

TOWN OF SEVEN DEVILS
FY24 Mid-year Budget Review
Wednesday, December 6, 2023
10:00am – 2:00pm

The Seven Devils Town Council held a FY24 Mid-year Budget Review at Town Hall on Wednesday, December 6, 2023. Attendance included Mayor Larry Fontaine, Mayor Pro Tem Brad Lambert and Council Members Wayne Bonomo, Jeffrey Williams & Leigh Sasse; Council Elect Bob Bridges attended. Staff present were Town Manager Johnathan Harris; Town Clerk Hillary Gropp recorded the minutes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council members & Staff recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fontaine called the meeting to order at 10:05am.

CLOSED SESSION

Employment Contract – N.C. G.S. 143—318.11(a)(5)

Council Member Williams made a motion to enter Closed Session at 10:06am, pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5) to discuss Employment Contract; Member Sasse seconded the motion to enter Closed Session. All members agreed.

General Account:

Town Council members included: Mayor Fontaine, Mayor Pro Tem Lambert. Members Bonomo, Sasse & Williams. Town Manager Harris was present; Town Clerk Gropp recorded the minutes.

Two (2) attendees invited by the Town Council participated in this portion of the Closed Session.

Council Elect Bridges excused himself during the Closed Session.

Discussion occurred about details of potential employment contract; no action was taken.

Two (2) attendees departed the Closed Session after discussion.

Confidential Information – N.C. G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1)

The Town Council continued Closed Session at 11:00am with discussion regarding confidential information; no action was taken.

Mayor Pro Tem Lambert made a motion to leave Closed Session at 11:08am; Member Sasse seconded the motion. All members agreed.

Council Elect Bridges rejoined the FY24 Mid-year Review.

FY24 Budget Update:

Town Manager Harris provided an update on Ad Valorem Tax collection.

On July 1, 2023, the projected FY24 Revenues = \$1,127,412, to date \$647,435 or 57% has been collected.

Town Manager Harris stated that even though this is less when compared to one year ago, expectations are tax collections will increase as the January 5, 2024, deadline approaches.

Council Elect Bridges suggested adding an extra column in the Finance Report that indicates a monthly YTD Revenue/Expense figure.

Mayor Pro Tem Lambert inquired about the option of offering a discount as an incentive to taxpayers to pay earlier, not later. Town Manager Harris to follow up.

REVIEW SALES TAX REVENUE

Manager Harris reported sales tax collection indicated in the Finance Report of 11.30.2023 the amount lags due to disbursement methods and is expected to exceed the Budget Total for FY24.

To date, \$78,018.05 or 36% has been collected.

REVIEW OCCUPANCY TAX REVENUE

Manager Harris reports to date, \$159,007 or 40% of Occupancy tax has been collected.

REVIEW ABC REVENUE

Manager Harris reports budgeted revenues are above target with \$40,000 + \$11,500 bonus collected YTD or 29%.

The Town is expecting the next \$40,000 disbursement by the ABC Board.

BANK BALANCE/CASH POSITION

Town Manager Harris provided a yearly review of bank balances/cash position from 2019 to 2022, including year to date of 2023. Discussion occurred about the Operating account, TDA funds, Capital Management, these three (3) equal the Fund Balance = \$1.3 million.

Other funding includes Powell Bill, Fire Relief Fund and Performance Bonds.

TOWN HOLIDAYS 2024

Town Manager Harris presented the 2024 Town Holiday schedule with the request of one (1) additional holiday be added in January for Martin Luther King.

Member Bonomo made a motion to approve the Town Holidays 2024; Member Sasse seconded the motion. All members agreed.

EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK - Update

Town Manager Harris stated the Employee Handbook will be updated to include the additional holiday, as well as the correct 401(K) match of 5%.

TOWN MEETING CALENDAR 2024

Town Manager Harris presented the schedule of Board & Committee meeting dates for 2024.

Member Williams made the motion to approve Town Meeting Calendar 2024; Member Sasse seconded the motion. All members agreed.

RECESS - Lunch

Member Sasse made a motion to recess for lunch at 11:50am; Member Williams seconded the motion.

RECONVENE

Mayor Fontaine made a motion to end recess at 12:30pm and reconvene the FY24 Mid-year Budget Review; Member Sasse seconded the motion.

FY24 BUDGET VS ACTUAL


Town Manager Harris reviewed the FY24 Budget vs Actual for each department. He noted that although some percentages indicate higher than 50% for some line items, no further expenditure is expected for those line items in various departments.

- **Administration** - Total expenditure = 50%
- **Law Enforcement** - Total expenditure = 38%
- **Zoning/Planning** - Total expenditure = 38%
- **Public Works** - Total expenditure = 29%
- **Streets (Powell Bill)** - Total expenditure = 35%
- **Water** - Total expenditure = 36%
- **Fire Department** - Total expenditure = 27%
- **Town Council** - Total expenditure = 60%
- **Parks & Recreation** - Total expenditure = 15%

ADJOURN

Mayor Pro Tem Lambert made a motion to adjourn; Member Sasse seconded the motion. All members agreed. The meeting adjourned at 1:15pm.


Larry Fontaine, Mayor


Hillary Gropp, Town Clerk

