

Town of Little Creek Council Meeting Minutes for June 3, 2024

The meeting of the Little Creek Town Board was called to order at 7:01 pm by Mayor Edward Strouse. Five Commissioners were present in person for the Town Council meeting. Commissioner Theresa May declared that five out of five members of the Board of Commissioners were present therefore, the Town Council had a quorum and was free to conduct business and begin the meeting. The five members of the Board of Commissioners present for the Town of Little Creek Council Meeting: Commissioner Edward Strouse, Commissioner Adrienne Hegman, Commissioner Jason Arrington, Commissioner Dennis May, and Commissioner Theresa May. Six members of the public were in attendance in person for the general meeting: Joanne Sullivan, Ken Frazier, Clay Crommett, Susan Freese, Joseph McGonigal, and James Woznicki. Two residents attended the meeting via Zoom: Angie Strouse and Carol Williams.

The meeting minutes from the previous month were electronically sent to the commissioners for their review prior to this meeting. These minutes were also made available to all in attendance as hard copies. A motion was made by Commissioner Hegman and seconded by Commissioner Dennis May and Commissioners Arrington to accept the minutes as received from the secretary/clerk. The motion was put to a full board vote where it was passed unanimously.

The Treasurer's report covering the period from May 6, 2024, to June 3, 2024, was electronically shared to the members of the Board of Commissioners prior to the meeting. The report was read to the those in attendance by Commissioner Hegman. Since there were no questions posed by the residents, Commissioner Arrington made a motion to accept the report as presented and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Dennis May. When put to a full vote by the board it was passed unanimously.

The current bills were included in the Treasurer's report was made available electronically to the members of the Board of Commissioners prior to the meeting and the bills were read to those in attendance by Commissioner Hegman. There were no questions from the residents in attendance. The formal motion to pay all the current bills was made by Commissioner Arrington. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Dennis May 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
 - 380 Main Street: Applying for a permit to demolish buildings at the rear of the property. Demo began and was completed by the new owners of the property before applying for the permit. Kent County Levy Court Office of Code Enforcement was contacted and an inspector was dispatched to look into the code violation. A fine was levied from the County and an application was submitted to the Town of Little Creek for the demolition. The removal of those buildings will aid in meeting County Code Enforcements requests to bring the property back to compliance.

- 326 Main Street: Property owner is applying for a permit to demolish a building. Demolition was started prior to applying for the permit. Letters have been sent. Copies of the letters will be sent to Carol Williams for the files.
 - 316 Main Street: The owner of the property is working with Mayor Strouse to develop a plan to address code violations moving forward.
- b) **Parks and Recreation** – Commissioner Hegman
- Next Movie Night in the Park scheduled for June 8, 2024. A flyer with the dates and movies to be played is posted in town. There will be two movie nights in June, two in July and one in August.
 - i) **Dog Park** - Mr. Hegman/Ms. Freese
 - Susan Freese usually takes care of trash collection at the park and Town Hall and places the dumpster at the curb for GFL pick-up every other week. She asked for someone to cover this responsibility during the summer months. Commissioner Dennis May has volunteered to take on this duty while Susan is unavailable.
 - It was reported by Susan Freese that wasps are making nests in the Dog Park bag dispenser boxes. Commissioner Arrington said he would get a can of wasp spray and spray the bag boxes.
- c) **Code Enforcement** – Commissioners Theresa and Dennis May
- 135 Main Street: Code violation – Unauthorized construction activity.
- d) **Little Creek Fire Company Report** – President Frazier/Chief Scott Bundek
- President Frazier was present and reported the following update for the Fire Company: The new ladder truck is in service.
 - The architect for the current firehouse has been paid and is working on plans to renovate the building to bring it up to compliance with the Fire Marshal’s Code.
 - Cartanza (Shady Brook Farms), has volunteered to cut the marsh grass behind the fire department building.
 - The Fire Department is speaking with other contractors to find a lower price for the construction of the firehouse.

Old Business –

- a) **Northern Flood Study** - Commissioner Strouse
 - The Nature Conservancy is working with the Lebeau family about acquiring their property for the Town and will conduct an appraisal for the purpose of possibly purchasing this property for use in flood mitigation.
- b) **ARPA** – Commissioner Strouse
 - Some of this money is being spent on Town needs. Mayor Strouse is creating a report.
- c) **Southern Flood Study** – Commissioner Strouse
 - This project will cost approximately \$2 million. More information to come but needs to be completed by June 10, 2024. Mayor Strouse’s next meeting is scheduled for June 5, 2024.

- d) **ORPT** – Commissioner Strouse
 - The Town needs to collect bids from additional contractors. Currently we only have a single bid.
- e) **Cameras for Town Hall and Park** – Commissioner Strouse
 - The Town has acquired the cameras and is looking for someone skilled to install them. Dwayne Seeley was mentioned as a possible installer and the Town will contact him about this project.
- f) **Stop Signs** – Commissioner Strouse
 - Stop signs were installed by DelDOT. It has been observed that the new traffic pattern is slowing some motorists down.
 - There is a tree that needs to be trimmed on the north side of Main Street that is blocking a sign. A motion was made by Commissioner Dennis May to contact Mike Little about trimming this tree. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Arrington and passed unanimously by the full Board of Commissioners when put to a full vote.
- g) **Spigots at Town Hall** – Commissioner Strouse
 - Messina can install the new spigots for \$975.00. A motion was made by Commissioner Arrington to use Town funds to pay Messina to install the two spigots. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Dennis May. When put to full vote of the Board of Commissioners it was passed unanimously.
- h) **Update on Repairs at Post Office** – Commissioner Strouse
 - No word on repairs at the time of this meeting.
- i) **Town's Legal Fees Concerning Tow Yard** – Commissioner Arrington
 - Commissioner Arrington made a motion to pay the remaining legal fee for Tow Yard litigation. The remaining balance of \$520.89 would be pay the account in full and free the Town of this monthly monetary obligation. Commissioner Arrington's motion was seconded by Commissioner Dennis May and was approved unanimously by the Board of Commissioners when put to a full vote.

New Business – Commissioner Strouse

- 1) The street signs for Bell, Lowe, and Wilson Street have been turned or need to be repositioned to reflect correct street names.
- 2) DelDOT is asking for approval from legislators to make the intersection of South Little Creek Road and Route 9 an All-Way Stop. Eric Buckson asked for the Town of Little Creek Board of Commissioners for input. All five Commissioners were in favor of this proposal. The contact regarding this matter is Aimee Voshell String, Chief of Legislative Relations.

Public Comment

- No public comment.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Dennis May and seconded by Commissioner Arrington. Motion was carried, and the meeting officially ended at 7:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa May

Secretary