

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

**May 10, 2016**

The Seven Devils Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, May 10, 2016, at Town Hall. Present were Mayor Larry Fontaine, Mayor Pro Tem Brad Lambert, Council Members Kay Ehlinger, David Hooper, and David Ehmig. 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. Mayor Pro Tem Lambert made a motion to come out of recess. Member Ehmig seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Council members and citizens recited the Pledge of Allegiance

**ADOPT AGENDA**

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**ADOPT MINUTES OF REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING—April 12, 2016**

**ADOPT MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSHOP—April 20, 2016**

Member Ehmig made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda. Mayor Pro Tem Lambert seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

**Anne Fontaine**, 127 W. Rocky Top Tr., wanted to announce the new Fitness Challenge that started as of May 1, 2016. Any kind of exercise that could be converted to miles could be counted, and the goal for 2016 was 12,000 miles. She stated the event would be going on through September 30<sup>th</sup>, and that a binder would be in Town Hall soon to record miles.

**Kay Lambert**, 430 Wildcat Rocks Rd., reminded everyone that SafetyFest would be held on Saturday, July 2, 2016. She stated that the volunteer sign-up sheet was now in Town Hall, so please sign up to help!

**Sarah Manning**, 277 Four Diamond Dr., asked if the paving that had been done on Seven Devils Road/Skyland Drive was all the State intended to do, or if there would be more work done. Manager Powers stated that what has been done is likely all the Town will see in 2016. She also stated that Public Works Director Kevin Aldridge had been putting in calls to NCDOT, as well as herself, urging for road improvements as well as road striping.

**ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE**

Manager Powers stated that she, Mayor Fontaine and Anne Fontaine gave a presentation to 43 realtors at the Avery County meeting of the High Country Association of Realtors on April 28, 2016. She said that it was a very positive event, and that they received great feedback from the realtors present.

Manager Powers gave a summary of the administrative update. She stated that the Carolina West Wireless cell tower had been put up since the last meeting. Trucks arrived on May 9<sup>th</sup> with the tower pieces, and they are estimating the tower to be fully functional by June 15<sup>th</sup>, at which time they will reach out to other carriers such as AT&T and Verizon.

Manager Powers announced that the overall FitBit challenge winner was Finance Officer Helga Sappington, with 1,368,557 steps. She stated that the official challenge was over, but employees would be encouraged to continue to track their steps and mileage to add to the Recreation Commission's Fitness Challenge over the summer.

Manager Powers stated that Town Hall would be closed on Monday, May 30, 2016 in observance of Memorial Day. She then gave an Otter Falls Phase I & II update. She stated that the new donor sign for Phase I was complete and installed at the Parking area. Contributions for Phase II had reached \$6,455.00 as of May 6<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to all who have donated!

**OLD BUSINESS—NONE**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION—SUPPORT “CONNECT 7D”**—Mayor Fontaine read the *Resolution in Support of the Creation of the Town of Seven Devils Parks and Recreation Master Plan, Also Known as “Connect 7D”* aloud to all those present. Member Ehmig made a motion to adopt the Resolution. Member Hooper seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously. **~CLOSED~**



**DOUGHTON PROPERTY—ALPINE & SNOWBIRD**—Manager Powers gave a brief introduction to the issue with the corner of Alpine Drive and Snowbird. The “Alpine Meadows” sign and surrounding landscaping had become an eyesore and because of the lack of an official HOA/POA, the Town had proposed to the property owner Stacey Doughton an easement for maintenance of the corner. After brief discussion, Mayor Pro Tem Lambert suggested the issue be tabled until the next meeting, when the Council could see a final plan for the property. No action was taken. **~OPEN~**

**ALPINE ROAD DEDICATION**—Manager Powers gave a brief summary of the 2014 events surrounding the proposed Alpine Road dedication. She stated that the Council had approved the dedication of the road upon certain conditions being met. She said that Bobby West had come forward to state that he intended to complete the conditions and that the Town could then move forward with the dedication in the near future. No action was taken. **~CLOSED~**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Planning Board—No Meeting**
- Public Works**
- Public Safety Committee**
- Recreation Commission**
- TDA**
- ABC Board**
- Public Safety Department**
  - Police Report**
  - Fire Report**
- Financial Report**

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Member Hooper gave a brief update on his public WiFi project. He continues to research and reach out to communities that offer town-wide WiFi connectivity. He spoke with someone at the office of Blue Ridge Mountain Club in Blowing Rock about the WiFi in downtown Blowing Rock. They stated that it was quite a challenge to maintain the network. Member Hooper stated he would continue to update the Council with his research.

**ADJOURN**

Member Ehlinger made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Pro Tem Lambert seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:12PM.

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Larry Fontaine, Mayor

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Sara Miller, Town Clerk