

Roxanne Maher

From: Audrey Cook <audie5147@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 2, 2025 5:05 PM
To: Town Council Group; council@ledyard.com
Cc: BOE@ledyard.net
Subject: Healthcare expenses in the Ledyard budget

Dear Ledyard Finance Committee members Councilor Saccone, Councilor Ryan, and Councilor Buhle,

Thank you for your hard work on our town budget. I know it's a difficult and painstaking process and I appreciate your hard work.

I am writing because I am very concerned about the proposal from Mayor Allyn to move health care expenses from the Town side of the budget to the BOE side.

I was very disappointed that an elected official would make such a significant change known through the comments of a Facebook post, as Mayor Allyn did.

Beside that disappointing start to this discussion, moving this expense for this year's budget is irresponsible and unnecessary. It is incumbent on all of Ledyard's elected officials to work collaboratively. Shifting this large expense to the BOE at this stage in the budget planning process is disrespectful and counterproductive to the goals of effective collaboration.

Moving this expense will not save money, and if done improperly it could cost the town money. This decision should not be rushed. Care should be taken to avoid the move of this expense costing the town extra money unnecessarily. Will the BOE be able and willing to handle the health care expenses for ALL Ledyard employees? If 40-something town employees' health coverage is not also managed by the BOE, their care will be disrupted and costs will escalate.

If it is determined that moving this expense to the BOE side of things is the best course of action, please wait until next year so it can be done properly with thorough deliberation and with all key stakeholders' cooperation.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration of these challenging questions. I thank you for your diligence and responsible stewardship of our town's tax dollars.

Thank you,
Audrey Cook
Gales Ferry resident