

**TOWN OF SEVEN DEVILS
TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING**

October 11, 2016

The Seven Devils Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, October 11, 2016, at Town Hall. Present were Mayor Larry Fontaine, Mayor Pro Tem Brad Lambert, Council Members David Hooper, David Ehmig, and Kay Ehlinger. Also present were Town Attorney Rob Angle and Town Manager Debbie Powers. The minutes were recorded by Sara Miller, Town Clerk.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fontaine called the meeting to order at 5:30PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council members and citizens recited the Pledge of Allegiance

ADOPT AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Lambert wished to add *New Business Item (iii) Discussion of ASU Interns* to the Agenda.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

ADOPT MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING—Sept 13, 2016.

Member Ehlinger made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda. Member Hooper seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Kay Lambert, 430 Wildcat Rocks Rd., wished to thank Clerk Miller for the beautiful Fall Echo newsletter. She thanked the TDA and Larry & Anne Fontaine for the beautiful Fall banners and working hard on the Fall display. She also wished to thank everyone that supported and volunteered at Operation Medicine Cabinet which was held on Saturday, October 8th.

Stacey Doughton, 817 Alpine Dr., wished to thank the Seven Devils Town Council, TDA, and everyone involved in the beautification of the mini-park at Alpine Meadows. It is truly a great addition to the Town.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

Manager Powers presented the administrative update. She stated that Fire Chief Powell had received a forestry grant for \$2,400, which he would be using to purchase forestry fire-fighting equipment. She stated that Otter Falls Phase II donations had reached just under \$16,000 of our \$23,600 goal. She hoped the TDA would help if the goal was not met entirely by donation.

She stated that Deno from Benchmark Trails was going to begin trail work the next day, and that she would be meeting with him in the morning to discuss the work to be completed.

Because of the General Election on Tuesday, November 8, the regular Town Council meeting in November would be moved to Wednesday, November 9, 2016 at 5:30PM.

OLD BUSINESS—NONE

NEW BUSINESS

ABC BOARD PRESENTATION—SARA BREWER— Sara Brewer presented the members with the audit summary for the High Country ABC to review. She briefly highlighted the financials for the fiscal year 2015-2016, as well as pointed out that the gross sales for the

year were \$2,938,873—a \$167,647 increase from the previous year. The Council thanked Ms. Brewer for her presentation. No action was taken. **~CLOSED~**

BLUE RIDGE CONSERVANCY PURCHASE—PENLAND PROPERTY—Manager Powers gave a brief overview of the property that Blue Ridge Conservancy recently purchased. The Penland property is adjacent to the Town owned Otter Falls property, and was purchased by the Blue Ridge Conservancy on September 26th. Manager Powers stated that she briefly discussed with the Conservancy the option of annexing this property into the Town. Though no immediate plans are in place, future trails have been discussed. No action was taken. **~CLOSED~**

DISCUSSION OF ASU INTERNS—Mayor Pro Tem Lambert stated that he had attended a breakfast that morning with the Chancellor of Appalachian State University, along with other local government officials and faculty. The topic of ASU student interns at Seven Devils Town Hall was brought up, and Mayor Pro Tem Lambert wanted the opinion of the Council regarding having interns. As the Council was supportive of this future possibility, Mayor Pro Tem Lambert stated that he would email the Chancellor and let ASU know we would be willing to take ASU interns. No action was taken. **~CLOSED~**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning Board—No Meeting

Public Works—No Meeting

Public Safety Committee—No Meeting

Recreation Commission—No Meeting

TDA

ABC Board

Public Safety Department

Police Report

Fire Report

Financial Report

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Member Hooper stated that he had obtained a quote from the company Maiden, NC used for their Town-wide WiFi project. For the small amount of work on his proposal, he stated that the cost was \$53,000. He estimated that for a Town-wide reach, it could cost upwards of \$250,000. He wished to know if the Council wanted him to continue to pursue the project, or if it was time to put it aside. After some brief discussion, the Council decided to put the idea aside. They thanked Member Hooper for his work and research on the topic.

Mayor Fontaine wished to remind the Council that there was a High Country Municipal Association meeting on Thursday, October 13 at Seven Devils Town Hall. Dinner would start at 6PM and the official meeting would begin at 6:30PM. All are welcome.

ADJOURN

Member Ehlinger made a motion to adjourn. Member Hooper seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:25PM.

Larry Fontaine, Mayor

Sara Miller, Town Clerk