

TOWN OF SEVEN DEVILS
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
March 12, 2019
5:30pm

- 1) INVOCATION
- 2) CALL TO ORDER – 5:30pm
- 3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 4) ADOPT AGENDA
- 5) CONSENT AGENDA
 - A. MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION
 - (i) Adopt minutes of Public Hearing on February 12, 2019
 - (ii) Adopt minutes of Town Council meeting on February 12, 2019
 - (iii) Adopt minutes of Public Hearing on February 14, 2019
- 6) CITIZENS COMMENTS
- 7) ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE
- 8) OLD BUSINESS – None
- 9) NEW BUSINESS
 - A. Sara Brewer – High Country ABC Board
 - B. Resolution #2019-02 – PARTF Grant
- 10) COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - A. Board of Adjustment – No meeting
 - B. Planning Board – No meeting
 - C. Public Works – No meeting
 - D. Public Safety Commission – August minutes
 - E. Parks & Recreation Committee – February minutes
 - F. TDA – No meeting
 - G. ABC Board – January minutes
 - H. Tree Committee – February minutes
 - I. Public Safety Department
 - (i) Police Report
 - (ii) Fire Report
 - J. Financial Reports
- 11) COUNCIL COMMENTS
- 12) ADJOURN

TOWN OF SEVEN DEVILS
PUBLIC HEARING – RTP Grant
February 12, 2019
5:00pm

The Seven Devils Town Council met for a Public Hearing for the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Grant on Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at 5:00pm and in a Regular Meeting at Town Hall. Present were Mayor Larry Fontaine, Mayor Pro Tem Brad Lambert, Council Members Tina Bailey, David Ehmig, Kay Ehlinger, Town Attorney Rob Angle, Town Manager Debbie Powers. A quorum was met. Also present were Kelly Coffey, High Country Council of Governments (HCCOG), Eric Hiegl, Blue Ridge Conservancy, Charlie Brady, Blue Ridge Conservancy, James Tomberlin, North Carolina Wildlife Commission and Phillip Barrier, Avery County Manager. The minutes were recorded by interim Town Clerk Emma Wynn.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fontaine called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. He welcomed everyone to the Public Hearing to discuss the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council members and citizens recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Fontaine explained the Public Hearing is being held to discuss the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant opportunity; the 3rd attempt. Citizens attending who want to speak during the Public Comment session will need to sign up to speak. Comment time is limited to three (3) minutes for each citizen speaker. The Town Clerk will control the timer.

Manager Powers provided a summary on the RTP; the grant opportunity that funds trails and trail related recreational needs at the State level. Funding for the RTP is from federal gas taxes paid on non-highway fuel used in off-highway vehicles, and the program is administered at the Federal level by the Federal Highway Administration. At the State level, the Secretary of the Department of Environmental & Natural Resources has assigned the responsibility to the Divisions of Parks & Recreation and its Trails Program. The NC Trails Committee is a 7-member advisory committee who reviews all applications and makes recommendations for funding. The Secretary has final approval authority. The grant is a 75/25 match. The Pre-Application (Form A) is due on Friday, March 1, 2019. If the Pre-App is approved, the Final Application will be submitted by Friday, August 2, 2019. The NCTC will make the funding recommendations in August of this year. Awarded projects will be announced in the Fall 2019.

This project is estimated to cost \$160,000. If awarded, the grant will provide \$100,000 which is the maximum allowed. The remaining \$60,000 will be paid from Town funds and in-kind labor and donations. The Town has funds set aside in the CIP (Capital Improvement Program) for the last three (3) years at \$20,000 each year.

PUBLIC HEARING PRESENTATION – Kelly Coffey-HCCOG & Eric Hiegl-BR Conservancy Manager Powers introduced Kelly Coffey, Senior Planner at the High Country Council of Governments (HCCOG), who will speak about the content of the grant, and Eric Hiegl, Director of Land Protection & Stewardship at the Blue Ridge Conservancy, to discuss this opportunity. Charlie Brady, Executive Director of the Blue Ridge Conservancy is also in attendance.

Mr. Coffey gave an overview of the project. In 2016, Blue Ridge Conservancy purchased a large portion of Peak Mountain. The Conservancy and the Town have a mutual interest in extending the Otter Falls Park trails into the Peak Mountain property. The trail would extend from Otter Falls Park up and across the ridge of the mountain and end at the parking area by Skiview Road. High Country Council of Governments and Blue Ridge Conservancy worked with the town in 2017 & 2018 with pre-applications to the RTP to fund construction of the trail. The pre-application was approved in both years; however, the final application was not approved. Good feedback was received on improving the application for the next submission.

Mr. Hiegl explained that the Blue Ridge Conservancy is a private, non-profit land trust; one (1) of twenty-three (23) in the state that partners with local communities and landowners to protect land with agricultural, cultural, ecological, recreational and scenic significance. As stated, in 2016 a 265 acre tract was purchased on Peak Mountain. An additional 40 acres were acquired in Avery County. This gives the trail 1 ¼ miles of ridgeline. The Avery County portion borders Berry Road; it does not go to Hwy 105. The Town's interest aligned with the Conservancy mission to get people out to enjoy this property. It is the first time property has been appropriated for trails/hiking. Usually, once property is acquired it is transferred to a long-term management entity. Blue Ridge Conservancy and the Town are partnering to maintain the trails. There will be a lot of volunteer possibilities. Most details have been worked out for the trail. It will be a 2 ½ mile long trail that will switch back up from Otter Falls and meander on the ridge. A section of the trail will be flat with a gentle slope at the top for a shorter hike from the upper parking area that provides a great view of Grandfather Mountain. Professional trail builders will be hired to construct the trail.

There was a question regarding Blue Ridge Conservancy's long term commitment for the land. Manager Powers stated that there is a 25-year easement and it can be renewed. Mayor Fontaine explained that details of the trail are described in the second part of the application. The trail builder will use GPS to flag the trail; the trail will not be a loop; you can hike from Otter Falls and end at the parking area above Skiview. Plans are to have 15

parking spaces with 5 of them designated as handicap parking. There are no restrooms planned at this time. It is possible the trail will connect to other trails in the future.

Concern was expressed regarding the increase in traffic for residents in the Skiview area. Mayor Fontaine stated that the PBSO has been mapping traffic showing electronic counts for a year which will give us a basis to compare to the traffic once the trail is completed. Most traffic is currently generated from people visiting the Hawksnest tubing and ziplining than from hiking. It is estimated that 20% of the properties in Seven Devils is rental property which also increases traffic.

Another concern was the amount of overflow parking on the road due to the popularity of the Otter Falls Trail. Member Ehmig stated that additional parking has been added at the Otter Falls trail. Tickets are issued and towing will be utilized on Town roads; however, Skyland Road is a state road and the Town is not able to ticket cars parked there.

Manager Powers distributed letters of support for the council members and residents to sign.

Mayor Fontaine stated that all concerns will be considered, and the Town will endeavor to make it the least impactful for our residents as possible. If unforeseen issues arise, the project can be stopped.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Anne Fontaine, 127 W. Rocky Top Trail, resident and Chairman for the Seven Devils TDA and Parks & Recreation Commission. She stated that in addition to the project for the Peak Mountain Trail meeting the criteria for the RTP Grant, it also aligns perfectly with the Town's Recreation Master Plan which was updated two (2) years ago. On a recent survey of recreational needs completed last summer, the number one (1) item requested was hiking trails in the area. The trail will offer many recreational opportunities to our residents and our visitors. It encourages people to get out in the fresh air, gives a sense of community, creates greater community connections, and promotes a healthy relationship with the Blue Ridge Conservancy. Studies have shown that property located next to or adjacent to trails offering amenities to potential buyers may increase property values by 4-6%. Having a parking area at the end of Skiview will provide senior citizens and handicapped individuals access to an area where they can enjoy beautiful views of Grandfather Mountain. The trail is important to our town from a recreational, economic & health standpoint. It will be a compliment to the existing Otter Falls Trail. It is a great opportunity.

David Hooper, 167 Snowcloud Drive, is in favor of the RTP Grant. He complimented the Town for the preserving the beauty of the area. The trails will encourage more young people to buy property in Seven Devils.

Amy Renfranz, 289 Hawks Lake Drive, who is the Director of Education and Natural Resource Management for Grandfather Mountain Stewardship Foundation. She has lived in Seven Devils for over a year. One of the reasons for buying property in Seven Devils was availability to the Otter Falls Trail. Having natural areas and parks adds to the quality of the Town. As part of the non-profit land management who oversees trails, she would like to offer her knowledge and she is happy to help with the trail maintenance. She is in favor of the RTP Grant.

Mayor Fontaine thanked everyone for the comments, questions & concerns. He encouraged everyone to sign the letters of support. Manager Powers stated that letters of support are on Seven Devils website and copies are available at the Town Clerk's desk.

Another Public Hearing for the PARTF Grant will be held on February 14th at 11:00 am.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Pro Tem Lambert made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Member Bailey seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously.

ADJOURN

The Public Hearing adjourned at 5:40pm.

Larry Fontaine, Mayor

Debbie Powers, Town Manager

Town of Seven Devils
Regular Town Council Meeting
February 12, 2019
5:30pm

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fontaine called the meeting to order at 5:48pm

PRAYER/INVOCATION

Mayor Pro Tem Lambert gave the Prayer/Invocation for tonight's meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council members and citizens recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPT AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Lambert made a motion to adopt the agenda; Member Ehlinger seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

ADOPT MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – January 8, 2019

Member Ehmig made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda; Member Bailey seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Kay Lambert reminded the group about the upcoming Arbor Day Celebration on Friday, April 26th beginning at 11:30am. She stated the Safety Fest will be held on July 6th.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

Manager Powers provided the following update:

Reminder – Closed on Monday, February 18th for President's Day. Police are on duty 24/7.

Cederberg – 4 lots in Blair Mountain – refund new construction fees. Mr. Cederberg has requested a refund of his construction fees due to health reasons. There are now 3 new constructions in Blair Mountain.

Tree City USA - The Town has received the designation of Tree City USA. The Arbor Day invitation will be sent out with the March water bills. Arbor Day Invite2019

2019 Election info & deadlines – Filing dates begin on July 5th and goes through July 19th. Manager Powers contacted Matt Snyder, Watauga County Election Board and he stated voting can be done at Seven Devils Town Hall. He suggested that one (1) of the two (2) counties administer the election rather than both. This will save money.

Hillary attending Clerk Certification school – week 1 of 4 – Hillary is attending the first of four (4) trainings to obtain her Municipal Clerk Certification.

Remodel project – compliments of TDA – Thanks to the TDA for funding the remodeling work to the Town Hall. Manager Powers read a Thank-You card from a resident complimenting the work done.

Updated Tax Collections and Past due accounts for advertisement – Manager Powers distributed the list of delinquent taxes for 2018 prepared by Helga Sappington, Finance Officer. The next step will be advertising the delinquent taxes in the newspaper. Ms. Sappington’s tax collection rate is currently 97.48%.

Upcoming PARTF Public Hearing – The Public Hearing will be held on Thursday, February 14th, at 11:00am

Updates for Tree Permits-0, Projects-2, Fence Permit-0, Complaints-6, Real Estate Closings-2

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION #2019-01 – RECREATIONAL TRAIL PROGRAMS (RTP) GRANT

Mayor Fontaine read the proposed resolution to the group. Mayor Pro Tem Lambert made a motion to approve the resolution, Member Ehlinger seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The members agreed unanimously. ~CLOSED~

BUDGET CALENDAR FY20

Mayor Fontaine reviewed the proposed Budget Calendar for FY 2019-2020. He stated the first meeting will be the Annual Budget Workshop to be held on March 27, 2019 from 10am until 2pm. The workshop scheduled for April 24th was changed to May 1st due to member’s conflict. There may be another conflict with the May 29th workshop. Mayor Fontaine asked that the member let him know as soon as possible if a change in the May 29th date is needed. All other dates were agreeable. Mayor Pro Tem Lambert made a motion to approve the calendar with the noted changes; Member Ehlinger seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously. ~CLOSED~

NC WILDLIFE COMMISSION – JAMES TOMBERLIN

Mayor Fontaine introduced James Tomberlin from the North Carolina Wildlife Commission. He is here to talk to the group about coyotes. Manager Powers reminded the group that Mr. Tomberlin was here a few years ago to talk about the Town’s deer population.

Mr. Tomberlin stated that North Carolina is divided into 9 districts. He is from District 7 which covers 11 counties. He gave a presentation on the history, biology and management

of the coyote population. He noted the top four (4) concerns expressed are: 1) presence in the area; 2) impact on other wildlife species; 3) livestock damage and 4) crop damage.

History: The coyotes are not native to North Carolina. They are native to the short-grass prairie west of the Mississippi prior to European settlers arriving. As roads were built and lands developed and the coyotes' natural predators (wolves & cougars) were eradicated, it allowed the coyotes to proliferate and move across the lands in a short period of time. They now inhabit all states in the USA.

Biology: The coyote is very adaptable to the landscape and the environment. A mature coyote is about two (2) feet tall at the shoulder, three (3) to four (4) feet in length and typically weighs between 25 and 40 pounds, varying in color from blonde to black with shades in between. They generally mate for life and actively defend the territory where they have their offspring. Mating season is generally from January to March with a gestation period of about 60-63 days. An average of 4 to 6 pups per litter are born from April to June and emerge from the den around 3 weeks of age and are weaned from 5 to 7 weeks. Most of the young will eventually disperse, leaving the area of their birth.

Studies have been done to track the coyote's natural movements. One reason coyotes are successful is they are omnivore – eat anything available – plant material, feral or domestic animals, produce, insects, trash, pet food left outside, bird seed, etc.

Humans and disease (rabies or canine distemper) cause most coyote deaths. A decrease in competition for available resources allows the healthy coyotes left to thrive. Litter sizes increase and pup survival goes up. The ability of the coyote to fluctuate is a reason they are successful. Data was reviewed of coyotes tagged with GPS tracking showing they can transverse hundreds of miles in a few months. It will be virtually impossible to eradicate the coyote. It would require 70% of the population to be killed annually.

Management: There are three (3) things to help manage the coyote population: 1) how coyotes impact other wildlife; 2) how they interact with humans and 3) how they interact with livestock.

Wildlife: The coyote impact will vary across the landscapes. The red wolves and cougars, the coyote's natural predator out west, were killed off due to land development, etc. There are no natural predators for the coyote in this area. They do play an ecological role providing some balance by catching feral cats, small rodents, insects, etc. They mainly hunt from dusk to dawn but can be seen during the day. Coyotes can climb trees.

Humans & Livestock: Three (3) areas are looked at: disease; safety and degradation or damage.

Statistics from 1990 to 2015 show that positive rabies cases were mainly from racoons, skunks and possums. There have been 14 documented rabies in coyotes in the last 25 years. Most calls from people about coyote sightings is because food has been left out – pet food, garbage, etc. It is recommended to minimize attracting wildlife to your property that you keep pet food indoors, keep bird feeders clean and purchase feeders that keep seeds off the ground, pick up fallen fruit from trees, keeping pets on a leash and cats indoors.

Lethal tools include trapping, hunting and degradation permits. A degradation permit gives you the legal ability to remove the animal out-of-season when there is damage to property. Coyotes are not regulated as a game animal since they are not native here. From a hunting standpoint, you can shoot them year-round, at night with no limit. Trapping is the only regulation in place for coyotes in order to protect the native creatures. The season for trapping coyotes goes from November 1st to February 28th.

Mr. Tomberlin stated that other information is available by visiting the website: www.ncwildlife.org or calling the NC Wildlife Helpline at 866-318-2401. Also, informational handouts are available at Town Hall. Mayor Fontaine thanked Mr. Tomberlin for the presentation. **No Action Taken**

AVERY COUNTY MANAGER – PHILLIP BARRIER

Mayor Fontaine introduced Phillip Barrier, Avery County Manager. Mr. Barrier complimented the Town Council and the Town Manager, Debbie Powers, for the great job done in serving their citizens. He congratulated the Town on receiving the Tree City USA designation.

Mr. Barrier requested help in developing the Avery County Strategic Plan by identifying some goals and how to achieve these goals and develop a vision statement for Avery County. He invited all to call or text with any comments or questions or visit the website www.averycountync.gov to complete the form. **No Action Taken**

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE APPLICATION

Mayor Fontaine stated that an application was received from Faye Brock to fill the vacancy on the Parks & Recreation Committee. Mayor Pro Tem made a motion to approve the application, seconded by Member Ehlinger. The members agreed unanimously. **~CLOSED~**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Board of Adjustment – No meeting

Planning Board – No meeting

Public Works – No meeting

Public Safety Commission – No meeting

Parks & Recreation Commission – No meeting

TDA – January Minutes attached

ABC Board – December minutes attached
Tree Committee – No meeting
Public Safety Department
Police Report
Fire Report
Financial Report

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Fontaine thanked Kay Lambert and Diane Asbill and anyone else involved for the huge task of re-shelving the library books. Mayor Pro Tem Lambert thanked the TDA for funding the remodel project.

ADJOURN

Mayor Pro Tem Lambert made a motion to adjourn; Member Ehlinger seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

Larry Fontaine, Mayor

Debbie Powers, Town Manager

**TOWN OF SEVEN DEVILS
TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING
PARKS & RECREATION TRUST FUND GRANT - PARTF
February 14, 2019
11:00am**

The Seven Devils Town Council met for a Public Hearing for the Parks & Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) Grant on Thursday, February 14, 2019 at 11:00am. Present were Mayor Larry Fontaine, Mayor Pro Tem Brad Lambert, Council Member Tina Bailey, Town Manager Debbie Powers. Also present were Eric Hiegl-Blue Ridge Conservancy, Charlie Brady-Blue Ridge Conservancy. The minutes were recorded by interim Town Clerk Emma Wynn.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fontaine called the meeting to order at 11:00am. He welcomed everyone to the Public Hearing to discuss the PARTF Grant.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council members and citizens recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Fontaine explained the Public Hearing is a presentation of the Parks & Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) grant opportunity; have applied twice before. Citizens attending who want to speak during the Public Comment session will need to sign up to speak. Comment time is limited to three (3) minutes for each citizen speaker. The Town Clerk will control the timer.

Manager Powers provided a summary on the PARTF; the grant provides dollar for dollar matching grants to local governments for projects to serve the public. There is a nine (9) member authority that allocates money from the Trust Fund; three (3) members appointed by the Governor, three (3) members appointed by President Pro Tem of the Senate, and three (3) members appointed by the Speaker of the House and are appointed for three (3) year terms. The Town of Seven Devils has been a recipient of PARTF funds twice before in the creation of Otter Falls, phases I & II. This project will cost approximately \$160,000. If awarded, the grant would provide \$80,000 with the remaining \$80,000 paid from Town funds and in-kind labor and donations. The Town funds have been set aside in the CIP (Capital Improvement Program) for the last three (3) years at \$20,000 each year. An additional \$20,000 will be funded in 2019-2020. The grant application deadline is Wednesday, May 1, 2019. The Authority will meet in August to review all applications and determine awards. Kelly Coffey, Senior Planner from the High Country Council of Governments, will coordinate the submission of the grant.

PUBLIC HEARING PRESENTATION – Eric Hiegl-Blue Ridge Conservancy

Manager Powers introduced Eric Hiegl, Director of Land Protection & Stewardship at the Blue Ridge Conservancy, who is the owner of the property, to discuss this opportunity.

Eric Hiegl stated the Blue Ridge Conservancy is a private, non-profit land trust that partners with local communities and landowners to protect land with agricultural, cultural, ecological, recreational and scenic significance. Blue Ridge Conservancy purchased a 265 acre tract on Peak Mountain in 2016. An additional 40 acres was acquired in Avery County giving the trail over a 1 mile of ridgeline. The Conservancy and the Town have a mutual interest in extending the Otter Falls Park trails into the Peak Mountain property. The trail would extend from Otter Falls Park across the ridge of the mountain and terminate at the end of Skiview Road. Usually, once property is acquired it is transferred to a long-term management entity. Blue Ridge Conservancy and the Town will partner to maintain the trails. There will be a lot of volunteer possibilities. The trail will be approximately 2 ½ miles long. A professional trail builder will be hired to construct the trail. There is a 25 year easement which can be renewed.

Mayor Fontaine added that the Peak Mountain project will tie into the Otter Falls Trail. A bridge is planned to be constructed over Valley Creek and the trail will end at the parking area by Skiview. From Otter Falls, the hike to the top will be rigorous with 6 to 7 switchbacks, going up 1200 feet in elevation. There will be 15 parking spaces with 5 designated as handicapped. There is room to add additional spaces. There will be no parking on Town roads. The top portion will give easy access for seniors and handicapped individuals to see the beautiful views.

The following questions were asked:

- 1) Why wasn't the grant approved in 2018? Manager Powers explained that there is a lot of competition for the grants. The Town was awarded 2 grants in the past for the Otter Falls project which has been a great success.
- 2) What happens if cost is greater? Mayor Fontaine strongly felt that the Town can stay within the budget and would sign a contract with the trail builder.
- 3) How long to finish? Mayor Fontaine stated that from start to finish should take about a year. The grant requires completion within three (3) years. Once grant is awarded, the trail builder will be contacted.
- 4) Who maintains the trail once completed? Mayor Fontaine stated that the Town is responsible for maintaining the trails. Mr. Hiegl added that Blue Ridge Conservancy will coordinate some Volunteer Days to help with the maintenance.
- 5) Is the Town liable? Mayor Fontaine stated the Town is liable for all its recreation facilities. Signs will be posted stating that it is a rigorous trail, etc. There was concern regarding young people jumping from the falls at the Otter Falls Trail.

- 6) Is biking allowed on the trails? Mayor Fontaine stated that no biking is allowed on the trails, only hiking or jogging. Contact the Town if residents see bikes on the trail. It was suggested that signs be posted stating "no biking allowed" on the trails.
- 7) How many visitors are estimated to use the trails? Mayor Fontaine stated that most traffic is generated by the snow tubing and ziplining at Hawksnest. The PBSO purchased traffic counters to track the amount and type of traffic in the area. It was noted that a three (3) day weekend in the Summer 2018 there were 10,000 vehicles counted.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Anne Fontaine, 127 W. Rocky Top Trail, is in support of the project stating it aligns with the Town's Recreation Master Plan. In a recent survey of recreational needs completed last summer, the number one (1) item requested was hiking trails in the area. The trail will offer many recreational opportunities to our residents and our visitors. It encourages people to get out in the fresh air, gives a sense of community, creates greater community connections, and promotes a healthy relationship with the Blue Ridge Conservancy. Studies have shown that property located next to or adjacent to trails offering amenities to potential buyers may increase property values by 4-6%. Having a parking area at the end of Skiview will provide senior citizens and handicapped individuals access to an area where they can enjoy beautiful views of Grandfather Mountain. The trail will be a compliment to the existing Otter Falls Trail. The TDA & Parks & Recreation Commission, which Ms. Fontaine chairs, are both in support of the project.

Mayor Fontaine thanked everyone for the comments and questions & concerns. Letters of support were distributed to the citizens in attendance. He encouraged everyone to sign the letters. Manager Powers stated that letters of support are on Seven Devils website as well as extra copies at the Town Clerk's desk.

Charlie Brady, CEO of the Blue Ridge Conservancy thanked the Town for its initiative and feels it will be a good partnership.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Pro Tem Lambert made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Member Bailey seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously.

ADJOURN

The Public Hearing adjourned at 11:45am.

Larry Fontaine, Mayor

Debbie Powers, Town Manager

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
Administrative Update
March 12, 2019**

AGENDA ITEM 7)

February 2019 items:

- 1. RTP Grant deadline extension from March 1 to March 15 – 25 Support Letters**
- 2. Johnathan attended Property & Evidence Room Training – February 5th**
- 3. Hillary attended Clerk Institute training – February 11-15 – week 1 of 4**
- 4. State Fire Inspection – March 4 – fire rating announced within 60 days**
- 5. Remodel/Ramp update – show & tell**
- 6. Local Architecture Firms (3) contacted for New Town Hall due diligence**
- 7. Save the Date – Arbor Day Celebration – Friday, April 26th – Tree City USA**
- 8. Next HCMA meeting – Thursday, April 11th @ Banner Elk Town Hall**
 - Tree Permits – 1**
 - Projects – 2**
 - Fence Permit - 0**
 - Complaints – 3**
 - Real Estate Closings – 3**

You're Invited To:

Arbor Day Celebration

Come out & enjoy a lunch on the Town & maybe win a door prize.
Celebrate the Tree Planting and help us CELEBRATE the
designation of Tree City USA!

Where: Seven Devils Town Hall

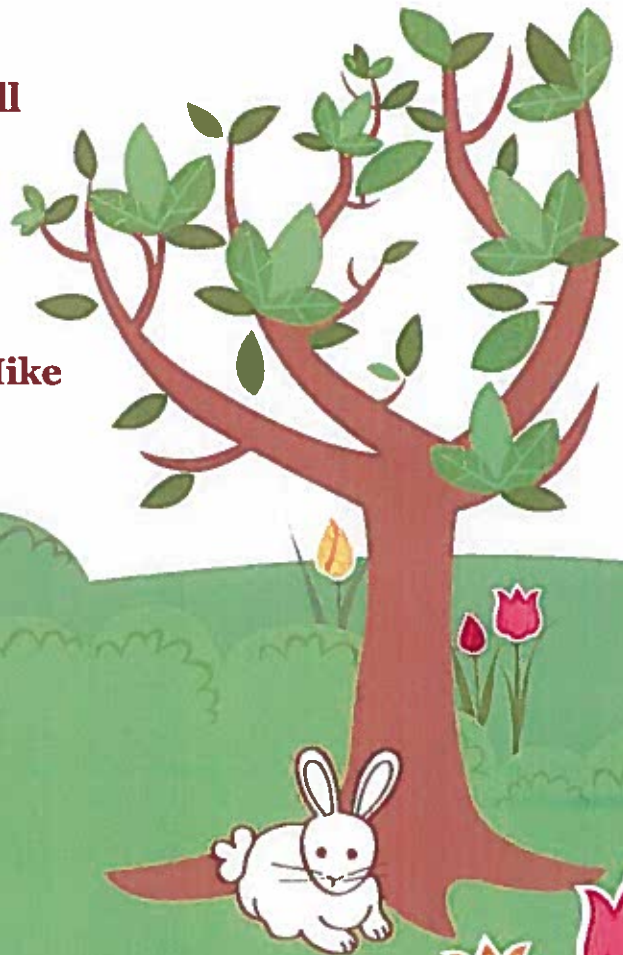
When: Friday, April 26th

Time: 11:30am – Program

NOON – Lunch 1:00pm – Trail Hike

RSVP to TownClerk@sevendeils.net by April 18th

Or Call Town Hall at 828-963-5343



<u>Date</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>St #</u>	<u>Street Name</u>	<u>Complaint Topic</u>	<u>Complaint Specifics</u>	<u>Resolution</u>
1-Feb	Bonomo	Wayne		299 HighCliff	deliveries	wanted Town Hall to accept and sign for FedEx delivery he is not home to accept	We do not accept deliveries for residents
14-Feb	Litaker	Archie	931	Skiview	NC Parks	Town did not follow procedures to change Zoning map to "Parks"	Town followed exact statute/ordinance for Zoning Map change-Owner is in error
25-Feb	Lee	Mitchell	912	Skiview	Missing Sign	Missing sign at Skiview & Moonlight Also PW is not allowed to back into his driveway when plowing-Driveway is being destroyed	County replaces signs Notified PW to stop

To Town Council Members:

A bill has been introduced in North Carolina's House of Representatives (HB 91) regarding "ABC Laws Modernization and the PED Study". Attached below is a summary of the main points of this bill which Sara Brewer, store manager of our High Country ABC Store, and I would like to present to your board. This is to keep you informed of the content of this bill and how it might affect our local store.

We will be happy to answer any questions you may have when we meet with you. If you want to look at the bill in its entirety, you may access it on the North Carolina Legislative website. A second bill (HB 178) gives specific guidelines as to "Spirituous Liquor Tastings/ABC Stores".

Thank you for your time and interest in these issues.

Donna Dicks, chairman, High Country ABC Board

March 4, 2019

McGrady bill (HB 91) proposed changes to ABC system:

- Merger of more than one ABC board in a county to allow only ONE board per county
- Transportation of liquor purchased from the state warehouse (increases the amount currently permitted)
- Quarterly report of progress made in bidding and selecting independent contractor for receipt, storage and distribution of liquor from the state warehouse
- Allows ABC stores to purchase individual liquor bottles not on the ABC Commission's approved list (customer special requests) and allowing excess of such to be sold in store; may charge a fee for these special orders
- Allows ABC board to charge a fee for delivery of mixed beverage orders to cover actual costs incurred
- Allows authorizing counties/cities to allow ABC stores to be open on Sunday following consultation with individual ABC board to allow sales
- Allows holder of supplier permit, brokerage permit or distillery permit to give free tastings of its liquor at ABC stores where that board has approved these tastings

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

H.B. 91
Feb 18, 2019
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

H

D

HOUSE BILL DRH30041-MLfz-29*

Short Title: ABC Laws Modernization/PED Study. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives McGrady, Boles, Horn, and Willingham (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE MERGER OF ABC SYSTEMS LOCATED IN A COUNTY WITH TWO OR MORE ABC SYSTEMS; TO REPEAL THE PURCHASE-TRANSPORTATION PERMIT REQUIREMENT FOR SPIRITUOUS LIQUOR; TO REQUIRE THE ABC COMMISSION TO SUBMIT A QUARTERLY REPORT ON ITS PROCESS FOR OBTAINING A CONTRACT FOR STATE WAREHOUSE SERVICES; TO ALLOW THE PURCHASE OF INDIVIDUAL BOTTLES WHEN PLACING A SPECIAL ORDER OF SPIRITUOUS LIQUOR; TO ALLOW LOCAL ABC BOARDS TO CHARGE A DELIVERY FEE WHEN DELIVERING SPIRITUOUS LIQUOR TO MIXED BEVERAGES PERMITTEES; TO ALLOW LOCAL GOVERNMENTS THE OPTION OF OPERATING ABC STORES ON SUNDAYS; AND TO ALLOW SPIRITUOUS LIQUOR TASTINGS AT ABC STORES, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM EVALUATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

PART I. REQUIRE CONSOLIDATION IN COUNTIES WITH MULTIPLE ABC SYSTEMS

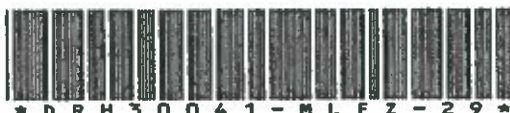
SECTION 1.(a) By June 30, 2021, to ensure that no county has multiple ABC systems, all ABC systems located in a county with two or more ABC systems shall merge in accordance with the requirements set forth in G.S. 18B-703. Notwithstanding the provisions of any local act, this section applies to all ABC systems. For purposes of this section, the term "ABC system" is as defined in G.S. 18B-101.

SECTION 1.(b) G.S. 18B-700 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

"(c1) Limit on Number of Boards. – Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, there shall be no more than one local ABC board in each county. If a jurisdiction holds an ABC store election under G.S. 18B-602(g), the establishment of ABC stores is approved, and the jurisdiction that held the election is located in a county where an ABC board is already in operation, the jurisdiction that held the election shall merge its local ABC board with the existing ABC board in accordance with G.S. 18B-703. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as prohibiting a local ABC board from serving multiple cities, counties, or cities and counties."

SECTION 1.(c) G.S. 18B-703(e) reads as rewritten:

"(e) Dissolution. – With the approval of the Commission, and subject to the limitation set forth in G.S. 18B-700(c1), the cities or counties that have merged their ABC systems may dissolve the merged operation at any time and resume their prior separate operations-operations or merge with a different ABC system in accordance with the requirements of this section."



1 **SECTION 1.(d)** Subsections (b) and (c) of this section become effective June 30,
2 2021. The remainder of this section is effective when it becomes law.

3
4 **PART II. REPEAL PURCHASE-TRANSPORTATION PERMIT REQUIREMENT FOR**
5 **SPIRITUOUS LIQUOR**

6 **SECTION 2.(a)** G.S. 18B-303 reads as rewritten:

7 **"§ 18B-303. Amounts of alcoholic beverages that may be purchased.**

8 (a) Purchases Allowed. – Without a permit, a person may purchase at one time:

9 ...

10 (4) ~~Not more than eight liters of either fortified~~ Fortified wine or and spirituous
11 liquor, or eight liters of the two combined. liquor in any amount.

12 ...

13 (c) Greater Amounts. – Amounts of alcoholic beverages greater than those listed in
14 ~~subdivisions~~ subdivision (a)(3) and (a)(4) may be purchased with a purchase-transportation
15 permit under G.S. 18B-403."

16 **SECTION 2.(b)** G.S. 18B-403 reads as rewritten:

17 **"§ 18B-403. Purchase-transportation permit.**

18 (a) Amounts. – With a purchase-transportation permit, a person may purchase and
19 transport an amount of alcoholic beverages greater than the amount specified in G.S. 18B-303(a).
20 A permit authorizes the holder to transport from the place of purchase to the destination within
21 North Carolina indicated on the permit at one time the following amount of alcoholic beverages:

22 (1) A maximum of 100 liters of unfortified ~~wine;~~ wine.

23 (2) ~~A maximum of 40 liters of either fortified wine or spirituous liquor, or 40~~
24 ~~liters of the two combined; or~~

25 (3) ~~The amount of fortified wine or spirituous liquors specified on the~~
26 ~~purchase-transportation permit for a mixed beverage permittee.~~

27 ...

28 (e) Restrictions on Permit. – A purchase may be made only from the store named on the
29 permit. One copy of the permit shall be kept by the issuing person, one by the purchaser, and one
30 by the store from which the purchase is made. The purchaser shall display his copy of the permit
31 to any law-enforcement officer upon request. ~~A permit for the purchase and transportation of~~
32 ~~spirituous liquor may be issued only by an authorized agent of the local board for the jurisdiction~~
33 ~~in which the purchase will be made.~~

34 ...

35 (g) Special Occasion Purchase-Transportation Permit. – When a person holds a special
36 occasion for which a permit under G.S. 18B-1001(8) or (9) is required, the
37 purchase-transportation permit issued to him may provide for the storage at and transportation to
38 and from the site of the special occasion of unfortified ~~wine, fortified wine, and spirituous liquor~~
39 wine for a period of no more than 48 hours before and after the special occasion. The
40 purchase-transportation permit authorizes that person to transport only the amounts of those
41 alcoholic beverages authorized by subsection (a). The Commission may adopt rules to govern
42 issuance of these extended purchase-transportation permits."

43 **SECTION 2.(c)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2019, and applies to fortified
44 wine and spirituous liquor purchased on or after that date.

45
46 **PART III. ABC COMMISSION/QUARTERLY REPORT ON PROCESS FOR**
47 **OBTAINING A CONTRACT FOR STATE WAREHOUSE SERVICES**

48 **SECTION 3.(a)** Beginning October 15, 2019, and quarterly thereafter, the ABC
49 Commission shall submit a written report to the chairs of the Joint Legislative Oversight
50 Committee on Justice and Public Safety detailing the progress made in bidding and selecting an
51 independent contractor for the receipt, storage, and distribution of spirituous liquor at and from

1 the State warehouse in accordance with G.S. 18B-204(a)(3). The report required under this
2 section shall include all of the following:

- 3 (1) The schedule for developing and issuing the Request for Proposal (RFP),
4 including detailed explanations as to how the Commission is meeting the
5 milestones identified on the schedule.
- 6 (2) An identification of State agencies, departments, and other entities providing
7 the Commission with technical assistance on RFP development and contract
8 negotiations, including a detailed description of the assistance that is being
9 provided.
- 10 (3) A description of the Commission's consultation with local ABC boards, as that
11 term is defined in G.S. 18B-101, to ensure the boards' concerns and
12 expectations are addressed during the RFP development and contract
13 negotiations.
- 14 (4) A copy of the RFP when it is released for bid.
- 15 (5) A copy of the final contract entered into pursuant to G.S. 18B-204(a)(3).
- 16 (6) An implementation schedule for transitioning from the existing contract for
17 services described in G.S. 18B-204(a)(3) to the new contract.

18 **SECTION 3.(b)** The reporting requirement set forth in subsection (a) of this section
19 expires upon the earlier of the date of the award of the contract for services described in
20 G.S. 18B-204(a)(3) or January 1, 2022.

22 PART IV. ABC SPECIAL ORDERS/ALLOW PURCHASE OF INDIVIDUAL BOTTLES

23 **SECTION 4.(a)** G.S. 18B-800 reads as rewritten:

24 "**§ 18B-800. Sale of alcoholic beverages in ABC stores.**

25 ...
26 (c) Commission Approval. – ~~No~~Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c1) of this
27 section, no ABC store may sell any alcoholic beverage which has not been approved by the
28 Commission for sale in this State.

29 (c1) Special Orders; Fee. – Through the process established by rule of the Commission for
30 special orders of spirituous liquor that is not on the list approved by the Commission, ABC stores
31 shall allow the purchase of individual bottles of spirituous liquor through that process. ABC
32 stores may sell in store any bottles it receives in excess of what was purchased by the requesting
33 customer. The Commission may establish and charge a fee to a customer placing a special order
34 in an amount sufficient to cover the actual costs incurred by ABC stores in processing the special
35 order.

36"
37 **SECTION 4.(b)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2019, and applies to special
38 orders placed on or after that date.

40 PART V. LOCAL ABC BOARDS/ALLOW DELIVERY FEE

41 **SECTION 5.(a)** G.S. 18B-701(a) reads as rewritten:

42 "(a) Powers. – A local board shall have authority ~~to~~to do all of the following:

- 43 (1) Buy, sell, transport, and possess alcoholic beverages as necessary for the
44 operation of its ABC ~~stores;~~stores. If a local board provides delivery of
45 spirituous liquor to a mixed beverages permittee, the local board may charge
46 a fee to the permittee sufficient to cover the actual costs incurred by the local
47 board in making the delivery.
- 48 (2) Adopt rules for its ABC system, subject to the approval of the
49 ~~Commission;~~Commission.
- 50 (3) Hire and fire employees for the ABC ~~system;~~system.

- 1 (4) Designate one employee as manager of the ABC system and determine his
- 2 ~~responsibilities;responsibilities.~~
- 3 (5) Require bonds of employees as provided in the rules of the
- 4 ~~Commission;Commission.~~
- 5 (6) Operate ABC stores as provided in Article 8;~~8.~~
- 6 (7) Issue purchase-transportation permits as provided in Article 4;~~4.~~
- 7 (8) Employ local ABC officers or make other provision for enforcement of ABC
- 8 laws as provided in Article 5;~~5.~~
- 9 (9) Borrow money as provided in ~~G.S. 18B-702;G.S. 18B-702.~~
- 10 (10) Buy and lease real and personal property, and receive property devised or
- 11 given, as necessary for the operation of the ABC ~~system;system.~~
- 12 (11) Invest surplus funds as provided in ~~G.S. 18B-702;G.S. 18B-702.~~
- 13 (12) Dispose of property in the same manner as a city council may under Article
- 14 12 of Chapter 160A of the General ~~Statutes; andStatutes.~~

15"
 16 SECTION 5.(b) This section becomes effective July 1, 2019, and applies to
 17 deliveries made on or after that date.

18
 19 **PART VI. ALLOW LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPTION/ABC STORE SALES ON**
 20 **SUNDAY**

21 SECTION 6.(a) G.S. 18B-802(b) reads as rewritten:
 22 "(b) Days. – No ABC store shall be open, and no ABC store employee shall sell alcoholic
 23 beverages, ~~on any Sunday, New Year's Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, or~~
 24 ~~Christmas Day. Except as otherwise provided under G.S. 153A-145.8 or G.S. 160A-205.4, no~~
 25 ABC store shall be open, and no ABC store employee shall sell alcoholic beverages, on any
 26 Sunday. A local board may otherwise determine the days on which its stores shall be closed."

27 SECTION 6.(b) Article 6 of Chapter 153A of the General Statutes is amended by
 28 adding a new section to read:

29 **"§ 153A-145.8. Allow ABC stores to operate on Sunday.**
 30 If a county operates at least one ABC store, the county may adopt an ordinance allowing
 31 ABC stores under the operation of the county to be open and selling alcoholic beverages on
 32 Sundays. A county must consult with its county ABC board prior to adopting an ordinance under
 33 this section."

34 SECTION 6.(c) Article 8 of Chapter 160A of the General Statutes is amended by
 35 adding a new section to read:

36 **"§ 160A-205.4. Allow ABC stores to operate on Sunday.**
 37 If a city operates at least one ABC store, the city may adopt an ordinance allowing ABC
 38 stores under the operation of the city to be open and selling alcoholic beverages on Sundays. A
 39 city must consult with its city ABC board prior to adopting an ordinance under this section."

40 SECTION 6.(d) This section becomes effective July 1, 2019.

41
 42 **PART VII. ABC STORES/ALLOW IN-STORE SPIRITUOUS LIQUOR TASTINGS**

43 SECTION 7.(a) G.S. 18B-1114.7(a) reads as rewritten:

44 "(a) Authorization. – The holder of a supplier representative permit, brokerage
 45 representative permit, or distillery permit issued under G.S. 18B-1105 may obtain a spirituous
 46 liquor special event permit allowing the permittee to give free tastings of its spirituous liquors at
 47 ABC stores where the local ABC board has approved the tasting, trade shows, conventions,
 48 shopping malls, street festivals, holiday festivals, agricultural festivals, balloon races, local
 49 fund-raisers, and other similar events approved by the Commission."

50 SECTION 7.(b) G.S. 18B-301(f)(1) reads as rewritten:

- 1 "(1) Any person to consume fortified wine, spirituous liquor, or mixed beverages
2 or to offer such beverages to another person at any of the following places:
3 a. ~~On~~Unless a consumer tasting authorized by G.S. 18B-1114.7 is being
4 conducted, on the premises of an ABC store.
5 b. Upon any property used or occupied by a local board.
6 c. On any public road, street, highway, or sidewalk, unless a consumer
7 tasting authorized by G.S. 18B-1114.7 is being conducted."

8 **SECTION 7.(c)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2019.
9

10 **PART VIII. RULES**

11 **SECTION 8.** The Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission shall amend its rules
12 consistent with the provisions of this act.
13

14 **PART IX. EFFECTIVE DATE**

15 **SECTION 9.** Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes
16 law.



**RESOLUTION
#2019-02**

PART F

**IN SUPPORT OF TRAIL DEVELOPMENT AND PARKS AND RECREATIONAL
IMPROVEMENTS WITHIN THE TOWN LIMITS OF THE TOWN OF SEVEN DEVILS**

WHEREAS, The Town of Seven Devils recognizes the desire of residents and visitors alike to enjoy parks and recreational services and green spaces; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Seven Devils endeavors to create and preserve natural resources for the enjoyment of citizens for future generations; and

WHEREAS, in order to address recreational needs in the future, the Town of Seven Devils has allocated financial resources to expand trails, parks, and recreational green spaces; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Seven Devils has adopted a Parks and Recreation Master Plan, dated May 10, 2016;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Town of Seven Devils Town Council firmly resolves to accept and support the administration of the North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund Grant for \$80,000 for Peak Mountain Trail, with a \$80,000 match in funding, and completion within three (3) years.

ADOPTED, this 12th day of March 2019.

ATTEST:

Larry Fontaine, Mayor

Hillary Gropp, Town Clerk

Seven Devils Public Safety Committee
 Tuesday August 7, 2018

MINUTES

Members Present: George Ehlinger, Jack Byrnes, Brad Lambert, David Hooper, Dick Nelson, Tina Bailey, Kay Lambert

Others Present: Debbie Powers (Town Manager), Chuck Davis (Police Chief)

The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by George Ehlinger, Chairman.

David Hooper moved to approve the June 5, 2018 and June 26, 2018 Minutes. Jack Byrnes seconded. All agreed.

Seven Devils SafetyFest - June 29, 2018

- * The 15th Seven Devils SafetyFest was held on Saturday June 29, 2018. It was a fun day with activities for the kids, craft booths, live music provided by "Grass County Line" and a fantastic BBQ meal. Approximately 400 meals were served. There were over 75 raffle items and 51 silent auction entries. It was a great day of community spirit and a successful fundraiser with \$15,000 allocated from SafetyFest proceeds to purchase safety equipment, protective clothing and boots, etc. through PBSD grants to the Seven Devils Fire, Police and Public Works Departments.
- * Police Chief Chuck Davis, with the backing of Fire Chief Bobby Powell and Public Works Director Kevin Aldridge, recommended that Town Hall be included as a potential recipient. Jack Byrnes so moved, Dick Nelson seconded and all agreed. The Fire, Police and Public Works Departments and Town Hall will apply to PBSD for grants for specific needs. After further review and discussion of current needs across the board, Brad Lambert moved, Dick Nelson seconded and all agreed to disburse \$11,500 to Public Works to purchase a tire changer/balancing system providing in-house service to Town vehicles (keeping vehicles safely on the road #1 priority), \$1,500 to the Police Department and \$2,000 held in reserve for additional requests submitted during the year.
- * Jack Byrnes moved to send \$100 to Blowing Rock Fire Department in appreciation for use of the "bounce house" Dick Nelson seconded. All agreed.

16th Seven Devils SafetyFest - Saturday July 6, 2019

- * The date is set - mark your calendar and rest up !!!
- * \$1,000 allocated for purchasing five major raffle prizes.

Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be March 5, 2019 at 5:30pm. George Ehlinger, Chairman, will address any needs or concerns that might come up in the interum and will keep Committee members advised.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05pm.

**Town of Seven Devils
Parks and Recreation Committee
Minutes—Regular Session
February 14, 2019**

The Town of Seven Devils Recreation Commission met at 9:00 a.m. in Town Hall on February 14, 2019. Members present were Bob Bridges (by telephone), Anne Fontaine, Kay Lambert, and Martha Stearns. Ed Beck, Faye Brock, and Lee Metzger were absent. Debbie Powers, Brad Lambert, and Larry Fontaine were also present.

Debbie Powers called the meeting to order and asked for nominations for chair of the committee. Kay Lambert nominated Anne Fontaine, and Bob Bridges seconded the nomination. Anne accepted the nomination, was elected unanimously, and chaired the remainder of the meeting.

Bob Bridges made a motion to accept the agenda for today's meeting and the minutes from the October 11, 2018, meeting. Kay Lambert seconded the motion, and the agenda and the minutes were approved.

There was a discussion about whether to have The Hawk in 2019. Bob Bridges made a motion to omit The Hawk for 2019 but leave open the possibility of holding it in 2020. Martha Stearns seconded the motion, and it passed.

There are many activities planned for 2019. Bob Bridges reported that the following concerts are scheduled:

Friday, June 21	4:00-6:00	ShadowGrass (Presley Barker's band)
	6:00-6:30	Wayne Henderson/Presley Barker guitar jam
	6:30-8:30	Wayne Henderson/Helen White/Herb Key
Friday, July 12	6:00-8:00	The Jeff Little Trio
Friday, August 23	4:00-5:30	Dixie Dawn
	6:00-8:00	To be announced

An Arbor Day Celebration will be held on April 26, 2019. An apple tree that will be planted later in the spring will be on display. There will be a program, and lunch will be served.

Safety Fest is scheduled for July 6, 2019. We will have the children's booth, and the bounce house has been scheduled. Kay Lambert reported that she had talked to Boone Rental about renting a dunking booth. They are reluctant to rent the one they have but may buy a new one before summer.

Seven Devils will have a 40th Anniversary celebration on August 23. The concert on August 23 will be part of the celebration.

Bob Bridges reported that group hikes are scheduled as follows:

June 7, 2019	Price Lake to Cold Prong Pond
July 19, 2019	Cold Prong Pond to Ravens Rock Overlook
August 9, 2019	Ravens Rock Overlook to Linn Cove Viaduct
September 13, 2019	Linn Cove Viaduct to Beacon Heights

Bob announced that the Moonlight Canoe Trip will be June 14, 2019.

Anne Fontaine reported that the following workshops will be led by Grandfather Mountain State Park Ranger Andy Sicard:

June 28, 2019	Hide & Seek	Otter Falls
July 25, 2019	Amphibian Crawl	Otter Falls
August 31, 2019	Black Bears/Coyotes	Town Hall

Paige Patterson, agent with the North Carolina Cooperative Extension, will offer landscape talks on June 14 and August 16. The topic on June 14 will be Soil Testing and Fertilizing Your Garden, and the topic on August 16 will be determined.

There will be a CPR class on August 14 from 11:00 to 2:00. Participants can get certified or renew certification, and lunch will be served.

Other activities may include junior tennis clinics, pickleball events, and aerobics.

Bob Bridges suggested a bear-decorating contest. The town has ordered a plywood cutout bear "family" to be used as a town decoration. Town employees and/or volunteers will make plywood bear-shaped cutouts to be purchased by contest participants. The "bears" will be decorated and displayed at residences. A committee will be formed to work out the details.

Kay Lambert made a motion to adjourn. Bob Bridges seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by

Martha Stearns, Secretary

High Country ABC Board Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2019

The High Country ABC board held its monthly meeting on Thursday, January 17 at 4:15pm. Board chair Donna Dicks, board member Winston Ammann, board member Mike Tarlton, alternate board member Robin Dunn, alternate board member Sarah Manning, alternate board member David Miller and general manager Sara Brewer were present.

Before the meeting, general manager Sara Brewer, read the following conflict of interest statement; "In accordance with 18B-201, it is the duty of every board member to avoid both conflicts of interests and appearances of conflicts. Does any board member have any conflicts of interests or appearances of conflicts with any matters coming to the board today?" Hearing none, the meeting continued.

Upon motion duly made by Winston Ammann, seconded by Mike Tarlton, it was voted to approve today's agenda. Upon motion duly made by Mike Tarlton, seconded by Winston Ammann, it was voted to approve last month's minutes.

General manager Sara Brewer reported to the board that sales for December were up \$35,882 over December of last year. Total sales for the month were \$356,487. Board discussed financial statement, for 6 month period July – December. Finance Officer Bonnie Betz will be making budget amendments to 3 to 4 expense line items. This budget amendment is attached.

Old Business:

- Sara Brewer will contact website designer and make sure that our site is linked through Google instead of being sent to the Commission's website.

New Business:

- Bonnie Betz will be attending the 2-day General Manager's conference to be held in Asheville on March 26 & 27.
- CPA's contract for current year was approved and signed.
- Overview of meeting held at the YMCA: Donna Dicks and David Miller attended a meeting to discuss alcohol education for youth and teens in the county. Sheriff Kevin Frye, Dennis Betz, YMCA, and Mary Howell, Above the Overview of meeting held at the YMCA: Donna Dicks and David Miller Norm,

were in attendance as well. The group discussed many ideas including selecting youth/teens from both middle schools to discuss specific after school and Teen Center activities, etc. The ABC board members asked Donna and David to continue with this committee and include possible community members such as middle school principals, and Dr. Laura Fero, LMC.

There were no citizens at the meeting.

Our next scheduled meeting will be Thursday, February 21 at 4:15pm.

Upon motion duly made by Winston Ammann, seconded by Mike Tarlton, it was voted to adjourn the meeting.

Donna Dicks, Board Chair

Mike Tarlton, Board Member

Winston Ammann, Board Member

date approved

**Town of Seven Devils
Tree Board Meeting
February 14, 2019 – 10:00am**

The Town of Seven Devils Tree Board met on Thursday, February 14, 2019 at Town Hall. Members present were: Kay Lambert, Martha Stearns, Anne Fontaine, Bob Bridges (via telephone). Larry Fontaine, Brad Lambert and Debbie Powers, Town Manager, were also present.

Call to Order

Town Manager Debbie Powers called the meeting to order at 10:00am; she opened the floor for nominations for Chair. Anne made a motion to elect Kay Lambert; seconded by Martha; all members voted affirmative; the motion passed. The gavel was passed to Kay.

Adopt Agenda

Kay asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. Anne made a motion to adopt the agenda. Bob seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Approve Minutes

Kay asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2018 meeting. Anne made a motion to approve. Bob seconded the motion. All approved.

Old Business – NONE

New Business

- Debbie announced that the Town had received confirmation from Mindy Hidenfelter at the NC Forestry Service that the designation of Tree City USA will be awarded for 2018. A representative from the Forestry Service will be present at the Arbor Day Celebration to present the Tree City USA signage and documents.
- Discussion regarding the upcoming Arbor Day Celebration on Friday, April 26, 2019; format will be same as last year; invitations will be included in the April 1 water bills; local dignitaries will be invited; food/beverages/door prizes/banners/napkins were discussed and will be coordinated by Debbie. Suggestion that an apple tree be planted at Brownlow Park as our Annual Tree Planting; seedlings to be discussed and ordered in March to be distributed at Arbor Day.

Adjourn

At 10:30 am, Anne made a motion to adjourn. Bob seconded the motion and it was agreed upon unanimously.

Kay Lambert, Chair

Debbie Powers, Recording Secretary

Activity Log Event Summary (Cumulative Totals)

SEVEN DEVILS PUBLIC SAFETY

(02/01/2019 - 02/28/2019)

911 Hang-up call	1	Animal Complaint	1
Assist Avery Sheriffs Office	1	Assist Other Department	5
Business Check	274	Domestic	1
Extra Patrol	14	Fire Department	1
Motor Vehicle Accident	1	Noise Complaint	1
Open Door	1	Patrol	63
Residence Check	1	Suspicious Person	1
Suspicious Vehicle	1	Training	1

Total Number Of Events: 368

SEVEN DEVILS FIRE DEPARTMENT

1356 Seven Devils Road, Seven Devils, N.C. 28604

(828) 963-5343 (828) 963-6760

Fax (828) 963-1129

Fire Chief Bobby Powell

February 2019

Fire Call: 0
Medical Call: 1
Training sessions: 3
Total Man-hours: 54 Hrs.

We have a new member on the SDFD.

Amy Renfranz

Amy and her husband have lived on Seven Devils for 1 ½ years.

We are excited to have her join us.


We have completed our Office of State Fire Marshall Office Rating inspection. We have worked with all our department heads and the town water engineer and our Mutual aid fire departments to complete this inspection.

It will take 60-90 Days before we will get our final rating from OSFM.

0 Fire Call:

1 Medical call: Sick call

Thank You,



MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT
February 2019 - 66.67%

	Budget Total	Actual			%
		Previous	Feb	YTD	
Section 1. General Fund					
Anticipated Revenues by Category					
Ad Valorem Taxes	803,500	775,882	17,923	793,745	98.79%
State Share Revenue	120,510	67,753	5,799	73,552	61.03%
ABC Distribution	100,000	79,500	0	79,500	79.50%
Powell Bill Allocation	30,000	28,906	0	28,906	96.35%
Permits and Fees	4,000	376	174	550	13.75%
Sales Tax	175,000	99,632	14,980	114,645	65.51%
Misc Revs, Govt Grants, Sale of Assets	233,105	60,522	29,658	90,180	38.69%
Capital Reserve Fund/FB	43,217	0	0	0	0.00%
Occupancy Tax	120,000	105,612	19,882	125,494	104.58%
Total	1,629,332	1,218,183	88,416	1,306,572	80.19%
Authorized Expenditures by Department					
Governing Board	85,125	11,165	1,599	12,764	14.99%
Administrative	332,872	179,645	18,749	198,394	59.60%
Public Safety	474,171	276,489	34,533	311,022	65.59%
Fire Protection	173,196	70,397	4,126	74,523	43.03%
Planning	1,500	1,061	0	1,061	70.73%
Public Works	412,468	226,342	25,389	251,731	61.03%
Powell Bill	30,000	30,000	0	30,000	100.00%
Tourism Development Authority	120,000	105,612	19,882	125,494	104.58%
Total	1,629,332	900,711	104,278	1,004,989	61.68%

MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT
February 2019 - 66.67%

	Budget Total	Actual			%
		Previous	Feb	YTD	
Section 2. Enterprise Fund					
Anticipated Revenues by Category					
Water Operating Revenues	244,500	148,834	20,963	169,797	69.45%
Water Taps and Connections	4,000	0	0	0	0.00%
Non Operating Revenues	2,750	1,337	10	1,347	48.98%
Capital Reserve for Capital Outlay	97,778	0	0	0	0.00%
Total	349,028	150,171	20,973	171,144	49.03%
Authorized Expenditures by Department					
Water-Operating	119,908	59,785	7,134	66,919	55.81%
Non Operating	144,620	47,732	2,622	50,354	34.82%
Capital Outlay	84,500	39,706	0	39,706	46.99%
Total	349,028	147,223	9,756	156,979	44.98%