Chuck Sugg said Andrea Kray did a wonderful job and welcomed Joe Bass to the Council.

Councilman Joe Bass is glad to sit on the Council and is happy to sit with them.

Councilwoman Carolyn Gill asked a question pertaining to the Harding Blvd paving debris. Can the City have that to repurpose some to help with spots at the cemetery as there is a drainage problem in front the directory.

Councilwoman Mertice Kray thanked Andrea Kray for chairing the meeting and Karen Montgomery for attending the meeting.

Councilman Ben Woodward thanked everyone for attending the meeting and thanks Jason Nazarenko for pitching the alcohol sales.

Councilwoman Linda McCarthy welcomed Joe Bass and addresses the traffic problem reports that will be submitted to ARDOT as well as statistics.

Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to adjourn with a second provided by Councilman Ben Woodard. **Motion passed unanimously.** Meeting ended at 7:30 p.m.

APPROVED:



Mayor MacGeorge Caradine

ATTEST:


Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray

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