



# TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway  
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

## Agricultural Commission Meeting Minutes

Chairman  
Bruce Garstka

### Regular Meeting

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Tuesday, April 21, 2026

6:00 PM

Town Hall Annex-Hybrid Format

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#### I. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting was called to order by Chairman Gartska at 6:00 p.m.

#### II. ROLL CALL

**Present** Farming Community Allyson Angelini  
Community-at-Large Representative Katie Yuhas  
Alternate Member Steve Martic  
Farming Community Bruce Garstka  
Farming Community Russell Holmberg  
Farming Community Michael E. Marelli

**Late** Farming Community William Thorne

Also in attendance was Ty Lamb, Town Councilor serving as the Commission's Liaison.

William Thorne was present via Zoom at 6:06 p.m.  
Ty Lamb, Town Councilor was present via Zoom.

#### III. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

None.

#### IV. COMMENTS OF COMMISSION MEMBERS

##### 1. Comments of Commission Members.

Chairman Garstka said that Roxanne Mayer, Administrative Assistant to the Ledyard Town Council made a recommendation to postpone the Commission's Joint meeting due to a Town Council Public Hearing Budget meeting on the same night.

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

#### V. CORRESPONDENCE

##### 1. Correspondence.

Connecticut Farm Bureau newsletter.

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

## **VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

1. Informational items.

None.

## **VII. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Motion to APPROVE Regular Meeting Minutes from March 17, 2026, as written.

**RESULT:** APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

**MOVER:** Bruce Garstka

**SECONDER:** Michael E. Marelli

**AYE** 6 Angelini Yuhas Martic Garstka Holmberg Marelli

**EXCUSED** 1 Thorne

## **VIII. TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT**

1. Town Council Liaison report.

Ty Lamb, Town Councilor, reported that the budget went to Town Council for public meeting tonight. There is a meeting scheduled with the School Superintendent about the Agriscience Department on May 18, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., and requests for Commissioners to attend were made.

Ty Lamb, Town Councilor, said that the Clarke Farm Contract seems to be going well and thanked the Commission for the input. Chairman Garstka confirmed that the Clarke Farm proposal is on the agenda for the Town Council meeting tomorrow (April 22, 2026).

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

## **IX. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Any other Old Business to come before the Commission.

Chairman Garstka said the Commission's Joint Meeting is tentative scheduled during the May meeting.

**RESULT:** APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

## **X. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Any other New Business to come before the Commission.

Chairman Garstka got the paperwork for residents interested in selling the development rights of their land to review with the tax assessor. He plans to reach out to other farmers to see if they are interested in selling rights to the state.

Mr. Thorne asked if they were still only purchasing prime agricultural land. Chairman Garstka

believes they should start purchasing pastureland to reach state acreage goals.

Ms. Parkinson said she has been working with the Gales Ferry District and was wondering if there is a list of historic farms that are still actively farmed in preparation for the 250th celebration. Chairman Garstka said he didn't know of any off-hand, but noted the Allyn Farm, Holmberg Farm, Avery Farm, Lamb Farm, Morgan Farm, Geer Farm, as potential examples. Ms. Parkinson would like to highlight Ledyard as a rural community. Mr. Holmberg suggested looking at the cloth map on the wall of the Town Hall, and that there is also a book at the Nathan Lester House of some of the original houses.

Mr. Thorne suggested that the AG Commission in conjunction with land use table at the community table at one of the Farmer's Market and said he would inquire.

**RESULT: DISCUSSED**

## **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to ADJOURN the Regular Meeting at 5:15 p.m.

**DISCLAIMER:** Although we try to be timely and accurate these are not official records of the Town.