

Town of Cottonwood

Workshop

April 23, 2024

Members Present: Mayor James Coachman, Michael Capehart, Angela Hackney, George Stringer, Van Granger, and Kellie Free

Mayor Coachman opened the meeting at 5:59 P. M. leading the prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Samantha Strength, Town Clerk made announcements: Kiwanis Club meeting April 25th at 5:30pm at the Town Hall, the Little Miss/ Miss Cottonwood Pageant will be held on April 27th at the lunchroom located at Cottonwood High School, and the new fence project at Bruner Park has been completed.

Commissioner Tracey Adams and Commissioner Chairman Brandon Shoupe presented the Town of Cottonwood a donation of \$20,635.42. This donation was from the Care for Cottonwood Benefit Concert at The Yellow Rose Theater located at the Crossing on Big Creek.

Approval to accept the minutes from Council meeting for March 19, 2024. Council Member Capehart made a motion to approve. A second by Council Member Stringer.

Samantha Strength, Town Clerk, presented to the Mayor and Council the financial reports for March 2024. The Town Clerk explained to the Mayor and Council Members this will be voted on for approval at the next Council Meeting, May 7, 2024. The minutes from the Council meeting for February 20, 2024, and workshop March 5, 2024. Council Member Free second the motion to deny the minutes. The council unanimously tabled this for the next meeting.

Fire Chief Randy Hall presented the fire report for the month of February. There was a total of 06 calls for service, 2 building fires, 1 outside rubbish, trash, or waste fire, 1 motor vehicle accident with injuries, 1 No incident found on arrival at dispatch address, 1 medical assistant, assist EMS crew.

Kasey Morris, Senior Center director, and Fire Chief Randy Hall presented to the Mayor and Council Members on behalf of the building committee. There are currently two grants that have been applied for, the local RC&D grant and the state RC&D grant. The local RC&D grant, Project Rebuild Cottonwood, \$50,000.00, is a capital grant. It was allocated to the Town of Cottonwood on 04/11/2024. The closing date for this grant is 04/11/2026. The State RC&D grant, Cottonwood Senior, Cottonwood Fire, and Cottonwood Community Room Grant, \$50,000.00. It has not been allocated to the Town of Cottonwood, but the projected date to finish is 04/01/2026. Kasey Morris, Senior Center Director, also presented to the Mayor and the Council Members the plans for the Senior Center and Community Room. The Senior Center and Community Room will be

placed in the Senior Center and Fire Department Building. This will be paid for by insurance money and money the Town of Cottonwood allocates for the project. Kasey Morris, Senior Director, asked for approval of this project and to accept the proposal. Mayor Coachman called for a motion, Council Member Hackney motioned, a second was called, Council Member Stringer second the motion, and a unanimous vote was received.

Fire Chief Randy Hall presented the plans of the Fire Department. The proposed plans are to move the Fire Department to the lot where the Community Room, Lower Bay, and the old Town Hall are located. This will be paid for by the insurance, ADECA grant and the money the Town of Cottonwood will allocate for this project. Fire Chief Randy Hall asked for approval on this project and to accept the proposal. Mayor Coachman called for a motion, Council Member Capehart made the motion, Council Member Hackney made the second, and with a unanimous vote was received.

Fire Chief Randy Hall presented to the Mayor and Council Members the location of the Fire Department Pole Barn. It will be situated 90 feet behind the old Town Hall. Fire Chief Randy Hall asked for approval on this project. Mayor Coachman called for a motion, Council Member Hackney made the motion, Council Member Granger made the second with a unanimous vote being received.

Mayor Coachman asked for a motion and second to move the Water Department Building and the Town Hall estimates off the table for discussion. Council Member Stringer made a motion. Council Member Capehart second.

Samantha Strength, Town Clerk, asked for approval for the repair of the Water Department and the Town Hall, Blue Deese Construction \$91,008.00, C Enterprises of the Wiregrass \$88,975.00, Total Remodeling \$69,754.00, Williams Vinyl Service, \$2,712.00 for windows only, Riley Construction and Finish \$2,850.00 for the court room/ back room only. Mayor Coachman called for a vote to approve the contractor for this project. Council Member Stringer, yes, Council Member Granger, yes, Council Member Free, yes, Council Member Hackney, no. Council Member Hackney needs to have more information to make sure that what the council has done by accepting a new quote is ethical. The approval was tabled until we spoke to our town attorney.

There being no further business to come before this meeting, there was a motion by Council Member Stringer to adjourn the meeting. A second by Council Member Granger and meeting was adjourned at 6:40 P.M.

James Coachman, Mayor

Samantha Strength, Town Clerk