

Town of Little Creek Council Meeting Minutes for October 3, 2022

The meeting of the Little Creek Town Board was called to order at 7:04 pm by Commissioner Edward Strouse. Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Board members and residents in attendance and a moment of silence was observed. Having observed that four out of five members of the Board of Commissioners were present in person and one member was in attendance via Zoom call for the October meeting, Commissioner Theresa May declared to all persons in attendance that there was a quorum and therefore the Town Council was free to conduct business and begin the meeting. The four members of the Board of Commissioners present for the Town of Little Creek Council Meeting: Commissioner Ed Strouse, Commissioner Carol Puleo, Commissioner Jason Arrington, and Commissioner Theresa May. Commissioner Adrienne Hegman attended via Zoom call. Ten members of the public were in attendance in person for the general meeting: Terry Gentry, Sam Gentry, Penny Gentry, Judy Hegman, Doug Hegman, Glenn Gauvry, Clay Crommett, and Virginia Lauber, Carrie Murphy, and Michael Rinehart. Four members of the public attended the meeting via the Zoom option: Bill Clark, Carol Williams, Susan Freese, and Katie Patterson.

The meeting minutes from the previous month were electronically sent to the incoming commissioners for their review prior to this meeting. These minutes were also made available to all in attendance as hard copies. All commissioners on the board reviewed the minutes from September 12, 2022, and Commissioner Hegman made a motion to accept the minutes received from the secretary/clerk as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Arrington and put to a full board vote where it was passed unanimously.

The Treasurer's report was read aloud by Commissioner Hegman to the full assembly. A motion to accept the report from the September 12, 2022 to October 3, 2022 time period was made by Commissioner May and seconded by Commissioner Arrington. When presented for a vote to the full board it was passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hegman stated the pending bills and provided information on what these bills covered. The formal motion to pay all the bills was made by Commissioner Puleo. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Arrington and put to full board for a vote. The Board unanimously passed the motion to pay the current bills.

Committee Reports

- a) **Planning Commission** – Carol Williams and Commissioner Arrington
 - An application from Adrienne Hegman was received for a permit to change the roof of her home from shingles to tin.
 - Fire Department zoning change is complete and maps will be updated to reflect the changes
- b) **Parks and Recreation** – Commissioner Hegman
 - Nothing to report
 - i) **Dog Park** (Mr. Hegman/Ms. Freese/Mr. Courtney)
 - Holes still need to be filled in
 - Cement looks good

- Dogs are digging at new concrete on large dog side
- Ladies from Wild Meadows continue to care for supply replenishment and upkeep.
- c) **Code Enforcement** – Commissioner Puleo
 - Letters were sent to 32 Bell Street and Cavalier’s, but no response has been received
 - 316 Main Street: Repairs in progress
 - Steiniger property – Reno permit expires in April of 2023
 - 364 Main Street: No response from county
 - Grow house (447 Main Street) – Email sent from Mr. Marvel. Mr. Grow has assured he will take care of any issues with property. No communication has occurred between Billy and Mayor Strouse regarding this property.
 - Anyone who remains in violation beyond the 30 days stated in the notification letter regarding bringing their property back into compliance with Town Code will be moved to the next phase of the process.
- d) **Little Creek Fire Company Report** – President Frazier/Chief Scott Bundek
 - No one present from Fire Department to give this report.
- e) **Tree Lighting** – Commissioner Strouse
 - Proposed date: December 3, 2022
 - Tree is being donated by Little Creek Grill
 - Looking into having Santa at the ceremony

Old Business

- a) **Northern Flood Study** - Commissioner Strouse
 - Emails received
 - Working toward favorable outcome
- b) **Bayshore Byways Grant** – Commissioner Strouse
 - Nothing to report.
- c) **ARPA** (American Rescue Plan Act) – Commissioner Strouse
 - \$17,001.21
 - Invoice for sidewalks has been sent to Representative Bonini
- d) **Streetlights** – Commissioner Strouse
 - New lights look good.
 - Bill paid per fixture price.
- e) **Sidewalks** – Commissioner Strouse
 - Bayshore Byways Grant will be used to cover repairs to existing sidewalks and adding 3 crosswalks.
- f) **Taxes** – Commissioner Hegman
 - Being collected at this time
- g) **Community Partnerships** - Commissioner May
 - Residents are interested in assisting with Community Outreach.
 - Survey for who wants to be involved and contact information being gathered.

- h) **Electric Rate Increase** – Commissioner Strouse
 - Mayor Strouse explained the situation with the electricity rate increase from City of Dover. Representative Carson’s office researched the “law” regarding the Town of Little Creek’s ability to purchase electricity from a source other than the current municipality and could not find said “law”.
 - City of Dover no longer produces electricity. The municipality purchases all of its electricity from an electric company. Mayor Strouse continues to communicate with Mayor Christenson about this issue and will continue to research other possible solutions for the Town.
- i) **Community Yard Sale** – Commissioner May
 - Yard Sale date: October 8, 2022
 - Can rent tables from Firehouse at \$15 per table
 - Soda and chips will be for sale
 - Joanne will hand out updated flyers for the event.
 - Would like to hold the event annually and promote it earlier
- j) **Book Box** – Commissioner Hegman
 - Commissioner Hegman acquired a cabinet that she is weatherproofing for use as the town book box.
 - Planning to register book box with the company/organization that promotes community book boxes

New Business

- a) **Proposed Solar Farm** - Commissioner Strouse
 - Chris Cartanza has decided to sell a portion of his property and wants to build solar farms on 3 different parcels located in the vicinity of the Town of Little Creek.
 - A public hearing regarding his proposal for the 3 locations and use of the land is scheduled for October 20, 2022, in the Levy Court Chambers.
 - The town has received notice and information concerning this proposal.
 - Mayor Strouse will attend the meeting at Levy Court.
- b) **Introduction of New Pastor of Little Creek UMC** – Commissioner Strouse
 - Pastor Reverend Karin Tunnell was introduced by Mayor Strouse. She then told the assembly a little of her background and plans for Roby UMC in Leipsic, and Little Creek UMC. She handed out her church newsletter to all in attendance and spoke about arranging a date to hold a Blessing of the Animals in the Bark Park. She would like to hold the event in October. Commissioner May made her acquaintance and stated she would work with the pastor to make the arrangements for the event.
 - An offering would be taken at the event to assist animal rescues who were displaced in the areas affected by Hurricane.

Public Comment

- a) Floor was opened for public comment and a question was raised concerning Trick or Treat date and time. It was decided that the town would mirror the date and time frame

when Dover plans to observe Halloween. Commissioner Hegman will post the date and hours for Trick or Treating on the Residents' Facebook page.

Adjournment -

Motion was made to adjourn meeting by Commissioner May and seconded by Commissioner Arrington. It was then put to the full Board for vote. All members having voted "Aye" the motion to adjourn was carried and the meeting was officially ended at 8:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa May

Secretary