

**TOWN OF SEVEN DEVILS  
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2020  
5:30PM**

The Seven Devils Town Council met for a Regular Meeting and the format of this meeting was dual Electronic – Go To Meeting#606173221 and In-Person at Town Hall on Tuesday, September 8, 2020. Attendance In-Person included Mayor Larry Fontaine, Mayor Pro Tem Brad Lambert, & Member Wayne Bonomo. Members Leigh Sasse & Jeffrey Williams attended remotely with visible video display. A quorum was met. Also present In-Person – Town Manager Debbie Powers & Town Attorney Rob Angle. The minutes were recorded by Town Clerk Hillary Gropp.

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**PRAYER/INVOCATION**

Mayor Fontaine gave the Invocation for the Council meeting.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Council members and Citizens recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Each Council member stated their name & announced their presence for the Roll Call.

**ADOPT AGENDA**

Mayor Pro Tem Lambert made a motion to adopt the agenda; Member Bonomo seconded the motion. All members agreed.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Adopt minutes of Town Council Meeting – August 11, 2020**

Mayor Pro Tem Lambert made a motion to approve and adopt the minutes; Member Bonomo seconded the motion. All members agreed.

**OLD BUSINESS - None**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. ABC AUDIT FY20 – Sara Brewer, High Country ABC Board**

Sara Brewer, ABC Manager will be retiring on December 1, 2020. She introduced Bonnie Betz as her successor. Sara provided the ABC Audit Report to the Town of Seven Devils. The fiscal year ended 06/30/2020 with Gross Sales of \$4,061,584 and \$950,153 paid in taxes to the State. In 2020, the ABC Board distributed a total of \$420,000 with \$140,000 to each town of Banner Elk, Seven Devils & Sugar Mountain. Since the inception of the HC ABC Board in 1998, the total given is \$4,992,502.

7.54% of profits were expended for law enforcement and alcohol education in FY2020.

Sara Brewer stated that due to Covid19 & SOE, the store hours are 11am to 7pm and will be reevaluated and altered as needed. The frontline employees have been using extra cleaning & sanitation methods.

**B. TOWN AUDIT REPORT FY20 – Sharon Gillespie CPA**

The Town Audit Report FY20 was presented by Sharon Gillespie, CPA; hard copies of this audit were provided to the Town Council and a PDF version is available online at [www.sevendevils.net](http://www.sevendevils.net).

The Town passed the audit with positive reviews and some of the highlights that Sharon pointed out were as follows:

Page 5 – Opinion paragraph

Page 8 – Management Discussion & Analysis

*Sharon noted at the end of the current fiscal year, unreserved fund balance for the General Fund was \$965,211 or 54.44 % of total general fund expenditures for the fiscal year.*

Page 18 - Net Position

Page 19- Statement of Activities

Page 20 – Governmental Funds aka Balance Sheet

Page 21 - Statement Activity of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance(Profit/Loss)

Page 25 – Net Position – Proprietary Funds

Page 58 – Current Tax Levy

Sharon reports the tax collection rate is 99.30% which is commendable. Sharon noted the quality of records provided by staff; overall the Town is in excellent condition; Administration is organized and helps expedite the process.

**No Action Taken ~CLOSED~**

### **C. BOARD/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

#### **(ii) Applications**

Joan Streightiff – Board of Adjustment – *Appointed to fill vacant seat – Term expires 1/1/2021*

Mark Williams – Public Works Committee – *Appointed to fill vacant seat – Term expires 1/1/2021*

Member Sasse made a motion to accept the above applications & appointments; Member Bonomo seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously. **~CLOSED~**

### **CITIZENS COMMENTS - None**

### **ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS**

Town Manager Powers provided the following update:

- The Town's Audit Report FY20 and ABC Audit FY20 are both on the Town's website.
- The CPR course is scheduled for September 8<sup>th</sup> at OTH.
- Town wide debris pick up will begin on October 1<sup>st</sup>; deadline for placing at road is September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- COVID 19 updates for Avery & Watauga County; NC is now phase 2.5
- The Town's 2020 tax bills have been mailed with US Postal Service.
- OTH Remodel – Funding by TDA; Contractors are 4FortyFour & Mountain Heritage Systems; Access to OTH book exchange & exercise is via handicap ramp; Webcam & weather station currently unavailable.
- Public Works – Kevin, Brian & Bubba attended CEU class for Water Operator Certification.
- Potholes USA has completed hot patch repairs.
- Grant updates: Town has received a notice to proceed letter for RTP; Decision for PARTF on September 18<sup>th</sup>; Parks & Rec Tech – Jewel McKinney is contacting trail builders for formal bids.
- CARES ACT updates for Avery & Watauga County
- Census reminder of the importance for state/regional funds. 7D population as of 07/01/19 = 223

Tree Permits – 5

Complaints – 9

Real Estate Closings – 0

Projects – 2

Violation Letters – 0

Fence Permits – 0

Stop Work Orders – 0

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Board of Adjustment – No meeting**

**Planning Board – No meeting**

**Public Works – No meeting**

**Public Safety Committee – September minutes**

**Parks & Recreation Committee – No meeting**

**TDA – No meeting**

**ABC Board – July minutes**

**Tree Committee – No meeting**

**Public Safety Department**

**Police Report**

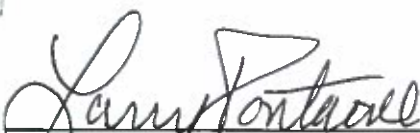
**Fire Report**

**Financial Report**

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS - None**

### **ADIURN**

Member Sasse made a motion to adjourn; Mayor Pro Tem Lambert seconded the motion. All members agreed. The meeting adjourned at 6:15pm.

  
Larry Fontaine, Mayor

  
Hillary Gropp, Town Clerk

