

COTTER CITY
COTTER COUNCIL MINUTES
May 6, 2020
6:00 p.m.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The special meeting of the Cotter City Council was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Caradine. He asked for roll call by Melissa Gray, Bookkeeper as Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray was absent. Present were: Council Members Chuck Sugg, Kerry Ann White, Carolyn Gill, Mertice Kray, Cameron Ross, and John Bell.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

In the first order of New Business, Roger Morgan, City Attorney to addressed Council to discuss Ordinance 2020-02: An ordinance directing and ordering removal and clean-up of the building and improvements at 241 Melba Avenue, Cotter, Arkansas, and the event leading up to the origination of Ordinance 2020-02. He states the property in question has been a problem for a long time. Mr. Morgan gives Council history of legalities on property and its issues and what the property has cost the City to date. The City is now asking Council to condemn the property to go in and get court order, so property can be cleaned up legally and collect our cost for cleanup.

Mayor Caradine questions the process and Roger Morgan explains that the options are that the court to foreclose lien to \$2250 of City cost or a court order to allow City to clean up. Mayor Caradine wants to keep all options on the table and the only reason to pass this as an emergency is because of the history of property and past delays from Mr. McGowne.

Mayor Caradine questions if the citizen is notified when Roger Morgan gets the order? – YES

Open discussion is had by Council where Councilman John Bell questions if City can request a Psychological evaluation. – NO

Audience discussion on safety of property for anyone other than a professional. Roger Morgan responds that the City cannot keep Mr. McGowne off the property due to safety issues, but the City needs to request in the order better security of the area from neighborhood kids.

Bill Morris has three guns from property fire and needs to release in the City's care. He also addresses smell of the property as he lives next door. Roger Morgan responds that the City is doing all it can as of now as it takes 30 days to sign papers to get hearing to move case along.

Shelia Wingard appreciates City's efforts and Jim Wingard questions will insurance company assist. Roger Morgan states that they could. Mayor Caradine asks if neighbor's can sue McGowne? -- YES, but they are tough cases-time wise.

Mayor Caradine asked for a motion for Ordinance 2020-02: An ordinance directing and ordering removal and clean-up of the building and improvements at 241 Melba Avenue, Cotter, Arkansas to be read in its entirety by Melissa Gray. Councilman Chuck Sugg moved to have Ordinance 2020-02: An ordinance directing and ordering removal and clean-up of the building and improvements at 241 Melba Avenue, Cotter, Arkansas read in its entirety with a second by Councilwoman Mertice Kray. Councilwoman Gill reminds that debris cannot be pushed off the bluff. **Motion passed unanimously.** Melissa Gray read Ordinance 2020-02 in its entirety.

ORIGINAL

Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to place Ordinance 2020-02: An ordinance directing and ordering removal and clean-up of the building and improvements at 241 Melba Avenue, Cotter, Arkansas on its 2nd reading by title only with a second from Councilwoman Carolyn Gill. Discussion by Councilman John Bell on collecting rest of money not in Ordinance. Roger Morgan confirms that the money will be in a legal lien. **Motion passed unanimously.** Melissa Gray read Ordinance 2020-02 by title only.

Councilman Cameron Ross moved to place Ordinance 2020-02: An ordinance directing and ordering removal and clean-up of the building and improvements at 241 Melba Avenue, Cotter, Arkansas on its 3rd reading by title only with a second from Councilwoman Carolyn Gill. **Motion passed unanimously.** Melissa Gray read Ordinance 2020-02 by title only.

Councilman Cameron Ross moved to pass Ordinance 2020-02: An ordinance directing and ordering removal and clean-up of the building and improvements at 241 Melba Avenue, Cotter, Arkansas with a second provided by Councilwoman Mertice Kray. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Councilman Chuck Sugg moved to pass Ordinance 2020-02: An ordinance directing and ordering removal and clean-up of the building and improvements at 241 Melba Avenue, Cotter, Arkansas, as an emergency with a second provided by Councilwoman Carolyn Gill. **Motion passed unanimously. Ordinance will go into place immediately.**

INFORMATION

During information, Mayor Caradine informed Council the next regular Council meeting will take place on May 28, 2020. The City is closely monitoring COVID-19 every day and City will be careful and will announce when they will reopen to public. There are reduced revenues according to ARML and will address at next meeting. Cotter is on a saving mode for now and any questions from citizens can be forwarded to the Mayor.

SIGN-UP SHEET REQUESTS

No sign up sheet requests.

AUDIENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

No Audience Announcements.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

No Council Comments.

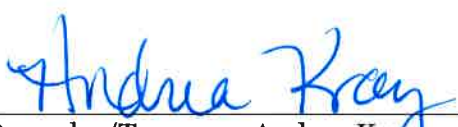
Councilman Cameron Ross moved to adjourn with a second provided by Councilwoman Mertice Kray. **Motion passed unanimously.** Meeting ended at 5:40 p.m.

APPROVED:



Mayor MacGeorge Caradine

ATTEST:



Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray

ORIGINAL