

COTTER CITY
COTTER COUNCIL REGULAR MINUTES
November 21, 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 Mayor Caradine. Present were: Council Members Chuck Sugg, Joe Bass, Carolyn Gill, 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

In the second order of New Business, Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to accept the minutes of a meeting of the City of Cotter, Arkansas, City Council held on October 24, 2024, with a second provided by Councilman Chuck Sugg. **Motion passed unanimously.**

October Financials were included in the packets
Public Works Department Report was given by Mayor Caradine
Fire Department Report was given by Sergeant Michael Paterson
Police Department Report was given by Mayor Caradine
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-none at this time

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

In the first order of New Business, Council considered placing Ordinance 2024-09 – An Ordinance to amend Ordinance 2022-06 by changing the hours of Allow Alcohol Sales on Sunday on its 1st reading by title only. Councilman Ben Woodard moved to place Ordinance 2024-09 – An Ordinance to amend Ordinance 2022-06 by changing the hours of Allow Alcohol Sales on Sunday on its 1st reading by title only with a second provided by Councilman Chuck Sugg. **Motion passed with 5 in favor and Councilwoman Mertice Kray abstaining.** Recorder/Treasurer Andrea read Ordinance 2024-09 by title only for the 1st time.

Councilman Chuck Sugg moved to place Ordinance 2024-09 – An Ordinance to amend Ordinance 2022-06 by changing the hours of Allow Alcohol Sales on Sunday on its 2nd reading by title only with a second provided by Councilman Ben Woodard. **Motion passed with 5 in favor and Councilwoman Mertice Kray abstaining.** Recorder/Treasurer Andrea read Ordinance 2024-09 by title only for the 2nd time.

Councilman Ben Woodard moved to place Ordinance 2024-09 – An Ordinance to amend Ordinance 2022-06 by changing the hours of Allow Alcohol Sales on Sunday on its 3rd reading by title only with a second provided by Councilman Chuck Sugg. **Motion passed with 5 in favor and Councilwoman Mertice Kray abstaining.** Recorder/Treasurer Andrea read Ordinance 2024-09 by title only for the 3rd time.

Councilman Chuck Sugg moved to pass Ordinance 2024-09 – An Ordinance to amend Ordinance 2022-06 by changing the hours of Allow Alcohol Sales on Sunday with a second provided by Councilman Ben Woodard. **Motion passed with 5 in favor and Councilwoman Mertice Kray abstaining.**

ORIGINAL

Councilwoman Linda McCarthy moved to pass Ordinance 2024-09 – An Ordinance to amend Ordinance 2022-06 by changing the hours of Allow Alcohol Sales on Sunday as an emergency with a second provided by Councilman Joe Bass. **Motion passed with 5 in favor and Councilwoman Mertice Kray abstaining.**

In the second order of New Business, Council considered setting a public hearing for comments prior to the December 19, 2024, council meeting starting at 6:00 pm to consider a petition to close alley from College and State Street between Hazel and View Street. Councilman Chuck Sugg moved to set a public hearing for comments prior to the December 19, 2024, council meeting starting at 6:00 pm to consider a petition to close alley from College and State Street between Hazel and View Street with a second provided by Councilwoman Mertice Kray. **Motion passed unanimously.**

INFORMATION

During Information, Mayor Caradine stated a 2nd Budget Workshop was not needed. The December Council meeting has been changed to December 19, 2024 due to the holidays. The City of Cotter proclaimed Saturday, November 16, 2024, as ARBOR Day where three Autumn Blaze Maples were planted in Big Spring Park in the circle in front of the Cabooes. The City of Cotter received approval on the \$15,000 Rural Services Economic Community Grant from the Arkansas Economic Development Commission for Park lighting along the new sidewalk under the bridge per Resolution 2024-05. The Big Spring Parkway Paving Project is completed. Grant was provided by AGFC Marine Fuel Tax Program. The Generator Project at the Well has been completed from monies received from Arkansas Hazardous Mitigation Grant program with the help of grant writer Tina Cole with the NWAEDD. The Sewer Phase II Project is scheduled to be completed by the end of January. The Booster Pump Project at the Well is scheduled to be completed in December/January. This project is being funded by the America Rescue Act funds received from the Dept of Treasury in 2021. The City of Cotter made a request for assistance to the Program Director Lorie Tudor, Arkansas Department of Transportation to be considered for a Traffic Light at Highway 412 Harding/Denton Ferry Road through the Intersection Improvement Program. Chelsey Weaver with the NWAEDD submitted our Arkansas Community and Development Program grant application for exterior/interior improvements for the North Arkansas Youth Center. The estimated cost for the project is \$500,000 dollars, if approved for a 100% Grant with no match required. The Missouri and Northern Arkansas Railroad (MNA) and ARDOT may install crossing gates at railroad crossing at Hwy 345 near South Street. White River Marathon for Kenya shall be held on November 23, 2024. Coffee with the Mayor is set for 8:00 am on Friday, December 20, 2024, at Cotter Bridge Market. The Mayor shared that he is working on a grant to get a sidewalk from 345 to the bathrooms. The Mayor also shared that some pictures of the activities along the White River that is currently being used to promote Arkansas Tourism is being used on the Arkansas Parks and Tourism website.

SIGN-UP SHEET REQUESTS

None at this time.

AUDIENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jason Nazarenko shared that he went to Little Rock for organizational day. He will be serving on two committees (Education and Veterans). He will have training in December and will be sworn in on January 13, 2024.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Chuck Sugg is happy to be a part of all of this.

Councilman Joe Bass stated that Jason Nazarenko had competition for "best politician" with Kammi as she politely corrected him on his hanging of the decorations.

Councilwoman Carolyn Gill had no comment.

Councilwoman Mertice Kray thanked everyone in attendance. She loves the Fire Department and is thankful to the very talented people in the City of Cotter.

ORIGINAL

Councilman Ben Woodard complements Kammi Nazarenki and the citizens of Cotter who assisted in helping with the decorating of the Big Spring Park.

Councilwoman Linda McCarthy shares that the City of Cotter is incredibly lucky to have Kammi Nazarenko as she has organized and directed the decorating of the Big Spring Park for the Christmas in Cotter event.

Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray passed out Certificates of Election.

Mayor Caradine shared that he and Julia would be going to Little Rock to accept the \$15,000 grant check for the lighting of the sidewalks in Big Spring Park.

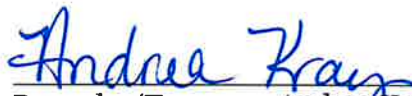
Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to adjourn with a second provided by Councilman Ben Woodward.
Motion passed unanimously. Meeting ended at 6:52 p.m.

APPROVED:



Mayor MacGeorge Caradine

ATTEST:



Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray

ORIGINAL