



TOWN OF LEDYARD

Agricultural Commission

Meeting Minutes

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Chairman
Bruce Garstka

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, June 17, 2025

6:00 PM

Town Hall Annex-Hybrid Format

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. ROLL CALL

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

Bill Thorne and Steve Martic were present via Zoom.

Bill Thorne and Steve Martic were appointed as voting members.

III. CITIZENS COMMENTS

None present.

IV. COMMENTS OF COMMISSION MEMBERS

1. Comments of Commission Members.
None.

V. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Informational items.
None.

VI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion to APPROVE Regular Meeting Minutes from May 20, 2025, as written.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Bruce Garstka

SECONDER: Katie Yuhas

AYE 5 Yuhas Martic Garstka Thorne Marelli

EXCUSED 2 Angelini Holmberg

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Correspondence.

Chairman Gartska said he would discuss this under Any other New Business.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

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

None.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

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

Chairman Gartska said he was speaking to his large animal veterinarian regarding fees. Veterinarians are required to pay several fees such as Federal, State, medication and controlled medication licensing fees and each one costs approximately \$800.00. If the veterinarian travels, they must pay these fees in each State they travel to. This is primarily why it is hard to find a large animal Veterinarian. Chairman Gartska said it may be worth asking State Representatives to lower State fees for Veterinarians.

Chairman Gartska mentioned to the Commission that they are invited to the Farmer's Market on June 18, 2025. He plans to be there from approximately 4:10 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Mr. Thorne said he would like the Commission to have a formal AG table at the market on another date.

Chairman Gartska said he spoke with someone from Broad Brook Farms who said he must travel to either Terryville (pigs) or Stafford Springs (cows) since there is not a slaughterhouse that is closer. He added that it's a very expensive endeavor to start a new slaughterhouse.

Mr. Thorne visited Clark Farm and spoke with someone who would be excited to use it for agricultural purposes. Another option talked about was an area for planes to take off and land. It would have to be an option that would not preclude future agricultural use.

Ledyard 250 - The Nathan Lester House will host events.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to ADJOURN the Regular Meeting at 6:23 p.m.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Bruce Garstka

SECONDER: Michael E. Marelli

AYE 5 Yuhas Martic Garstka Thorne Marelli

EXCUSED 2 Angelini Holmberg

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