

COTTER CITY
COTTER COUNCIL REGULAR MINUTES
September 26, 2024
6:16 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, and Linda McCarthy. Absent was Councilman Ben Woodard.

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, Councilman Chuck Sugg moved to accept the minutes of a meeting of the City of Cotter, Arkansas, City Council held on August 22, 2024, with a second provided by Councilwoman Mertice Kray. **Motion passed unanimously.**

August Financials were included in the packets
Public Works Department Report was given by Justin Morrow
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, Councilwoman Linda McCarthy moved to place Ordinance 2024-07 - An Ordinance Establishing Construction Permit Application and Fees on its 1st reading by title only with a second provided by Councilwoman Mertice Kray. **Motion passed unanimously.** Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray read Ordinance 2024-07 - An Ordinance Establishing Construction Permit Application and Fees by title only.

Councilman Chuck Sugg moved to place Ordinance 2024-07 - An Ordinance Establishing Construction Permit Application and Fees on its 2nd reading by title only with a second provided by Councilman Joe Bass. **Motion passed unanimously.** Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray read Ordinance 2024-07 - An Ordinance Establishing Construction Permit Application and Fees by title only.

Councilwoman Linda McCarthy moved to place Ordinance 2024-07 - An Ordinance Establishing Construction Permit Application and Fees on its 3rd reading by title only with a second provided by Councilwoman Mertice Kray. **Motion passed unanimously.** Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray read Ordinance 2024-07 - An Ordinance Establishing Construction Permit Application and Fees by title only.

Councilman Joe Bass moved to place Ordinance 2024-07 - An Ordinance Establishing Construction Permit Application and Fees pass with a second provided by Councilman Chuck Sugg. **Motion passed unanimously.** Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray read Ordinance 2024-07 - An Ordinance Establishing Construction Permit Application and Fees by title only.

Councilman Chuck Sugg moved to place Ordinance 2024-07 - An Ordinance Establishing Construction Permit Application and Fees pass as an emergency with a second provided by Councilwoman Linda McCarthy. **Motion passed unanimously.** Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray read Ordinance 2024-07 - An Ordinance Establishing Construction Permit Application and Fees by title only. Ordinance 2024-07 will take affect immediately.

ORIGINAL

NEW BUSINESS

In the first order of New Business, Council considered Resolution 2024-18: A Resolution to authorize Mayor to sign Application for CDBG Funds through Arkansas Community and Economic Development Program for NAYC Renovations. Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to pass Resolution 2024-18: A Resolution to authorize Mayor to sign Application for CDBG Funds through Arkansas Community and Economic Development Program for NAYC Renovations with a second provided by Councilwoman Carolyn Gill. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the second order of New Business, Council considered Resolution 2024-19 - A Resolution designating Northwest Arkansas Economic Development District (NWAEDD), a Non-Profit Agency as CDBG Grant Administrator. Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to pass Resolution 2024-19 - A Resolution Designating Northwest Arkansas Economic Development District (NWAEDD), a Non-Profit Agency as CDBG Grant Administrator with a second provided by Councilman Joe Bass. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the third order of New Business, Council considered Resolution 2024-20 - A Resolution establishing a Policy Prohibiting the Use of Excessive Force by Law Enforcement Agencies within the Applicant's Jurisdiction Against Individuals Engage in Non-Violent Civil Rights Demonstrations. Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to pass Resolution 2024-20 - A Resolution establishing a Policy Prohibiting the Use of Excessive Force by Law Enforcement Agencies within the Applicant's Jurisdiction Against Individuals Engage in Non-Violent Civil Rights Demonstrations with a second provided by Councilman Joe Bass. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the fourth order of New Business, Council considered Resolution 2024-21 - A Resolution Establishing an Anti-displacement Plan for the City of Cotter. Councilwoman Carolyn Gill questioned the need for this particular resolution and Chelsey Weaver from the NWAEDD explained this would provide documentation covering a situation in which a person(s) were currently inhabiting the NAYC. Councilman Joe Bass moved to pass Resolution 2024-21 - A Resolution establishing an Anti-displacement Plan for the City of Cotter with a second provided by Councilman Chuck Sugg. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the fifth order of New Business, Council considered Resolution 2024-22 - A Resolution Affirming the City of Cotter Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity Policy. Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to pass Resolution 2024-22 - A Resolution Affirming the City of Cotter Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity Policy with a second provided by Councilman Chuck Sugg. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the sixth order of New Business, Council considered Resolution 2024-23 - A Budget Resolution in include the USDA Grant for CVFD Radios and Pagers. Matching Donation of \$7,450.00 by CVFD Auxiliary. Councilwoman Linda McCarthy moved to pass Resolution 2024-23 - A Budget Resolution in include the USDA Grant for CVFD Radios and Pagers. Matching Donation of \$7,450.00 by CVFD Auxiliary with a second provided by Councilwoman Mertice Kray. **Motion passed unanimously.**

INFORMATION

During Information Mayor Caradine read into the Meeting Minutes a signed a memorandum of agreement with Arkansas Game and Fish Commission dated August 26, 2024, to receive a 75% grant in the amount of \$124,312 for a project cost of \$165,750 to pave Big Spring Parkway. Project will be bid in the next few weeks once the bid documents are ready by Risley Architects. He also shared ARDOT State Aid City Street Program provide a project summary and location map of streets to consider for 2025-2026 paving, and the committee for the ARDOT Intersection Improvement Program Grant for a Traffic Light at Hwy 412—is requesting citizens to submit form supporting a Traffic Light. Contact City Hall for a copy of the form to fill out. Deadline to receive the form is September 30, 2024. He announced that the Baxter County Clerk's Office approved the petition referendum request for Off-Premises Alcohol Sales on Sunday for the November 5, 2024 ballot. The Cotter Farmer's Market in Big Spring Park every Saturday from 7 am – 5 pm. Email cotterfarmersmarket@gmail.com for more information. He shared the City Council Elections on November 5, 2024, and updated Council the on approved and pending grant projects. The next Coffee with the Mayor is scheduled for October 18, 2024, at 8:00 a.m. at Cotter Bridge Market, and the next Council Meeting is October 24, 2024.

ORIGINAL

SIGN-UP SHEET REQUESTS

None at this time.

AUDIENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jason Nazarenko reminded the audience about the October 5, 2024, BBQ Autism Awareness event in the Big Spring Park as well as the Art Odyssey exhibits in town that weekend. One artist will be at the River Art Gallery and another artist will be in the Commercial Hotel.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Chuck Sugg agrees that the paving company did a great job and thanks everyone for attending.

Councilman Joe Bass was very pleased about the positive things happening in Cotter. He thanks Mayor Caradine for finding funding/programs for the town of Cotter. He thanks all the City Departments.

Councilwoman Carolyn Gill thanked the company resurfacing on Harding Blvd. They only lost one mailbox. She is also shared that the Cotter Farmer's Market is excelling.

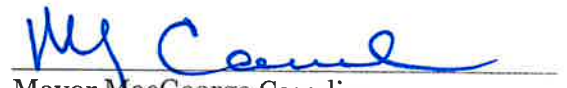
Councilwoman Mertice Kray thanked everyone for a good night and thanked Chelsey Weaver with the NWAEDD for answering questions about the process and procedure in apply for the grant for the NAYC. She hopes the City receives it.

Councilwoman Linda McCarthy announced the Halloween Trick-or-Treat Drive Through at the Fire Department on October 31, 2024.

Mayor Caradine introduced William Hungate and his cousin, Miller, to the Council. He shared with Council that Mr. Hungate had made a substantial donation to the Police Department and the City used the donation to pay down the balance of current patrol car loan.

Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to adjourn with a second provided by Councilwoman Carolyn Gill. **Motion passed unanimously.** Meeting ended at 7:06 p.m.

APPROVED:



Mayor MacGeorge Caradine

ATTEST:



Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray

ORIGINAL