

Susan Phillips
Village Manager

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Gunther Jochl
Mayor

Scott J. Brown
Mayor Pro Tem

Council Members
David Ammann
Wade Wittman
Dick Casey

THE VILLAGE OF SUGAR MOUNTAIN

251 Dick Trundy Lane
Sugar Mountain, NC 28604

Manager's Monthly Report **November 18, 2025**

Municipal Election: Village Election Results of November 4, 2025 - 27 votes

Council:

• David Ammann	27
• Scott Brown	24
• Write In's -	
Mary K Tally	1
Jan Howard	1
Miscellaneous	2

Congratulations to both David and Scott!

Golf Course: Dail Golf will continue to work on the course through the end of the week and resume in the Spring. The stream restoration project will take place over the winter months. A Request for Proposals (RFP) will be advertised for bids in the upcoming weeks on the stream restoration and culvert and bridge replacement part of the golf course repairs.

Overall, the season was a success, and we are pleased with the amount of activity we saw throughout the season with the limited numbers of holes we were able to have playable most of the season. There was a decrease of \$214,817 or 33.26% in revenues for the period April – October in comparison to the same period in 2024. The 2025 season was open from May 16th through October 26th. The 2024 season opened April 19th and closed on September 24th due to three days of heavy rainfall and the arrival of Helene on the 27th. Bill and his staff are now putting the course to bed for the winter.

Tennis: Tennis also saw much activity in the 2025 season but showed a decrease in revenue, like golf, in comparison to the 2024 season. Overall, there was a decrease of \$4,525 or 10.39% in revenues for the period May – October 2025, in comparison to the same period in 2024. The 2025 season was open from May 12th – October 26th, with the 2024 season open from May 1st – October 22nd.

Board of Adjustment (BOA): The Board of Adjustment met on Tuesday, October 28th to consider an application for a variance to the setback requirements on Lot 149, Derby Lane. The owner requested a variance to the Village's required setbacks. This lot has a shallow Spring located near the center of the lot, making it a financial hardship on the property owner to construct the home over the Spring and meet the Village zoning requirements. The property borders the "Bridal Path," a 20' easement, to the right side and the rear of the property. The proposed structure as located on the site plan encroaches into the rear setback by 15' and the right side setback by 14'. Both the rear and the side of the structure will not encroach into the Bridal Path. With the Bridal Path bordering these two sides, the home will be 35' from the rear neighboring property line and 21' from the side neighboring property line. After hearing testimony from staff and the property owner, the Board of Adjustment unanimously granted the variance to the setback requirements on this property.

Tourism Development Authority (TDA) Board Meeting: The TDA Board met on Wednesday, November 12, 2025. The Board approved the 2025 SugarBus Contract and Schedule. The Board also approved funding for banners for the decorative lights in the Ski Resort parking lots. Dalton Kilby of Bramble Marketing submitted the attached October 2025 marketing update.

The September 2025 collections of the occupancy tax showed an increase of \$4,240 or 10% in comparison to September 2024. The occupancy tax collections for the period October 2024 through September 2025 (\$725,039) have shown a \$ 105,150 or 14.5% decrease in comparison to the same period of 2024 (\$830,189).

Street Repairs and Paving: Tri-County Paving has been in the Village and completed all the prep work needed for repairs and paving on streets that have damage due to Helene. They are in the Village this week to complete the paving projects. These streets include Grouse Moor Drive, Mossy Creek Road, Park Lane, Rock Spring Circle, Slope View Road, and Rough Ridge Road. The total for these projects will be \$139,999 and will be reimbursed by FEMA.

FY 2024-25 Annual High Country ABC Audit: The High Country ABC FY 2024-25 audit has been completed. Overall sales at the ABC store were \$5,328,422 for a decrease of 5.71% in 2024. This decrease is attributed to being negatively impacted by business closures and reduced patronage resulting from Hurricane Helene. The Village, along with the Towns of Banner Elk and Seven Devils, each received \$195,000 in revenue from our ABC store in fiscal year 2025. A copy of this audit is available at Village Hall.

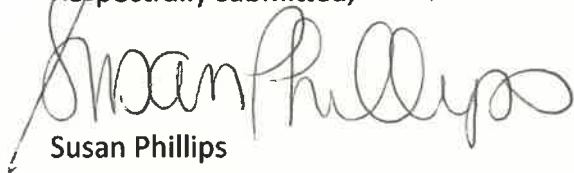
Property Tax Collections: Of the \$1,452,638 total 2025 levy, \$832,150 or 57.29% has been collected with a balance of \$620,487 uncollected through November 13, 2025. A balance of \$5,730 remains uncollected for the 2016-2024 tax years.

Administrative Matters:

Advertisements for the Police Officer position vacancy, following the resignation of Madison Hicks, continue to run in the local newspapers as well as with the NC League of Municipalities job postings publication. To date, the Village has received no applications for the position.

The Village offices will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 27th and 28th in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday. The Police Department will be on a regular schedule throughout the holiday week and Public Works will be on call in the case of inclement weather.

Respectfully submitted, ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Susan Phillips". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Susan Phillips