

Town of Little Creek Council Meeting Minutes for October 7, 2024

The meeting of the Little Creek Town Board was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Edward Strouse. Four Commissioners were present in person for the Town Council meeting. Commissioner Theresa May declared that four 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 four members of the Board of Commissioners present for the start of the Town of Little Creek Council Meeting: Commissioner Edward Strouse, Commissioner Jason Arrington, Commissioner Dennis May, and Commissioner Theresa May. Commissioner Adrienne Hegman arrived after opening bringing the number of commissioners in attendance to five. Six members of the public were in attendance in person for the general meeting: Judith Hegman, Clay Crommett, Susan Freese, Carol Williams, Bill Clark, and Susan Wehner. Due to technical difficulties, the Town Council Members were unable to offer a Zoom option for attendance to this meeting.

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 D. May and seconded by Commissioner 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 September 9, 2024, to October 7, 2024, was electronically shared to the members of the Board of Commissioners prior to the meeting and was made available as hard copies to all in attendance. The report was read to the those in attendance by Mayor Strouse. The formal motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented and to pay all of the current bills was made by Commissioner T. May. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Arrington and put to full board for a vote. The Board unanimously passed the motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented and to pay the current bills.

Committee Reports

- a) **Planning Commission** – Carol Williams and Commissioner Arrington
 - The pending permits from the September meeting were paid to the Town.
 - The price to acquire a permit from the Town will be verified.
- b) **Parks and Recreation** – Commissioner Hegman and Katie Patterson
 - Susan Freese is still waiting for a receipt for the new pump that was installed at the dog park.
 - Movie nights will resume this month. A double feature will be shown on Saturday night at dusk.
 - i) **Dog Park** - Mr. Hegman/Ms. Freese
 - Nothing new to report.
- c) **Code Enforcement** – Commissioners Theresa and Dennis May
 - Code enforcement continues to send out letters to properties in violation of codes.
 - Need to follow up with the County Code Enforcement office concerning Mr. Angwin's cars.

- Need to look into demolition permit from County for 360 Main Street.
- Check on 413 Main Street.
- d) **Little Creek Fire Company Report** – President Frazier/Chief Scott Bundek
 - No report at this time.

Old Business – Commissioner Strouse

- a) **Northern Flood Study** - Commissioner Strouse
 - The money to acquire the Lebeau property is coming from the Department of Defense.
 - Before the implementation of the flood mitigation plan on the North end of Town, the purchase of the property needs to be finalized. The Town may need to withdraw temporarily and postpone the start of implementation.
 - The delay has prompted an apology from the Department of Defense to the Town of Little Creek. Mayor Strouse is asking for \$2 million in funding from the DoD to make things right for the Town. If awarded, this could potentially satisfy the cost of both the North and South flood mitigation projects without the need to use funding from FEMA.
- b) **Southern Flood Study** – Commissioner Strouse
 - See explanation above under Northern Flood Study
- c) **ORPT** – Commissioner Strouse
 - The Town has until June of 2025 to use \$37,125.00 that was awarded through the first ORPT grant.
 - The Town Board Members will continue to contact contractors for the original project in order to obtain more bids.
 - A motion was made by Commissioner D. May and seconded by Commissioner Arrington to defer the parking lot replacement, park improvement and basketball/pickleball court restoration with striping until the Spring of 2025.
 - Mayor Strouse was approved for the second grant request. The request has made it to the second round in the approval process. This award will be used to build a larger pavilion at the park and to build a permanent bathroom facility for use during Town Events only.
- d) **Cameras for Town Hall and Park** – Commissioners Strouse and T. May
 - Commissioner T. May has been in contact with former Electrical Trades Instructor, Bob Meyers who owns his own Electrical Company. He needs the specs on the cameras and will work with the Town to potentially do the hard wire install.
- e) **South Little Creek Road Stop Signs Update** – Commissioner Strouse
 - There are no visible markings at the proposed site for the installation of new Stop signs; therefore, it is not known if DelDOT is moving forward with this project.
- f) **Pedestrian Study** – Commissioner Strouse
 - Paperwork has been submitted to begin the study.

- g) **Traffic Calming** – Commissioner Strouse
 - Mayor Strouse will send another request for State Troopers (Jobs for Blue) to get some police force coverage in Town.
 - George Mayer (Viola, Delaware), recently set up a small police force in his town.
 - The Town of Little Creek is still exploring options for law enforcements within the town limits.
- h) **Tow Yard** – Commissioner Strouse
 - The draft of the letter to the Tow Yard has been reviewed by the Board of Commissioners and is ready to send to the Town Solicitor, D. Barrett Edwards, for his input.
 - Per the Land Ordinances Document most recently adopted by the Town of Little Creek, the Tow Yard will no longer be able to operate as of January 3, 2025. This property needs to be brought into compliance with Town Codes.
- i) **Well Testing** – Commissioner Strouse
 - Todd Kaiser is in charge of the well testing
 - There is a DNREC follow up meeting scheduled for October 24, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

New Business

- October 31, 2024 - Town-wide Trick or Treat
- Flood Plain Update – There is a meeting scheduled with FEMA on November 12, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. to conduct the Town Flood Audit. Mayor Strouse and Commissioner T. May will be attending this meeting.

Public Comment

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Arrington and seconded by Commissioner D. May. Motion was carried, and the meeting officially ended at 7:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa May

Secretary