

**COTTER CITY  
COTTER COUNCIL MINUTES  
October 28, 2021  
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, Cameron Ross, Mertice Kray, Linda McCarthy, and Mark Johnson.

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

**REPORTS**

Approval of the September 23, 2021, regular minutes was the first item of business. Councilman Cameron Ross moved to accept the minutes as written from Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray with a second provided by Councilwoman Carolyn Gill. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Public Works Department Report was given by Mayor Caradine  
Fire Department Report was given by Chief Lyle Jack  
Police Department Report was given by Chief Travis Hopson  
Building Permit Report was given by Andrea Kray  
Planning & Zoning Commission Report was given by Mayor Caradine  
Cotter/Gassville Sewer Commission was given by Carolyn Gill  
Tree Advisory Board had no report

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

In the first order of Unfinished Business, Mayor Caradine shared that the USDA has approved our Grant application in the amount of \$50,000 to assist in purchasing a backhoe in 2022 for the Street Department

**NEW BUSINESS**

In the first order of New Business, Brian Haas addressed Council to review the 2020 Water and Sewer Audits. He advised that the City is currently breaking even with their operating expenses and that said expenses were actually down in 2020. The City of Cotter is in good financial state and he had no areas of concern.

In the second order of New Business, Mayor Caradine read into meeting minutes the official census count for the City of Cotter. Council was provided with a letter dated October 7, 2021, from the office of the Treasurer of the State of Arkansas. The official census count for April 1, 2020, is 886 down from 970 for the 2010 Census. Mayor Caradine shared that he would not be pursuing a recount on the census as was previously discussed.

In the third order of New Business, Mayor Caradine asked Council to consider approval of to renewing the Auto Aid Agreements with Fire Departments from Gassville FD, Cotter-Gassville Rural FD and Flippin FD. Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to approve the signing the Auto Aid Agreements with the 3 departments with a second provided Councilman Cameron Ross. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the fourth order of New Business, Mayor Caradine read into meeting minutes that he has signed Opioid Settlement Participation Forms for two opioid litigation settlements signed by Attorney General Leslie Rutledge.

**INFORMATION**

During information, Mayor Caradine shared the Planning and Zoning Board will have two vacancies to fill. A five-year term for Secretary being vacated by Susan Lanning expiring December 31, 2021. The other vacancy is to fill the remaining term vacated by Misty Burdick's which does not expire until December 31, 2023. Contact the Mayor by November 12, 2021, to be considered. November's Council meeting is set for 11/18/21 and

**ORIGINAL**

December's Council Meeting is set for 12/16/21. A Budget Workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, November 9, 2021, at 6:30 pm. Volunteers are needed to help install the Christmas lights in the Park on November 6th, 13th, 20th from 10:00 am -2:00 pm, and there will be a Dedication Ceremony to Light the Cotter Bridge will be held on December 1, 2021 at 6:00 pm. Planning and Zoning will meet on 11/10/21 at 7:00 pm for a setback variance request for property between 702-734 McLean Avenue.

**SIGN-UP SHEET REQUESTS**

No sign-ins at this time.

**AUDIENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No Audience Announcements at this time.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilman Chuck Sugg thanked the Fire and Police Departments as they are doing a really great job.

Councilman Mark Johnson agrees with Councilman Sugg that the Fire and Police Departments are putting in a lot of hard work.

Councilwoman Carolyn Gill shared being interviewed by Adam Jones from KAIT Channel 8 as he was creating a special over the supposed haunting of the Rainbow Arch Bridge.

Councilwoman Mertice Kray had no comment.

Councilman Cameron Ross had no comment.

Councilman Linda McCarthy encouraged attendance at the Fire Department Halloween Drive thru event as well as advertised the Chili Super and Silent Auction on 11/13/21.

Councilman Cameron Ross moved to adjourn with a second provided by Councilwoman Mertice Kray.  
**Motion passed unanimously.** Meeting ended at 6:46 p.m.

APPROVED:

  
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Mayor MacGeorge Caradine

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray

**ORIGINAL**