



## **WORKING TOGETHER/GROWING TOGETHER**

### **MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday February 16, 2016**

President Jane Hatchett called the meeting to order at 8:00 with 20 in attendance. Following the pledge of allegiance, Jane introduced the speakers for February: Cotter Mayor Peggy Hammack and Gassville Mayor Jeff Braim.

#### **Cotter 2015 Highlights:**

- Police Dept -- Squad car and computers in both squad cars, body cams and a taser. The new Chief of Police is in place.
- Street Dept – Paved four blocks, purchased dump truck to share with Water Dept.
- Fire Dept – Purchased new SCBA tanks and turnout suits. March 26 ~~Chile~~ Chili Benefit Supper
- Water Dept -- Installed three valves with one to be added. Water tank painted
- Spring House grant application denied. Pursuing another. There are asbestos, mold, and lead paint issues.

#### **Cotter 2016 Plans:**

- Replacing the LED bulbs in City Hall
- Redo the stucco on the Youth Center, renovate Council Chamber in house
- Ballasts on the bridge lamp lights have been pulled and the bulbs replaced with LED bulbs; the City crew can now change them.
- Purchase boat & motor for Fire Dept to do water rescue.
- Looking for grant to scale witch's hat water tower
- Complete income & housing survey for low to moderate income grants.

#### **Gassville 2015 Highlights:**

- Received grant to purchase new squad car
- Purchased fire department pumper truck

#### **Gassville 2016 Plans:**

- Building planter boxes in Lancaster Park on Hwy 126 with \$2500 grant

- Applied for Trails for Life Grant
- Put together City Master Water Plan to deal with aging infrastructure
- Add power to pavilion behind Library. Added new roof, redid parking lot, and did some building renovation in previous years.
- Applying for USDA grant to expand sewer system (ongoing)
- Purchasing a jet washer
- Pave .69 miles on South School Street with State Aid funds. They are in line for \$430,000 grant for curb and gutter
- Applying for a grant for computers in patrol cars and to replace tasers.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Results of the January party/inauguration – Netted approximately \$1300, compared with a \$500 loss the previous year. Advance tickets sold were 117, with 112 people attending. The bucket raffle brought in about \$700, thanks to generous donations from businesses and individuals.
- Shawnee-Supreme Fishing Tournament update – Bailey Bodenhamer reported 18 teams have registered so far with \$2,150 collected. They will need some volunteer help.
- Cotter Trout Festival update – Jane Darr reported that things are on track for the Festival.
- Membership update – Treasurer Donna Montgomery sent invoices at the beginning of the year.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Gassville in the Park update – Saturday, June 4 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be a Parade, Pancake Breakfast, and 5K Run
- Scholarship program review and update --- Application has been revised and distributed to Cotter High School Counselor. Applications can be downloaded from Chamber website and from the Cotter school website. Deadline for this year is March 31, decision to be made by Scholarship Committee by April 20. Scholarship will be awarded May 2 at Cotter High School's Award Ceremony. Guidelines have been revised.
- Poster Program – Information has gone out through the art community.

## **FUTURE GENERAL MEETING SPEAKERS:**

March – Whitney Aleshire-Embrey MS, CES, BS, Program officer for the Food Bank of NCA  
 April – Local partners for Summer Meals program

## **Other:**

- Retiring Cotter Superintendent Don Sharp invited everyone to fill out the survey of qualifications desired in new Superintendent.
- Everyone was encouraged to attend the Cotter City Council meeting at 6:00 on March 25 where a special award for two children will be presented.

With no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10.