

**TOWN OF SEVEN DEVILS  
TOWN COUNCIL RETREAT MINUTES  
FOSCOE GRANDFATHER COMMUNITY CENTER**

**March 17, 2016**

The Seven Devils Town Council met for their annual Retreat on Thursday, March 17, 2016 at 10:00AM at the Foscoe Grandfather Community Center. Present were Mayor Larry Fontaine, Mayor Pro Tem Brad Lambert, Council Members Kay Ehlinger, David Ehmig, and David Hooper. Also present were Town Manager Debbie Powers and Town Clerk Sara Miller, who recorded the minutes.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Fontaine called the meeting out of recess at 10:00AM.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Council members and citizens recited the Pledge of Allegiance

**ADOPT AGENDA**

Member Ehmig made a motion to adopt the agenda. Member Hooper seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS—NONE**

**2015-2016 GOALS REVIEW**—After some discussion, the following goals were continued into the new 2016-2017 year for the Town:

- 1- Continue to upgrade the infrastructure of the Town by replacing old existing plastic water pipe with ductile iron. Town Engineer David Poore would continue to recommend projects to the Public Works Committee and Town Council.
- 2- Continue the pursuit of a grant or grants to improve the Otter Falls property development as a recreation area, moving into Phase II of trails.
- 3- Pursue practical methods to provide some additional measures of fire protection to the Four Diamond/Windy Knob Trail sections of Town, and research hydrants and flusher valves for the area.
- 4- Continue to devise a plan to replace Town Hall and the Seven Devils Fire Department.
- 5- Search for grants to construct or purchase a new Town Hall and Fire Department.

**2016-2017 GOALS & GOAL SETTING**—After some discussion, the following new goals were set by the Town Council:

- 1- Research and develop a plan for off-site archiving of all Town Hall and Public Safety Department records.
- 2- Research shredding companies and possibly organize a Town-wide shredding day(s).
- 3- Develop a master Recreation plan for the future of Seven Devils recreation and green spaces, and possibly research grant money for sidewalks along Town roads for walking.
- 4- Continue to research Town-wide WiFi (Member Hooper).

**NEW BUSINESS**

**HIGH COUNTRY REALTOR OPEN HOUSE—DISCUSSION**—After some discussion, the Council decided on a tentative date of May 18, 2016 for the possible open house, and Mayor Fontaine would contact Leo Starzec about heading a committee for planning. Mayor Fontaine stated he would continue to update the Council. No action was taken. **~CLOSED~**

**SKYLINE BUILDING ACQUISITION UPDATE**—After brief discussion, the Council agreed that the Skyline building would be a tremendous asset to the Town, but the biggest hurdle would be how to purchase it. Manager Powers stated that she would begin to research possible grants to aid in the purchase. No action was taken. **~CLOSED~**

**OTTER FALLS PHASE II PLAN**—Mayor Fontaine asked Manager Powers if she had spoken with the trail designer, and she stated that she had in fact spoken with Deno of Benchmark Trails, and he has a fairly flexible schedule during the coming year to schedule trail work. Mayor Fontaine stated that he would like to apply for more PARTF funds for future Otter Falls improvements, and possibly approach Lenny Cottom about acquiring land that adjoins the Otter Falls property. No action was taken. **~CLOSED~**

**HCMA TOPICS AND HEAD COUNT**—Mayor Fontaine stated that the two topics the Council wished to present to the HCMA were as follows:

- 1- Inquire what the other municipalities are doing for off-site record archiving for their Police Departments.
- 2- Inquire about how Beech Mountain funded their sidewalk project for possible future Seven Devils sidewalks.

Mayor Fontaine, Mayor Pro Tem Lambert, Members Hooper and Ehmig all stated that they planned to attend the April HCMA meeting. No action was taken. **~CLOSED~**

**PRELIMINARY BUDGET DISCUSSION & DEBBIE'S FUN FACTS**—After some discussion, Manager Powers stated that the preliminary budget she presents to them does in fact balance, and includes several projects and needed purchases by the Public Works and Public Safety departments, as well as putting money aside to go towards a future new town hall. Mayor Fontaine thanked Manager Powers for having the budget prepared, and that the Council would review the numbers and begin analysis at the first Budget Workshop on April 21, 2016. No action was taken. **~CLOSED~**

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Mayor Fontaine wished to thank Manager Powers for a great and smooth retreat, as well as all the Town employees for all the hard work they do each day. The other Council members agreed that the Town seems to be a much more positive environment and they are thankful for the hard work done by the staff.

### **ADJOURN**

Mayor Pro Tem Lambert made a motion to adjourn at 2:05PM. Member Ehlinger seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously.

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Larry Fontaine, Mayor

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Sara Miller, Town Clerk