



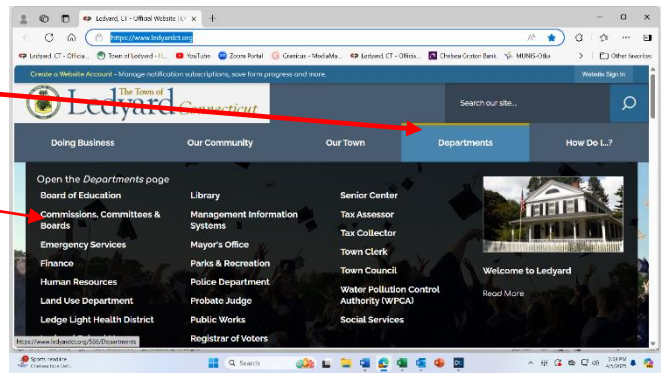
Ledyard Academy

Apply On-Line Appointment Application To Volunteer to Serve on Town Committee

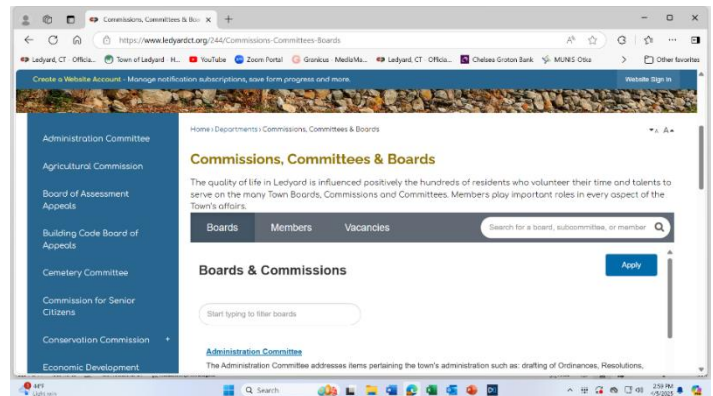
1. Visit the Town's Website at [Ledyard, CT - Official Website | Official Website](https://www.ledyardct.org)

2. Click on **Department Tab**

3. Click on **Committees Commission Boards**

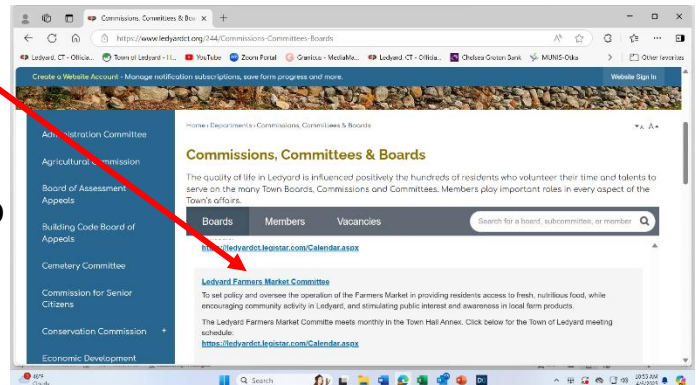


3. The next screen will open.
Scroll down to review the
Town's Committees/Commissions
& Boards



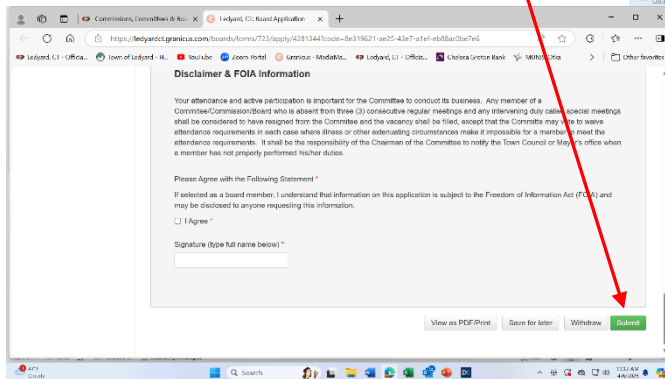
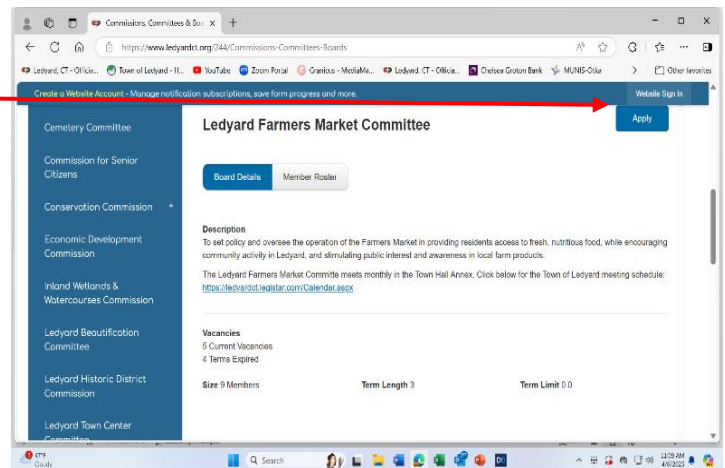
4. When you Click on a Committee
The next screen (below) will open
Providing the following

- ✓ Short Description of what they do
- ✓ List members
- ✓ List number of Vacancies



5. Click on the “**Apply**” Tab and complete the on-line Application

6. Once you have completed the Application Form click on “**submit**” Located at the bottom of the screen



7. The Granicus/Legistar System will send an email to the Town that an Application has been submitted.

8. **Town Council Appointments:**

- ✓ The Application will be forwarded to the Applicant's respective Party for a Recommendation/Endorsement.
- ✓ The Application will be forwarded to the Administration Committee to review qualifications, background, and make a recommendation to the Town Council.
- ✓ The Administration Committee forwards a recommendation.
- ✓ The Town Council would act on the Appointment Application.

- ✓ The Applicant will receive an Appointment Letter from the Town Council along with the following:

-  Committee's meeting schedule.
-  Governing Ordinance or Resolution
-  POLICY:#2022-03-23-01 *"Policy & Guidelines for Remote Meeting Participation"* (see attached)
-  Policy #2022-03-23-02 *"Policy Guidelines Electronic Communication For Elected Town Officials And Appointed Volunteers"* (see attached).

- ✓ Resident will be required to visit the Town Clerk's Office to be sworn-in before becoming a voting member of the Committee/Commission/Board

9. Mayor Appointments

- ✓ The Mayor will review the Application, qualifications and background.
- ✓ The Applicant will receive an Appointment Letter from the Mayor; along with the following:

-  Committee's meeting schedule.
-  Governing Ordinance or Resolution
-  POLICY:#2022-03-23-01 *"Policy & Guidelines for Remote Meeting Participation"* (see attached)
-  Policy #2022-03-23-02 *"Policy Guidelines Electronic Communication For Elected Town Officials And Appointed Volunteers"* (see attached).

- ✓ Resident will be required to visit the Town Clerk's Office to be sworn-in before becoming a voting member of the Committee/Commission/Board

POLICY AND GUIDELINES
FOR REMOTE MEETING PARTICIPATION

Today's technology has provided the ability to provide transparency in the operation of local government with the use of electronic devices and technology such as video teleconference platforms.

Under provisions contained in CGS Section 1-200 which states members can attend a meeting "whether in person or by means of electronic equipment"; the Town Council adopts the following "Policy and Guidelines for Remote Meeting Participation":

It is the Policy of the Town of Ledyard that the Ledyard Town Council and the Town's appointed Committees/Commissions/Boards may conduct all of their in-person meetings in a Hybrid Format enabling both in-person and remote participation, providing the appropriate technology and equipment is available at the physical meeting location. However, this does not preclude meetings from being held remotely when appropriate.

In accordance-with the Freedom of Information Act the following Protocols are required to conduct remote or hybrid meetings:

1. Remote Meetings:
The public and committee members have the ability to participate, view or listen to each meeting or proceeding either by conference call, videoconference or other technology in real time.
2. Hybrid Meetings:
Hybrid Meeting provides both in-person and remote participation, for the public, committee/commission/board member and invited guests to be involved in the meeting.
3. Acceptable Means for Remote Participation
Committee/Commission/Board Members, both elected and appointed, can attend a meeting remotely and may use the following acceptable mediums: telephone, internet, audio or video conferencing, or any other technology means that enables the remote participant and all those present at the meeting to be clearly audible to one another. Remote participation should come from a software platform and device that can provide consistent and persistent signal strength.

The Town shall designate a widely available software platform for Committees/Commissions/Boards to conduct remote meetings.

4. Posting of Notice:
The required notice and agenda for each meeting or proceeding shall be posted on the Town's Website – Meeting Portal, and shall include information about how the meeting will be conducted and how the public can access it.

If a public agency intends to conduct a regular meeting either in part or entirely through remote means, the agency must notify its Members either in writing or through electronic means of that fact not less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting. The remote meeting invite would be sufficient notification.

In accordance with CGS 1-225 the Agenda shall be posted no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting as follows:

- (1) At its regular office or place of business;
- (2) In the office of the clerk or district of the political subdivision in which the agency is located, and
- (3) On the agency's website if it has one.

The notice must also include instructions for the public on how to attend and provide comment or otherwise participate in the meeting, either in person or by electronic means, as permitted.

5. Meeting Materials:

Materials relevant to matters on the agenda, including but not limited to materials related to specific applications, if applicable, shall be submitted to the agency a minimum of twenty four (24) hours prior and posted to the agency's website for public inspection prior to, during, and after the meeting, and any exhibits to be submitted by members of the public shall, to the extent feasible, also be submitted to the agency a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting and posted to the agency's website for public inspection prior to, during, and after the meeting.

6. Conducting of Meeting

- (a) All speakers taking part in any such meeting or proceeding shall clearly state their name and title, if applicable, before speaking on each occasion that they speak. The meeting host (moderator) should mute and unmute people as needed.
- (b) The meeting host (moderator) shall ask people who are calling in to identify themselves. As an example, the moderator would say "*who is calling from 860-464-XXXX?*".
- (c) Once callers and video participants are identified, the host (moderator) may ask any participants who have a comment, to please use the "*raise your hand*" feature in the application for call in.
- (d) Participants may briefly provide comments at the start of each meeting, as specified by the meeting agenda.
- (e) Disruption by Public Participating Electronically - In the event a person or group of person attends a public meeting electronically and interrupts the proceedings or are otherwise preventing the orderly conduct of business, the agency may terminate such person's or persons' electronic access until such time as order is restored. Note that if this occurs, no business which is not on the agenda may be conducted.

7. Remote or Hybrid Participation

(a) Fully Remote Meeting:

The Chairman will serve as the Host (moderator) of the Meeting, unless the Chairman designates another to serve as the Meeting Host (moderator).

(b) Hybrid Meeting:

The Chairman shall be physically at the posted meeting location. In the event they cannot be physically be at the meeting location, they shall designate another member to serve as the Chairman-pro-tem (meeting facilitator).

The Town Council and Town Committees/Commissions/Boards plan to have a quorum present at the physical location the meeting.

It shall be the responsibility of the Chairman to ensure the proper number of committee members will be physically present at the meeting location. However, if for some reason a quorum cannot physically be at the meeting location, the following minimum number of voting members shall be physically present at the meeting location for the meeting to continue:

Committee Voting Members	Committee Members Physically Required at Hybrid Meeting Location
6 or less	2
7 – 9	3
More than 9	One-third of voting Membership

(c) Changing a Hybrid Meeting to a Fully Remote Meeting:

There may be circumstances in which a scheduled hybrid meeting may need to be changed to a fully remote meeting, such as it was not safe to meet in-person at the designated physical location.

The Hybrid Meeting could be changed to a fully Remote Meeting as follows:

Cancel the “In-Person” portion of the meeting in the same manner as any other meeting would be cancelled.

- ✓ Post a Cancellation in the Town Clerk’s Office, on the door of the meeting location, and update the on-line Agenda to state the following:

“The In-Person Portion of the _____ meeting has been Cancelled. The meeting will be held totally Electronically/Remotely”, and then again list the link and other remote information on the notice.

8. Meeting Record:

The meeting or proceeding shall be recorded or transcribed, and such recording or transcript shall be posted on the agency's website within seven (7) days of the meeting or proceeding and made available within a reasonable time in the agency's office, once the Town returns to Business as Usual.

9. Quorum

Remote participants will be able to exercise all their duties for the transaction of business, as set forth in the Town Charter; all remote participation will count toward a quorum. It shall be the responsibility of the Chairman to ensure all voting members are properly engaged through both audio and video throughout the meeting.

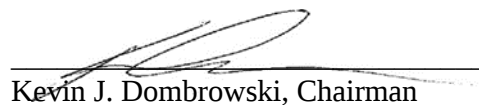
10. Executive Sessions

Remote participation at an executive session will be permitted in accordance with the guidelines of this policy. The remote participant must state for the record that they are alone and cannot be overheard during the executive session.

11. Effective Date

The “Policy and Guidelines for Remote Meeting Participation Policy” shall become effective upon adoption and supersedes other policies pertaining to this subject.

Adopted by the Ledyard Town Council on: March 23, 2022


Kevin J. Dombrowski, Chairman

.....
Revision: “Town Council Guidelines – Remote Participation” Adopted May 9, 2012; “Protocols for Remote Meeting Participation” Adopted April 8, 2020.

History:

2022: Updated to delete language regarding the Governors Executive Order No.7A, dated March 13, 2020 “*Suspending In-Person Open Meeting Requirements*” that was in response the COVID-19 Pandemic; and added introduction language regarding Hybrid Meeting.

In addition, added language throughout the document pertaining to: (1) Section 4 - Noticing of Remote/Hybrid Meetings; (2) Section 6 paragraph (f) To address public disruption by public attending meeting electronically; (3) Section 7 paragraph (b) Hybrid Meetings.

TOWN OF LEDYARD
POLICY GUIDELINES
ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION
FOR ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS AND APPOINTED VOLUNTEERS

This Policy provides guidance to elected officials and appointed volunteer members of the Town of Ledyard's Committees, Commissions and Board concerning electronic communication and for managing and retaining electronic messages, including e-mail, e-fax, instant messaging and text messaging under CGS 11-8; 11-8a and 7-109 related to town business and meetings.

1. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Policy, the following shall mean:

Meetings

In accordance with CGS Chapter 14, Section 1-200 "*Meeting*" means any hearing or other proceeding of a public agency, any convening or assembly of a quorum of a multimember public agency, and any communication by or to a quorum of a multimember public agency, whether in person or by means of electronic equipment, to discuss or act upon a matter over which the public agency has supervision, control, jurisdiction or advisory power.

A conference call, video conference, or other communication by means of electronic equipment may constitute a meeting.

Electronic Communication/Messages

Electronic messages include e-mail, e-fax, instant messaging (IM), text messaging (SMS) and web-based messaging services.

Electronic communication/messages may be transmitted by a variety of mediums, including but not limited to computers and mobile computing devices (e.g. laptops, net books, notebooks, tablets and cellular phones).

Electronic messages are public records and under the Connecticut Uniform Electronic Transactions Act (CUETA) an electronic record is "*a record created, generated, sent, communicated, received or stored by electronic means, including, but not limited to facsimiles, electronic mail, telex and internet messaging*"(CGS 1-267).

Electronic Thread

"Electronic Thread" is any string of electronic messages.

Public Record

Pursuant to CGS 1-200 "*public records or files*" means any recorded data or information relating to the conduct of the public business prepared, owned, used, received or retained by a public agency, whether such data or information may be handwritten, typed, tape-recorded, printed, Photostatted, photographed or recorded by any other method".

Record Custodian

The “Record Custodian” shall be the Administrative Assistant/Support Staff for the Town Council and its Sub Committees; and the Clerical Assistant/Fiscal Assistant/Support Staff for the Committees /Commissions/Boards of the Town of Ledyard.

2. USE OF ELECTRONIC MESSAGES/COMMUNICATION TOOL

The following guidelines are provided for Elected Officials and Appointed Volunteer Members of Town Committees/Commissions/Board in using electronic means of communication:

- a) Use e-mail to disseminate information in an effective and timely manner.
- b) Do not engage or deliberate on content contained in electronic communications.
- c) Use of IM; Text messaging and other forms of Direct Messaging for public agency business is prohibited.

3. RETENTION OF ELECTRONIC MESSAGES

Retention of electronic messages is based on the content of the message. Generally, most electronic messages have limited value and can be deleted immediately upon receipt.

However, electronic messages that document agency function and provide evidence of agency business must be retained according to the records retention schedules issued by State of Connecticut Office of Public Records Administrator under CGS 7-109 and CGS 11-8.

Electronic messages are similar to traditional postal mail. The message must be evaluated for action and subsequent retention. Maintain electronic messages for the required retention period under the equivalent records series.

Steps to determine the retention period of electronic messages:

- a. Determine whether the electronic message is a public record or non-record as outlined in records series issued by State of Connecticut Office of Public Records Administrator.
- b. If message is a record, determine which records series the message belongs to; for example:
 - Transitory Correspondence, delete at will
 - Routine Correspondence, retain for two (2) years
 - All Other Correspondence, retain for the equivalent records series issued by State of Connecticut Office of Public Records Administrator.
- c. If the message is a non-record, destroy at will (e.g. publications, notices, announcements, employee activities, spam, and unsolicited advertisements; etc.)

4. MANAGEMENT OF ELECTRONIC MESSAGES

For consistency in the management of electronic messages/records the “Record Custodian” must be included in all public record electronic communications.

The Record Custodian shall be responsible for retaining the record copy in accordance with the records retention scheduled issued by the Office of Public Records Administrator under CGS 7-109 and CGS11-8.

After an electronic thread is completed, the record custodian may retain only the last message (as long as it includes the prior messages) as the official record copy.

5. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT DISCLOSURE

Based on the above-mentioned statutes, electronic messages sent or received in the conduct of public business are public records. All electronic accounts including public accounts used to conduct public business are subject to disclosure under FOIA, a court action, or an audit and should be treated in the same manner as any other recorded information.

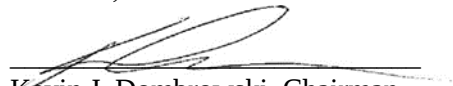
Elected Public officials are encouraged not to use private e-mail accounts and to obtain public accounts when possible.

Appointed Volunteers Members of Town Committees/Commissions/Board are strongly encouraged to set-up a separate e-mail account from their personal e-mail account to receive town business information such as agendas, minutes and related information.

6. EFFECTIVE DATE OF POLICY

The “*Policy Guidelines for Electronic Communication for Volunteer Town Officials*” shall become effective upon adoption

Amended and Adopted by the Ledyard Town Council on; March 23, 2022


Kevin J. Dombrowski, Chairman

.....
Revision: “*Policy Guidelines for Electronic Communication for Volunteer Town Officials*” Adopted: July 13, 1994;
Amended and Adopted by the Ledyard Town Council on September 12, 2012.

History:

2022: Updated “*Policy Guidelines for Electronic Communication for Volunteer Town Officials*” as follows:

Title: Added “***Elected***” and “***Appointed***”

Introduction paragraph: Added” “***Appointed***” before the word Volunteers.

Section 3

Paragraph (a): Added: ***as outlined in records series issued by State of Connecticut Office of Public Records Administrator.***

Paragraph (c): Added for further clarification: “ ***publications, notices, announcements, employee activities***

Added Section Title: “***Section 5. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT DISCLOSURE***” and renumbered remaining Sections accordingly.

Second paragraph Added: “elected”

Added new paragraph: ***Appointed Volunteers Members of Town Committees/Commissions/ Board are strongly***

encouraged to set-up a separate e-mail account from their personal e-mail account to receive town business information such as agendas, minutes and related information

Section 6 Removed: and is hereby incorporated in the ~~“Rules of Procedure for the Twenty-First Town Council”~~.