

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

May 14, 2012

The Seven Devils Town Council met for regular session on Monday, May 14, 2012, at Town Hall. Present were Mayor Larry Fontaine, Mayor Pro Tem Brad Lambert, Council Members Kay Ehlinger, David Ehmig and David Hooper. Also present were Town Manager Ed Evans and Attorney Rob Angle. Anne Fontaine, Sarah Miller, and Ed Evans recorded the minutes.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fontaine called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

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 – ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Motion for Consideration – Adopt minutes of Regular Meeting April 10, 2012

Motion for Consideration – Adopt minutes of Special Meeting / Budget Workshop, April 18, 2012

Motion for Consideration – Adopt minutes of Special Meeting / Budget Workshop, April 25, 2012

Motion for Consideration – Adopt minutes of Special Meeting / Budget Workshop, May 9, 2012

Travel request for Town Manager to attend Town Hall Day in Raleigh, June 5-6, 2012, as the Seven Devils representative and voting delegate

Travel request for Town Manager to attend the NCCCMA Summer Seminar in Asheville, June 28-30, 2012

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

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Anne Fontaine, 127 Rocky Top Trail, reminded everyone that there would be a Bird Walk on Friday, May 19, 2012 from 10 am until 2:00 pm.

Kay Lambert, 430 Wildcat Rocks Road, reminded everyone that Operation Medicine Cabinet will be held at the Foscoe Fire Department on Saturday, May 18, 2012 and that SafetyFest is set for Saturday, June 30, 2012.

Kevin McCarthy, 193 Knob Hill Lane, made a statement about the math not adding up on the potential charges for the streetlights paid for the Seven Devils. He also made a point of some lights, such as the carriage lights on Rocky Top, are more expensive than others. He feels the streetlight turn-off is an issue of security.

Mayor Larry Fontaine & Manager Ed Evans gave a brief explanation regarding the streetlights and agreed to recheck the math to verify the accuracy.

Leigh Sasse, 245 Chestnut Ridge Trail, stated that they have a streetlight that the Town was paying for that they have added to their account and that the extra cost is only around \$8-12 a month.

Linda O'Neal, 199 Highcliff Circle, stated that she was very upset to find the streetlight by her home had been turned off while she was away. She stated that she is paying to keep the light turned on.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE & CALENDAR

Mayor Fontaine asked Town Manager Evans to go over the Administrative Update for citizens since it could not be viewed on the monitor. Evans presented each of the items contained in the Update to the citizens verbally. (Attached below).

Administrative Update

Administrative Update - **May 14, 2012**

1. Interviews are complete and an excellent candidate has been offered the Town Clerk position and accepted. Sara Miller from Boone will officially begin working full-time on May 21, 2012. She will be working with Beth until Beth leaves us, learning the position.
2. The delinquent tax accounts for Gary Henken have all been paid and are now current. Additional delinquencies have been forwarded to Rob Angle for input and advise on how to proceed.
3. The perk test on the Snowcloud lots is complete and the land perked for a two-bedroom house in one location and for a three or more bedroom house in another location. Final arrangements are in progress for exchange of the Andre lots for the Town owned lots. A public hearing will be set as soon as possible.
4. Mr. Nick Bennett from the Lakes Community has notified the Town that he has obtained loan approval from BB&T for the Lakes road project and will now make a proposal to the Lakes Community property owners. They will be using Town Hall for the meeting on May 25, 2012 at 10AM.
5. Ed attended the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy session at the HCCOG and provided input for Seven Devils and Watauga County.
6. An informational session will be arranged for interested citizens of Seven Devils to see, discuss, and provide input on the Watauga County Comprehensive Transportation Plan. A date needs to be set for this event in May.

7. The Town offers a big “Thank you” to the TDA for the new appliances in our kitchen. They are fully functional (something we have not had in a while) and attractive and will be great for helping with events at Town Hall. Thanks to Debbie for selecting our new appliances.
8. The Town also offers a big “Thank you” to the TDA for the landscaping around Town Hall and other areas of Town. It looks great!
9. The Town’s new website is still being fashioned and new portions will be added over the next month. Please bear with us while we learn the new system. Kudos to Beth for making this website transition.
10. The Town Hall repair has turned out to be much more extensive than originally planned. We had rotten bands, shoes, plates, headers, and siding. George and his crew have worked hard and done a good job making the repairs. We also insulated the entire exterior wall and the floor and installed a vapor barrier in the crawlspace. We will be more energy efficient and comfortable in the future when it gets cold and unbearable outside. Thanks George!

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Request to schedule public hearing for land exchange – See General Statute 160A-271

The Council discussed having a Public Hearing on the exchange of real property to complete a transaction aimed at advancing the ownership of the Peregrine Well. It was agreed that the Town would advertise a Public Hearing for the land exchange to coincide with the Budget Public Hearing on June 4, 2012.

Mayor Pro Tem Lambert made a motion to combine the two Public Hearings (Land Exchange and Budget Hearing). Member Hooper seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously. **CLOSED**

Request for additional funding: Town Hall repairs

Due to extensive rotten wood and costs that exceed the initial amount authorized at the April Town Council meeting of \$10,000, Member Hooper made a motion to approve an additional \$2,000 to complete the repairs for this project. Member Ehmig seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously. **CLOSED**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning Board

Public Works

Public Safety Committee

Recreation Commission – Anne Fontaine commented that the playground equipment from Tobacoville has been inspected and found not to meet the current Child Safety/Entrapment requirements so no bid should be made at this time.

ABC Board

TDA

Public Safety Department

Police Report

Fire Report
Financial Report

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Member Ehmig wanted to remind everyone that the Hazardous Waste collection at the Watauga Solid Waste Landfill will be held on Saturday, May 19, 2012.

Mayor Pro Tem Lambert stated that the Town Manager had presented a balanced budget to the Council at the morning Special Town Council Meeting / Budget Workshop. He also mentioned that the new Town website is up and running and that a great effort is being made by this Council to provide more open communications. Effort will be made to post the Council Agenda Packets on the website each month prior to the meeting and he encourages the Town citizens to make use of this tool so they may stay more informed.

ADJOURN

Member Ehlinger made a motion to adjourn. Member Hooper seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Larry Fontaine, Mayor

Ed Evans, Town Manager