

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

December 10, 2013

The Seven Devils Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, December 10, 2013, 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 Ed Evans. The minutes were recorded by Sara Miller, Town Clerk.

CALL TO ORDER

Manager Evans called the meeting to order at 5:34 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council members and citizens recited the Pledge of Allegiance

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE—COUNCIL MEMBERS

Town Clerk Sara Miller administered the oath of office to Kay Ehlinger, David Hooper, and David Ehmig.

MAYOR AND MAYOR PRO TEM ELECTION

Manager Evans opened the floor for nominations of Mayor. Member Hooper nominated Larry Fontaine as Mayor. Member Ehlinger seconded the motion. Manager Evans called for any additional nominations, and there were none. Evans closed the nominations and called for a vote. The votes were as follows:

5 Ayes- Kay Ehlinger, David Ehmig, Brad Lambert, Larry Fontaine, and David Hooper
0 Nay-

Manager Evans opened the floor for nominations of Mayor Pro Tem. Member Ehmig nominated Brad Lambert as Mayor Pro Tem. Mayor Fontaine seconded the motion. Manager Evans called for additional nominations, and there were none. Evans closed the nominations and called for a vote. The votes were as follows:

5 Ayes- Kay Ehlinger, David Ehmig, Larry Fontaine, Brad Lambert, and David Hooper
0 Nay-

Town Clerk Sara Miller administered the oath of office to Larry Fontaine and Brad Lambert.

Manager Evans turned the meeting over to Mayor Fontaine.

ADOPT AGENDA

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

CONSENT AGENDA – MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION

**Adopt minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting—November 12, 2013
Board and Committee Appointments**

BOARD AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Board of Adjustment—three terms expiring—Kathy Copley, Sarah Manning, and Ernie St. Louis all had a term expiring on 1/1/2014. Alternate Carroll Berkley desired to resign from his position. Richard DeMott would be unable to complete his term. Sarah Manning applied for reappointment to her position on the Board. There were no new applications for the Board.

Planning Board—three terms expiring—George Ehlinger, Bob Haugh, and Barbara Williams all had a term expiring on 1/1/2014. Board Member Williams did not reapply for her position. George Ehlinger and Bob Haugh applied for reappointment to the Board. Michael Douglas applied for appointment to fill the vacancy created by Member Williams.

TDA—one term expiring—Tom Gidley had a term expiring on 1/1/2014. Tom Gidley applied for reappointment to the TDA.

Public Works—one term expiring—Yardy Williams had a term expiring on 1/1/2014. He did not apply for reappointment to the Committee. Member Richard DeMott would be unable to complete his term. There were no new applications for the Committee.

Recreation Commission—three terms expiring—Anne Fontaine, Michael Potter, and Tom Bookstaver all had a term expiring on 1/1/2014. Commission Members Michael Potter and Tom Bookstaver did not wish to reapply for their positions. Anne Fontaine applied for reappointment. There were no new applications for the Commission.

Member Hooper made a motion to adopt the consent agenda which included Board and Committee Appointments. Member Ehmig seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Leigh Sasse, 245 Chestnut Ridge Trail, thanked everyone that worked to put the Christmas decorations up and get them ready for the lighting event the previous week. She also stated that around 35 people came to the Light-Up the Night celebration and thanked all who helped with that event.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE & CALENDAR—Town Manager Evans stated that the ABC Board would meet on Thursday, December 12 at 4:00PM. He also mentioned that Town Hall would be closed on December 24, 25, and 26th for the Christmas holiday, and on January 1 for New Year's Day.

OLD BUSINESS

DISCUSSION—MINI-PARKS (ROW)—Town Manager Evans stated that there was nothing new to report on the 2nd parcel of land, and that a closing on the property owned by Lannie Thomas had occurred and the Town had received the closing proceeds for the transaction. No action was taken. ~OPEN~

OTTER FALLS—DUE DILIGENCE ISSUES—Town Manager Evans stated that a Phase I Environmental was obtained by the Town and sent to the Conservation Fund. Otherwise, the one thing delaying closing was the Seller obtaining funds for closing. The closing was scheduled for December 31, 2013, assuming no further delays would arise. ~OPEN~

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY ORDINANCE—The Council agreed to keep the matter in Old Business, and attempt to schedule a workshop date at the January Council meeting. ~OPEN~

NEW BUSINESS

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT—After some discussion, Mayor Pro Tem Lambert made a motion to direct the Planning Board to give a recommendation to the Council regarding the make-up of members of the Board of Adjustment and the Planning Board by the February 2014 Town Council meeting. Member Ehlinger seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously. ~OPEN~

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning Board—No meeting

Public Works—No meeting

Public Safety Committee—No meeting

Recreation—No meeting

TDA—No meeting

ABC Board

Public Safety Department

Police Report

Fire Report

Financial Report

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Member Ehmig asked if anyone had heard an update regarding Mike Tarlton, a Planning Board member, who had been sick. Anne Fontaine stated that he was doing well, and hoped to be back home at the end of the week.

Manager Evans stated that Marcia Pinkerton, a property owner of Seven Devils, had fallen very ill with a brain aneurism, and was in the hospital. He asked for thoughts and prayers for their family.

Member Hooper stated that Beech Mountain had put in a request for part of the Watauga River to be renamed from high quality water to water supply, so they could take an additional 2 million gallons a day out of the river in the Sugar Grove area during a drought. He stated that the Watauga County Commissioners were having a Public Hearing on the matter the following Tuesday. Mayor Fontaine stated that it was a very heated topic. Member Hooper expressed that it had potential to hurt the river and the local environment.

Sarah Manning, 277 Four Diamond Drive, stated that Richard DeMott was in good health, and that he was residing at a nursing home in Boone.

Mayor Pro Tem Lambert thanked Town Attorney Angle for all the hard work he had done regarding the recent property closings with the Town, such as Otter Falls and the Lannie Thomas property. The Council agreed and thanked him as well.

Mayor Fontaine thanked all of the Town's employees, from the Public Works department, to the Police Department, Fire Department, and administrative employees, as well as all Boards and Committees. He stated that in looking back, so many important accomplishments have been realized by the Town of Seven Devils, such as adopting The Lakes roads, passing a UDO, two Voluntary Annexations, and obtaining a PARTF Grant for the Otter Falls purchase, among many more. He stated that the Council appreciated all of the hard work and hoped the coming year to be a great one.

ADJOURN

Mayor Pro Tem Lambert made a motion to adjourn. Member Ehlinger seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Larry Fontaine, Mayor

Sara Miller, Town Clerk