

Town of Seven Devils
Regular Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 14, 2021 - 5:30pm
Agenda

- 1) INVOCATION
- 2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 3) CALL TO ORDER
- 4) ADOPT AGENDA
- 5) CONSENT AGENDA
Approve and adopt minutes of Town Council Meeting – August 10, 2021
- 6) OLD BUSINESS – None
- 7) NEW BUSINESS
 - A. Audit Report FY21- Sharon Gillespie, CPA
 - (i) LEO Separation Allowance Report
 - B. State of Emergency Declaration – August 19, 2021
- 8) CITIZENS COMMENTS
- 9) ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE
- 10) COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - A. Board of Adjustment – No meeting
 - B. Planning Board – No meeting
 - C. Public Works Committee – No meeting
 - D. Public Safety Committee – No meeting
 - E. Parks & Recreation Committee – No meeting
 - F. TDA – August minutes
 - G. ABC Board – Letter
 - H. Tree Committee – No meeting
 - I. Public Safety Department
 - (i) Police Report
 - (ii) Fire Report
 - J. Financial Reports
- 11) COUNCIL COMMENTS
- 12) ADJOURN

In order to maintain the safety of Town residents, Staff and Council members, the meeting will be conducted in dual format with In-Person attendance and electronically via Go To Meeting

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/906893453>

Public comments can be emailed to townclerk@sevendevils.net by noon, September 14th

**TOWN OF SEVEN DEVILS
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2021
5:30PM**

The Seven Devils Town Council met for a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, August 10, 2021. In-Person attendance included: Mayor Larry Fontaine, Mayor Pro Tem Brad Lambert, Members Wayne Bonomo, Leigh Sasse & Jeffrey Williams; Town Manager Debbie Powers & Town Attorney Rob Angle. The minutes were recorded by Town Clerk Hillary Gropp. Electronic format via Go To Meeting #240787069.

INVOCATION

Mayor Fontaine gave the Invocation for the Council meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council members and Citizens recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fontaine called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

ADOPT AGENDA

Member Williams made a motion to adopt the agenda; Member Sasse seconded the motion. All members agreed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Adopt minutes of the Town Council Meeting – July 13, 2021

Member Bonomo made a motion to approve and adopt the minutes; Member Williams seconded the motion. All members agreed.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Avery County Board of Elections Contract

Member Sasse made a motion to approve the Avery County BOE contract; Member Williams seconded the motion. All members agreed. ~CLOSED~

B. Resolution #2021-04 – Joint Resolution with Town Council & TDA



**JOINT RESOLUTION #2021-04
TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY & TOWN COUNCIL
REALLOCATION OF TDA EXPENDITURES**

WHEREAS, the 2002 NC General Assembly Session Laws granted the Town of Seven Devils the Authority to levy occupancy taxes, administered by a Council appointed Tourism Development Authority; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Seven Devils was authorized to levy a room occupancy tax for the promotion of travel and tourism; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Seven Devils adopted Resolution #2005-06 creating a Tourism Development Authority and Resolution #2019-07 updates the Administration of the Tourism Development Authority; and

WHEREAS, The Seven Devils Town Council does hereby instruct the Tourism Development Authority to advertise and promote travel in the Town of Seven Devils; and

WHEREAS, The Tourism Development Authority has approved tourism-related expenditures that successfully increased the use of lodging facilities, recreational facilities and business establishments in the Town; and

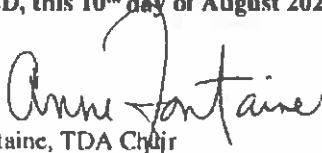
WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Committee through citizen's surveys have identified future infrastructure needs to include additional parks, trails, parking and bathroom facilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

Jointly, the Tourism Development Authority and Town Council of Seven Devils requests the allocation percentages of Occupancy Tax be refigured as:

The Tourism Development Authority shall expend all occupancy taxes remitted to the Town, less three percent administrative charges, in the following manner. Two thirds (2/3) of the funds remitted shall finance tourist related capital projects in the Town and One third (1/3) of the funds remitted shall promote travel and tourism in Seven Devils.

ADOPTED, this 10th day of August 2021.


Anne Fontaine, TDA Chair


Larry Fontaine, Mayor

ATTEST:


Hillary Gropp, Town Clerk



Member Bonomo made a motion to adopt Resolution #2021-04; Member Sasse seconded the motion. All members agreed. ~CLOSED~

C. Budget Amendment #1 FY22 – Receipt of ARP Funds - \$34,419.33

Budget Amendment #1 – FY22

Purpose: to account for the American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds.

Increase: Revenue Account #30-810-62 – American Rescue Plan Funds by \$34,419.33

Increase: Expenditure Account #30-810-74 – Capital Improvement Outlay by \$34,419.33

NOTES:

The American Rescue Plan funds are also known as the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, and are distributed by the US Department of the Treasury. These funds were authorized by Sections 602(b) and 603(b) of the Social Security Act, as added by section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act, Publication L, No. 117-2 on March 11, 2021.

The Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds are to provide a singular opportunity to address community recovery needs and to make significant investments for the future. The funds will be distributed in two allocations; the second allocation will be sent in approximately one year from the first. The funds must be used or encumbered by December 31, 2024, and any work must be completed by December 31, 2026. Reporting for these funds is required; the first report is due by October 31, 2021, even though the UST has yet to provide directions on how to prepare and submit this report. Allowable categories for use of these funds include investments in water, sewer, and broadband. Any funds not obligated or expended for eligible uses by the above deadlines must be returned to the Treasury.

Debbie Powers

Town Manager

Member Sasse made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #1 FY22; Member Williams seconded the motion. All members agreed. ~CLOSED~

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Sarah Manning – 277 Four Diamond Drive – Stated she is happy the TDA will be contracting with a landscape company for maintenance in the Town. She also request the Planning Board review the current sign ordinance for the commercial district.

Following the comments, Mayor Fontaine, due to safety issues with vehicular/pedestrian traffic at Otter Falls, stated he would like dialogue to occur with NCDOT about signage. He stated the Town could fund & install the improved signage, if approved by NCDOT. Mayor Pro Tem Lambert recommends written communication with NCDOT, as the request/reply will be documented should there be a future liability to the Town, due to lack of signs. Town Manager Powers suggested electronic meeting and will follow up.

Stuart Ryan – 184 West Rocky Top Trail – Stated he and his family relocated as full time residents and he thanked the Town staff for the help and support. He also stated that he enjoys the summer concerts in the Town and hope they continue to be held at the Seven Devils Community Center in the future.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS

Town Manager Powers provided the following update:

- Current Town Council members filed as candidates for the Municipal election – Nov. 2nd
- NC DEMLR visited Town Hall site about soil & erosion permit on July 21st
- Eggers Construction to begin grading on/about Sept. 1st
- HCCOG Dinner – RSVP due by August 27th; the Town will pay for Council members only.
- NC EO #224 – Covid Update – *Town Council discussed current circumstances and will follow the lead of Watauga County for any changes with a SOE for the town.*
- CPR Lunch & Learn recap of attendance
- Upcoming Ranger workshop on August 12th at 1:30pm at Town Hall
- Hazardous Waste Collection dates for Avery County 8/28 & Watauga County 8/14
- Announcement of Seven Devils Community Celebration day events and times

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Board of Adjustment – No meeting

Planning Board – No meeting

Public Works – No meeting

Public Safety Committee – No meeting

Parks & Recreation Committee – July minutes – *Bob Bridges was present at the Council meeting and stated the location of the future music venue will be an agenda item on upcoming Parks & Recreation Committee meeting.*

TDA – July minutes

ABC Board – June minutes

Tree Committee – No meeting

Public Safety Department

Police Report

Fire Report

Financial Report

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Fontaine stated the Planning Board should review the current sign ordinance at a future meeting.

Member Sasse inquired about the Trash Ordinance for the Speedway Gas station, if a fine can be imposed for litter as they are in the Town limits. Manager Powers explained the difficulty with fines to a large corporation. Mayor Fontaine offered to write a letter to the management of Speedway.

Member Bonomo stated that he is in favor of everyone being vaccinated for Covid.

ADJOURN

Mayor Pro Tem Lambert made a motion to adjourn; Member Sasse seconded the motion. All members agreed. The meeting adjourned at 6:36pm.

Larry Fontaine, Mayor

Hillary Gropp, Town Clerk



TOWN OF SEVEN DEVILS
CONSENT TO APPLICATION OF WATAUGA COUNTY
STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARATION

WHEREAS, the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) has mutated with the variants more virulent causing rapid rises in cases placing pressure on the local healthcare system; and

WHEREAS, Watauga County and the Town of Seven Devils previously issued State of Emergency Declarations in March 2020, on grounds that there is an imminent threat of, or existing conditions have caused or will cause, widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property, and public safety authorities will be unable to maintain public order or afford adequate protection for lives or property; and

WHEREAS, the foregoing State of Emergency orders were repealed on May 19, 2021, due to much improved transmission rates and trends existing at the time, and substantial success with respect to federal and state vaccination efforts, among other considerations; and

WHEREAS, the County of Watauga reinstated a declaration a state of emergency, effective August 18, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Seven Devils is located within the County.

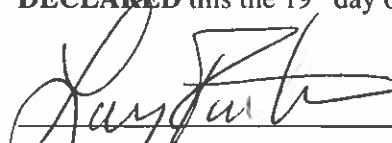
NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me as the Mayor of the Town of Seven Devils under Article 1A of Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes and the Town of Seven Devils Code of Ordinances:

Section 1. Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 166A-19.22(b)(2), the state of emergency declaration issued by Watauga County shall apply within the corporate limits of the Town of Seven Devils.

Section 2. Emergency restrictions and prohibitions imposed pursuant to the County's state of emergency declaration shall apply with the Town of Seven Devils unless otherwise declared by an authorized municipal official on behalf of the Town of Seven Devils.

Section 3. The application of the County's state of emergency declaration within the corporate limits of the Town of Seven Devils shall remain in effect until further notice.

DECLARED this the 19th day of August, 2021


Larry Fontaine, Mayor



Attest:


Hillary Gropp, Town Clerk

Administrative Update

1. Reminder – Volunteer for Boards & Committee – Current terms & application
2. Tom Bookstaver – 7D Fire Department Award for 20 years
3. New Public Works employee – Joseph Price – September 7th
4. Sales Tax Refund - \$17,628 (\$4,924 TDA portion)
5. November 2nd – Municipal Elections – Sample ballot – Watauga voters cast ballot at Seven Devils Town Hall and Avery voters cast ballot at Banner Elk Town Hall
6. End of Summer activities – Book club – Sept 28th and Upcoming Trunk or Treat
7. Census 2020 results
8. Property Tax Fun Facts
9. Updates
 - A. 7D Community Center – Front deck
 - B. 7D Community Center – Mini-split A/C unit
 - C. New Town Hall – Land grading
 - D. Peak Mountain Trail – Status
 - F. Otter Falls Parking and 7D Jurisdiction

Tree Permits – 10

Projects – 6

Fence Permits – 0

Complaints – 19

RE Closings – 7

STOP WORK ORDER - 1

TOWN COUNCIL, BOARDS & COMMITTEES

NAME	TERM EXPIRES
Town Council: (top two – 4-year term; bottom two – 2-year term)	
Larry Fontaine - Mayor	12/2023
Brad Lambert – Mayor Pro Tem	12/2021
Tina Bailey Wayne Bonomo	12/2021 12/2021
Kay Ehlinger Leigh Sasse	12/2023 12/2021
Jeff Williams	12/2021
*Include Rob Angle, Town Attorney, on email communications	
Board of Adjustment: (3-year term)	
Faye Brock	1/1/2022
Jack Byrnes	1/1/2023
Frank Sell	1/1/2023
Bob Bridges	1/1/2024
Barbara Hurlbrink	1/1/2024
John Wells IV – Alternate	1/1/2022
Bert Valery – Alternate	1/1/2023
Planning Board (2-year term)	
Joan Streightiff	1/1/2022
Bert Valery	1/1/2022
John Wells IV	1/1/2022
Jack Byrnes	1/1/2023
Walt Hogan	1/1/2023
Jim Jones	1/1/2023
Frank Sell	1/1/2023
Public Works (3-year term)	
Jack Byrnes	1/1/2022 -> -> 1/1/2023
Larry Fontaine	1/1/2022 -> -> 1/1/2023
Brad Lambert	1/1/2022
Barrie Winn	1/1/2022
Robert Michaud	1/1/2024
Mark Williams	1/1/2024
*Include Kevin Aldridge, Public Works Director, on communications and David Poore, Town Engineer, on email communications	
*2 Members extended with 1 additional year to stagger terms	

TOWN COUNCIL, BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Parks & Recreation Committee (3-year term)	
NAME	TERM EXPIRES
Ed Beck	1/1/2022
Kay Lambert	1/1/2022
Lee Metzger	1/1/2022
Martha Stearns	1/1/2022
Anne Fontaine	1/1/2023
Bob Bridges	1/1/2024
Faye Brock	1/1/2024
Mark Williams	1/1/2024
*Include Jewel McKinney Parks & Recreation Technician on email	
Tourism Development Authority (2-year term)	
Tom Gidley	1/1/2022
Leigh Sasse	1/1/2022
Richard Blonshine	1/1/2023
Anne Fontaine	1/1/2023
*Include Helga Sappington, Finance Officer, on email communications	
Public Safety Committee – PBSO – 501©3 Non-Profit	
Wayne Bonomo	N/A
Tom Bookstaver	N/A
Kay Ehlinger	N/A
David Hooper	N/A
Brad Lambert	N/A
Kay Lambert	N/A
Phyllis Miller	N/A
Dick Nelson	N/A
Jack Byrnes - Chair	N/A
High Country ABC Board (3-year term) – Begins & Ends with FY	
Anne Fontaine	July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2023
Leigh Sasse - Alternate	July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2024

TOWN OF SEVEN DEVILS APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT
FOR: BOARD OR COMMITTEE

PLEASE NOTE: In accordance with North Carolina law, this application is a public record and will be disclosed upon request without notice. If there is any information you do not want released to the public, please do not include it.

FULL NAME: _____

LOCAL ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

FULL-TIME RESIDENT of the Town of Seven Devils _____ YES _____ NO

If part-time, approximately how many months in a year do you live in Seven Devils? _____

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A RESIDENT OF SEVEN DEVILS? _____

NAME OF BOARD OR COMMITTEE FOR WHICH APPOINTMENT IS SOUGHT:

- Board of Adjustment Public Works Committee TDA-Tourism Development Authority
- Planning Board Recreation Commission ABC Board

WHY DO YOU WANT TO SERVE ON THIS BOARD/COMMITTEE?

ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH THE TOWN'S COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAND AND THE VISION STATEMENT OF THE TOWN CONTAINED THEREIN? (It can be accessed at www.sevendevils.net)

RATE YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE VISION STATEMENT AND COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN (with "1" signifying no support and "10" signifying great support): _____

WHAT SKILLS, EDUCATION, TRAINING, EXPERIENCE OR AREA(S) OF EXPERTISE WOULD YOU BRING TO THIS APPOINTMENT?

HAVE YOU TAKEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND ANY PREVIOUS BOARD MEETINGS PRIOR TO THE NOTICE OF THIS VACANCY? _____ YES _____ NO

DESCRIBE EXTENT AND MEETINGS ATTENDED: _____

IF APPOINTED, DO YOU ANTICIPATE ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST? _____ YES _____ NO

IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN: _____

PLEASE LIST ANY CURRENT OR PREVIOUS SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY, CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS, ACTIVITIES AND ANY SPECIAL TALENTS:

BOARDS/CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS/TALENTS:	DATE FROM:	DATE TO:
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS WHY YOU SHOULD BE APPOINTED TO THIS BOARD/COMMITTEE:

I certify this information is correct. I understand that this is an application to be considered for appointment to a Town Board or Committee and that final appointment is made by the Town Council of Seven Devils. I also understand that any service, if appointed, would be without compensation. This application will remain on file for a period of 12 months form the date of application.

Gender: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please fill out the form completely and return it to the Town Clerk at Town Hall.

If you have any questions, call 828-963-5343



AGENDA ITEM 9)2.



SEVEN DEVILS FIRE DEPARTMENT

SEVEN DEVILS FIRE DEPT.



THINK OF A NUMBER
LAURA VAN WORMER
THE LAST LOVER

WILSON WELLS
THE PRO IN BLUE

THE PRO IN BLUE



STRENGTH & SPIRIT

THE WALKER
LEUNG WAI
TIM RUSSELL

COOK
DVI



S
A
M
P
L
E

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T

Sample Ballot
Watauga County, North Carolina
November 2, 2021



N0003



BALLOT MARKING INSTRUCTIONS:

- A. With the marking device provided or a black ball point pen, completely fill in the oval to the left of each candidate or selection of your choice as shown.
- B. Where authorized, you may write in a candidate by filling in the oval and writing the name on the Write-in line.
- C. If you tear, deface or wrongly mark this ballot, return it to request a replacement.



TOWN OF SEVEN DEVILS

Town Council
(You may vote for THREE)

- Brad Lambert**
- Leigh Sasse**
- Jeffrey Williams**
- Write-in _____
- Write-in _____
- Write-in _____

Town Council
Unexpired term ending 2023
(You may vote for ONE)

- Wayne Bonomo**
- Write-in _____

End of Ballot

<u>Property Tax Valuation 2021</u>			
	<u>Tax Amt.</u>	<u>Valuation</u>	
Avery	\$ 187,058.74	\$ 36,678,184	
Watauga	\$ 625,900.64	\$ 122,725,615	
Totals	\$ 812,959.38	\$ 159,403,799	1080 bills
<u>Property Tax Valuation 2020</u>			
	<u>Tax Amt.</u>	<u>Valuation</u>	
Avery	\$ 185,862.64	\$ 36,443,699	
Watauga	\$ 624,162.47	\$ 126,644,899	
Totals	\$ 810,025.11	\$ 163,088,598	1080 bills
<u>Property Tax Valuation 2019</u>			
	<u>Tax Amt.</u>	<u>Valuation</u>	
Avery	\$ 184,579.00	\$ 36,192,149	
Watauga	\$ 628,165.00	\$ 123,169,750	
Totals	\$ 812,744.00	\$ 159,361,899	1083 bills
<u>Property Tax Valuation 2018</u>			
	<u>Tax Amt.</u>	<u>Valuation</u>	
Avery	\$ 182,570.00	\$ 35,798,108	
Watauga	\$ 626,875.00	\$ 123,793,535	
Totals	\$ 809,445.00	\$ 159,591,643	
<u>Property Tax Valuation 2017</u>			
	<u>Tax Amt.</u>	<u>Valuation</u>	
Avery	\$ 177,093.25	\$ 34,724,166	
Watauga	\$ 617,751.07	\$ 121,127,660	
Totals	\$ 794,844.32	\$ 155,851,826	
<u>Property Tax Valuation 2016</u>			
	<u>Tax Amt.</u>	<u>Valuation</u>	
Avery	\$ 178,917.71	\$ 35,081,903	
Watauga	\$ 619,175.65	\$ 121,406,990	
Totals	\$ 798,093.36	\$ 156,488,893	

A	D	C	U	E	F	G	H
<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							
2	1-Aug	Gentry	172 #421	HRV	Saw activity on ROW	What's going on? Neighbors want to know	Cottom is having his property surveyed
3							
4	7-Aug	McKinley	1648	Skyland	Need people to check commercial signs	in on Barry while out of Town need Planning Board to review sign ordinance	Contact Home Health Care Agency on next agenda
5							
6	10-Aug	Manning	277	4Diamond	Town landscaping	Town beds look sad	TDA has hired new landscape designer
7							
8							
9							
10	11-Aug	McLean	130	Meadowview	high weeds	neighbor at 132 Meadowview has neglected yard since April	warned owners of possible violation
11							
12							
13	15-Aug	Manning	277	4Diamond	water	Owner at 128 Windy Knob water draining from pipe	Checked usage; no unusual amounts
14							
15	17-Aug	multiple			TS Fred	water drainage	Police/Fire/PublicWorks
16	18-Aug	many			trees/debris	trees down	working all night to clear roads, remove blockages
17							
18	18-Aug	Rawlinson		5thFairway	rocks/debris	wanted Public Works crew to remove rocks and storm debris from his porch	Public Works does not provide services on private property.
19							
20							
21	18-Aug	Hair		165 Little Boulder	key fob inoperable	cannot get key fob to open Community Center doors	Advised to call prop owner
22							
23							
24	18-Aug	Patrick		986 Skyland Dr	rocks & debris	storm delivered rocks on her driveway; who is going to remove them?	was trying to use a mini flashlight to open, Jewel visually showed what a key fob looks like
25							
26							

INDA ITEM 9) Complaints

0	19-Aug	Faroni	Steve	629 Skiview	trees/debris	trees down on Bridal Path need Public Works to put rip rap back on his property	Public Works will remove trees on Bridal Path - low priority - Public Works does not provide services on private property
1							
2							
3							
4	23-Aug	Isquith	Barry	1648 Skyland Dr	washer/dryer	needs Public Works to come up & move his washer/dryer for plumber	PW does NOT provide personal services on private property.
5							
6							
7	24-Aug	Gilliam	Steve	Lots 43 & 53 Buckeye	tax bill	wants original tax bill; just purchased lots this month	Helga explained tax bills go to owners as of Jan 1, so only copy is available in new name.
8							
9							
0	24-Aug	Diercksen	Bill	265 Tangle	trucks/signage	larger trucks getting "stuck" on Tangle Lane, need sign	Will replace old sign; Police did not receive any distressed calls. Rarely receive calls for escorts.
1							
2							
3	25-Aug	random person			Otter Falls	"are there otters at OtterFalls?" "do I get a refund if I don't see any otters?"	Not recently Yes - 100% refund :)
4							
5							
6	25-Aug	contractor		HRV	water	"must be something wrong with your water system; trying to pressure wash; tried several units & none are working	Kevin determines that the pressure washer machine is faulty; not the Town water system
7							
8							
9							
0	25-Aug	Demares	Sue	282 Windy Knob	Police	heard at last night's party that our Police no longer patrol. Wants an answer	Johnathan responds to her, PD patrols each shift.
1							
2							
3	31-Aug	multiple			TS Ida	2 trees partially blocking roads "streets are dirty"	PW working to clear/clean roadways and ditches again
4							

**Town of Seven Devils
Tourism Development Authority Meeting
August 24, 2021**

The Town of Seven Devils Tourism Development Authority met in regular session on Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at Town Hall. Chair Anne Fontaine, Member Richard Blonshine, Town Manager Debbie Powers, Finance Officer Helga Sappington and Parks and Rec Tech Jewel McKinney were present. Member Tom Gidley was present via GoToMeeting. Member Leigh Sasse was absent. GoToMeeting ID: 494626581 for remote access was provided.

Call to Order

Chair Anne Fontaine called the meeting to order at 9:08 am.

Adopt Agenda and Approve Minutes

Member Richard Blonshine made a motion to adopt the agenda; motion was seconded by Member Tom Gidley; the motion passed. A motion to approve the minutes from the July 27, 2021 meeting was made by Member Tom Gidley and seconded by Member Richard Blonshine; all approved. The motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments

Wayne Bonomo was present; there were no comments.

Old Business

- Town Manager Debbie Powers updated the TDA members on the Mini-split system for the exercise room, the recap of the Community Day Celebration, the Landscaping project, and the meeting with Rep. Pickett about the Resolution for TDA expenditures.
- Parks and Rec Tech Jewel McKinney updated the TDA members on the Tennis Court project.

New Business

- Town Manager Debbie Powers presented the TDA Audit FY 21 to the TDA members.
- Discussion about Proposal from 4 Forty Four for the Community Center front deck replacement. Motion to fund the project up to \$ 28,000 made by Member Rick Blonshine. Seconded by Member Tom Gidley; all approved.
- Parks and Rec Tech Jewel Mc Kinney presented ideas for a Halloween Trunk or Treat to promote tourism in the Town of Seven Devils. Motion by Member Tom Gidley to fund the event up to \$3000. Member Rick Blonshine seconded; all approved.
- Parks and Rec Tech Jewel Mc Kinney informed the TDA members that the Otter Falls trail is in need of maintenance. She is currently seeking guidance and estimates from trail builders.
- Discussion about future plans on location and suggestions for the 2022 Summer Concert Series.

Financial Statement

- Member Rick Blonshine made a motion to approve the financial statements; Member Tom Gidley seconded; all approved. Motion carried.

Board Comments

- Discussion about future Occupancy Tax revenues.
- Town Manager Debbie Powers informed the TDA members on the new Covid-19 mandates.

Adjourn

At 9:10 am, Member Rick Blonshine made motion to adjourn; Member Tom Gidley seconded; all approved. Motion carried.

Hillary Gropp

From: Debbie Powers
Sent: Thursday, September 9, 2021 12:53 PM
To: Hillary Gropp
Subject: FW: High Country ABC Board -- Letter to ABC Commission Members & LB&B Representatives

Debbie Powers

Town Manager
Town of Seven Devils
157 Seven Devils Road
Seven Devils, NC 28604
828-963-5343

From: Anne Fontaine <anlafontaine@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 17, 2021 12:56 PM
To: Dudley.Greene@ncleg.gov; Warren.Daniel@ncleg.gov
Cc: Winston <bayouwinston@aol.com>; Donna Dicks <dbdicks@skybest.com>; Anne Fontaine <anlafontaine@gmail.com>
Subject: High Country ABC Board -- Letter to ABC Commission Members & LB&B Representatives

Below please find a copy of the email submitted by the High Country ABC Board to various ABC Commission members as well as representatives of LB&B concerning the statewide liquor shortages and other issues. We wanted you to be aware of our concerns and request that if you have any influence in these areas that you please keep our state ABC stores in mind and continue to support the controlled sale of alcoholic beverages in our state.

Thank you,
High Country ABC Board
Winston Amman, Village of Sugar Mountain
Donna Dicks, Town of Banner Elk
Anne Fontaine, Seven Devils

The High Country ABC Board is very concerned regarding the statewide problem with liquor supplies. Our shelves are severely depleted, as is our storage area. Local area restaurants and individuals are being hurt by these shortages. Our store employees are

doing their best to explain the problems, but are unable to give our customers satisfactory answers to their questions and concerns.

We understand from a letter that was sent to the store managers and boards that LB&B is undergoing a system change, as well as facing distillery shortages, increasing consumption demands, and trucking issues. All of these excuses do not solve the problem local stores are facing. We are interested in hearing what your plans are to resolve these issues and for getting our stores back to normal deliveries with our orders fully complete! The High Country ABC last received a shipment last Monday, August 9, that was only half of what was requested and needed to fulfill our customer orders and sales preferences. The next truck is due Monday, August 23, and our employees and manager have no idea if they will receive this shipment, and if so, whether it will be a fully stocked truck or another partial order.

Our customer base is asking why there is a shortage, when it seems our neighboring states (Tennessee and South Carolina) are able to keep their shelves stocked. They are asking for accountability as to who is responsible for these shortages—the state, the distributors, the warehouse, the truckers? They are also commenting about why the State hasn't come forward with some kind of public statement in response to this problem. Other questions concern whether the State Board is using a 'fair' system in distribution of the products that are available to the local ABC stores? Are there limits in place so that all stores receive at least some product in a timely fashion? For years there has been discussion of a western distribution center to alleviate these very issues that affect our current situation. Is that a consideration at this point? If the state wishes to continue to receive tax revenues from the controlled sale of liquor, then we must be able to provide what our customers want, whether in-store purchases or liquor-by-the drink restaurant orders.

Also of concern is how the public is perceiving our State Commission's inability to continue serving them. If you follow social media at all, you will see that these shortages and problems are rattling the 'privatization' argument throughout the state. Obviously none of us want that, as we are extremely proud of the work we are doing in funding alcohol abuse education, under-age drinking prevention and treatment. The municipalities that the ABC High Country store serves are also extremely grateful for the money that they receive in annual profit distributions. These funds really help in keeping homeowner taxes lower and supporting many needed services and projects in our communities.

We are also very disappointed that our ABC Manager's Conference did not offer a virtual component. Our General Manager and newest Board member were both planning to attend the Conference but decided not to attend in person due to concerns regarding the spiking numbers of COVID cases across the state, nation and our area. A virtual option would have been very much appreciated.

We thank you in advance for your hard work in solving these problems and we look forward to hearing your immediate plans for getting us back on track.

High Country ABC Board

Winston Amman, Village of Sugar Mountain

Donna Dicks, Town of Banner Elk

Anne Fontaine, Seven Devils

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Anne Fontaine
Seven Devils, NC
828-963-2977

Activity Log Event Summary (Cumulative Totals)
SEVEN DEVILS PUBLIC SAFETY
(08/01/2021 - 08/31/2021)

Alarm Activation	2	Assist Avery Sheriffs Office	1
Assist Other Department	3	Bank Deposit Escort	15
Business Check	372	Extra Patrol	15
Larceny	1	Medical	2
Motor Vehicle Accident	2	Patrol	151
Remove Debris from Roadway	1	Shots fired	1
Vehicle Stop	3		

Total Number Of Events: 569

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

August 2021

Fire Calls: 12
Medical Calls: 2
Training sessions: 4
Total Man-hours: 146 Hrs.

We held the Avery County Fire Association meeting at our department on August 5. The annual elections were held.

Avery and Watauga Counties has been planning to change the way they are doing the medical responders in the counties. When I started the medical responder program for Seven Devils, we went under Avery County's program. With the new changes from NC state medical control. Now all medical responders statewide must complete a certified medial responder training class. This Class is 96 hours and includes: classroom and practical skills. I have been looking for an online class that's a combination class. I have found a couple at different community colleges around the state. I have been talking to local instructors about doing one here.

The night of August 17th, Tom Bookstaver, Luis Sanchez, PSO Racion Rouse and myself stayed and help cut trees out of the roadways. Brian Johnson & Joshua Holifield from our Maintenance department and on our Fire dept helped to keep the roads open in Seven Devils. That was a lot of rain and wind.

Thank You.
Bobby Powell

MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT
August 2021 - 16.67%

	Budget		Actual		%
	Total	Previous	August	YTD	
Section 1. General Fund					
Anticipated Revenues by Category					
Ad Valorem Taxes	807,000	1,110	61,738	62,848	7.79%
State Share Revenue	124,360	4,445	7,155	11,600	9.33%
ABC Distribution	120,000	0	500	500	0.42%
Powell Bill Allocation	30,000	0	0	0	0.00%
Permits and Fees	10,000	63	265	328	3.28%
Sales Tax	200,000	0	0	0	0.00%
Misc Revs, Govt Grants, Sale of Assets	229,620	4,987	5,823	10,810	4.71%
Capital Reserve Fund/FB	203,952	0	0	0	0.00%
Occupancy Tax	300,000	6,658	40,607	47,265	15.75%
Total	2,024,932	17,263	116,087	133,351	6.59%
Authorized Expenditures by Department					
Governing Board	23,900	2,948	2,155	5,103	21.35%
Administrative	472,303	76,923	54,881	131,804	27.91%
Public Safety	564,491	53,783	34,421	88,204	15.63%
Fire Protection	108,327	5,266	1,597	6,863	6.34%
Zoning	21,000	0	0	0	0.00%
Parks & Rec	53,796	8,867	3,481	12,348	22.95%
Public Works	451,115	37,686	30,746	68,432	15.17%
Powell Bill	30,000	0	34	34	0.11%
Tourism Development Authority	300,000	6,658	40,607	47,265	15.75%
Total	2,024,932	192,131	167,921	360,052	17.78%

MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT
August 2021 - 16.67%

	Budget	Actual		%
	Total	Previous	August	
Section 2. Enterprise Fund				
Anticipated Revenues by Category				
Water Operating Revenues	240,797	1,883	18,772	20,656
Water Taps and Connections	4,000	0	0	0
Non Operating Revenues	34,819	34,420	19	34,439
Capital Reserve for Capital Outlay	20,000	0	0	0
Total	299,616	36,304	18,791	55,095
				18.39%
Authorized Expenditures by Department				
Water-Operating	120,725	10,020	8,477	18,497
Non Operating	32,472	2,623	2,622	5,245
Capital Outlay	146,419	9,024	9,776	18,800
Total	299,616	21,667	20,875	42,542
				14.20%