

Public Works Committee
Minutes – Regular Meeting
June 19, 2018

The Seven Devils Public Works Committee met in regular session on Tuesday, June 19, 2018 at Town Hall. Present were Chairman Brad Lambert, Jack Byrnes, Larry Fontaine, Brady Sasse; Vice Chair George Ehlinger was absent. Also present were Public Works Director Kevin Aldridge, Town Engineer David Poore and Town Manager Debbie Powers. The minutes were recorded by Town Clerk Hillary Gropp.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lambert called the meeting to order at 10:00am.

ADOPT AGENDA

Member Fontaine made a motion to adopt the agenda; Member Sasse seconded. The members agreed unanimously.

APPROVE MINUTES – March 20, 2018

Member Sasse made a motion to approve the minutes; Member Fontaine seconded. The members agreed unanimously.

CITIZENS COMMENTS - NONE

OLD BUSINESS – NONE

NEW BUSINESS

Recap of events on/about May 18, 2018

Excessive amounts of heavy rainfall due to subtropical Storm Alberto occurred in the western North Carolina region, with totals reportedly of 9”-11”; subsequently a State of Emergency was issued by North Carolina Roy Cooper for 33 western counties. Areas of the Town of Seven Devils experienced washout of varying degrees, whether minor or in need of repair. The Town is aware of, and in the process of repairs for Town property, the NCDOT has made necessary repairs on state roadways and Residents are responsible for their private property. The Watauga County Emergency Management did not implement emergency procedures, per the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

A. Hanging Rock Villas

HRV President Bill Ferguson, Vice President Byron Gentry and Property Manager Tom Gidley were in attendance to have a discussion with the Public Works Committee as to the status of their property following the torrential rain in May 2018.

Because of water overflow across Skyland Drive (NCDOT road), then flowing down a parcel, owned by Kasey Cottom and being adjacent to the common area/parking lot of Hanging Rock Villas, gathering debris and rainwater caused a washout with erosion close to HRV–Building #1. (Photos were submitted of the event aftermath). The NCDOT has placed large rocks underneath the culvert to disperse water runoff, thus creating a diversion of waterflow and decreasing the probability of future erosion in the same location.

The representatives from Hanging Rock Villas think the repairs are not adequate, and their attempts at having communication with the NCDOT has been futile. HRV asked the Town to write a letter to NCDOT on their behalf requesting a meeting/phone call to discuss the storm damage and options for repair. Public Works Committee agreed to facilitate this with a written letter of request to be signed by Mayor Fontaine.

B. State of Public Works in Seven Devils

Public Works Director Aldridge reports mowing is now getting caught up after weather delays. The ditches are under going repairs as a result of same weather issues. The Town is on the schedule for paving by Moretz, expected start date is unknown.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Chairman Lambert stated unless needed, there will not be any future meetings scheduled for the year.

ADJOURN

Member Fontaine made a motion to adjourn; Member Sasse seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 am.

Brad Lambert, Chairman

Hillary Gropp, Town Clerk