

**COTTER CITY
COUNCIL REGULAR MINUTES
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
October 26, 2023 -- 6:00 p.m.**

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 Carolyn Gill, Mertice Kray, Chuck Sugg, Shelia Wingard, Nicole Hatchet, and Linda McCarthy.

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

REPORTS

Approval of the September 28, 2023, regular minutes was the first item of business. Councilwoman Shelia Wingard moved to accept the minutes with noted corrections from Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray with a second provided by Councilman Chuck Sugg. **Motion passed with Councilwoman Nicole Hatchet abstaining.**

Approval of the October 5, 2023, Public Hearing minutes was the second item of business. Councilwoman Linda McCarthy moved to accept the minutes as written from Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray with a second provided by Councilwoman Mertice Kray. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Approval of the October 5, 2023, Special Meeting #2 minutes was the third item of business. Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to accept the minutes as written from Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray with a second provided by Councilwoman Nicole Hatchet. **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 not given.

Tree Advisory Board was not given.

Monthly Financials were provided to Council in their packets

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The City of Cotter and USDA representatives will meet on November 7, 2023, to have the loan closing for the \$1,551,000.00 to fund portions of the Phase II Sewer Rehabilitation Project that was approved in December of 2019. Loan documents were provided to Council members for review.

NEW BUSINESS

In the first order of New Business, Council reviewed bids for a new boost pump for the Water Department. Mayor Caradine shared with Council that the a lot of the construction work would be done in-house for the installation of this project saving the City money. Councilwoman Shelia Wingard moved to approve the bid and build this project into the 2024 budget with a second provided by Councilwoman Mertice Kray. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the second order of New Business, Council to approve bids to purchase a generator for the well tower utilizing the cooperative purchasing agreement per Resolution 2023-15. Councilwoman Mertice Kray moves to approve the bid from Sourcewell going with Generac Industrial Power for a cost of \$93,918.00, with a second provided by Councilwoman Nicole Hatchet. **Motion passed unanimously.**

INFORMATION

During information, Mayor Caradine reminded that the Budget Workshop will be held on November 14, 2023 at 5:00 pm with a 2nd Budget Workshop for December 12, 2023, if needed. The regular November Council meeting has been moved to November 30, 2023 at 6:00 pm and the regular December Council meeting has been scheduled for December 14, 2023. The Cotter Fire Department and Auxiliary will have Halloween Trick or Treat Drive-Thru at the Firehouse on October 31st from 6-8 pm. The North Arkansas Youth Center shall hold a fundraiser, dinner and music by Jerry Hopper Band on November 4th. Dinner starts at 5:30 pm, Auction at 6:15 pm, Music by Jerry Hopper Band starting at 7:00 pm. The Christmas In Cotter volunteer day to install the lights in Big Spring Park is scheduled for November 4th. Rain date will be November 11th. Volunteers are needed and free pizza will be provided. Christmas in Cotter with Santa and Mrs. Claus will be held on December 16, 2023, from 5-7 pm. The White River Marathon for Kenya shall be held on November 18, 2023. Coffee with the Mayor is set for 8:00 am on Friday, November 17, 2023, at Cotter Bridge Market. In December, Coffee with the Mayor will be at Cotter City Hall for Cotter Christmas Open House on Friday, December 15, 2023, starting at 8:00 am.

SIGN-UP SHEET REQUESTS

None at this time

AUDIENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

None at this time

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Chuck Sugg thanks the Police and Fire Department for taking such good care of the City.

Councilwoman Shelia Wingard states that the Spirit of Cotter is further evidenced by the turnout at the recent Block Parties as citizens gathered at local homes in celebration.

Councilwoman Carolyn Gill is concerned about yards and questions how has offending property owners been addressed. The Mayor explained that the person or persons at the residence receive a yellow or red written citation and letters are sent from the Mayor. On another note, she expressed her sincere gratitude to the outpouring of love and support from helping neighbors. She goes on to state this kindness is the Spirit of Cotter and she truly appreciates living here.

Councilwoman Mertice Kray thanks everyone for attending and appreciates the departments taking such good care of the City.

Councilwoman Nicole Hatchet asked about the vehicles on the gravel area under the sign. The Mayor said it is private property and suspects it is overflow from renters renting rooms at a nearby apartment complex. He will look more into the matter.

Councilwoman Linda McCarthy welcomed Aaron Blanker to the Council Meeting.

Councilwoman Mertice Kray moved to adjourn with a second provided by Councilwoman Nicole Hatchet. **Motion passed unanimously.** Meeting ended at 6:53 p.m.

APPROVED:



Mayor MacGeorge Caradine

ATTEST:



Recorder/Treasurer Andrea Kray