



# TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway  
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339-1551  
(860) 464-3203  
council@ledyardct.org

## Town Council Meeting Minutes

Chairman S. Naomi  
Rodriguez

### Regular Meeting

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Wednesday, April 9, 2025

7:00 PM

Town Hall Council Chambers

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WORKING DRAFT

**In-Person: Council Chambers Town Hall Annex**

**Remote: Information noted below:**

**Join Zoom Meeting from your Computer, Smart Phone or Tablet:**

**<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82165671025?pwd=qHrsagIjTnax1P4QnLNFcE0FSmBx4f.1>**

**Audio Only: Telephone: +1 646 558 8656; Meeting ID: 821 6567 1025; Passcode: 718044**

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Council Chambers, Town Hall Annex Building.

Chairman Rodriguez welcomed all to the Hybrid Meeting. She stated for the members of the Town Council and the Public who were participating via video conference that the remote meeting information was available on the Agenda that was posted on the Town's Website - Granicus-Legistar Meeting Portal.

#### II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### III. ROLL CALL

**Present:** Councilor William Barnes  
Councilor April Brunelle  
Councilor Jessica Buhle  
Councilor Kevin Dombrowski  
Councilor Carmen Garcia-Irizarry  
Chairman S. Naomi Rodriguez  
Councilor Tim Ryan  
Councilor Tony Saccone  
Councilor Gary St. Vil

#### IV. PRESENTATIONS

V. RESIDENT & PROPERTY OWNERS (COMMENTS LIMITED TO THREE (3) MINUTES)

*Mr. Elleanor Murray*, 26 Devonshire Drive, Gales Ferry, addressed the following:

Proposed Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget  
Budget Advisory Questions  
Administration Committee March 12, 2025 Meeting

*Mr. Steve Munger*, 12 Nutmeg Drive, Gales Ferry, addressed the following:

Proposed Third-Party Flag Ordinance  
Administration Committee March 12, 2025 Meeting

*Mr. Eswin Murray*, 26 Devonshire Drive, Gales Ferry, addressed the following:

Budget Advisory Questions  
Separate General Government Budget and Board of Education Budget  
Low Voter Turn Out  
Proposed Ethics Commission

VI. COMMITTEE COMMISSION AND BOARD REPORTS

VII. COMMENTS OF TOWN COUNCILORS

VIII. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION to approve the Town Council Minutes of March 26, 2025

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

Communications List for April 9, 2025

X. REFERALS

XI. COUNCIL SUB COMMITTEE, LIAISON REPORTS

1. Administration Committee
2. Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
3. Finance Committee
4. Land Use/Planning/Public Works Committee
5. Liaison Reports

**XIII** REPORT OF THE MAYOR:

## XIII. OLD BUSINESS

## XIV. NEW BUSINESS

Finance Committee

1. MOTION to allocate up to \$12,500 from the National Opioid Settlement Funding (account # 20810201-58206-24206) to support the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 administration of the DARE Program in Ledyard Public Schools.

**VOTE:** 9 - 0 Approved and so declared

**RESULT:** APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

**MOVER:** April Brunelle

**SECONDER:** Tim Ryan

**AYE:** 9 Barnes, Brunelle, Buhle, Dombrowski, Garcia-Irizarry, Rodriguez, Ryan, Saccone, and St. Vil

2. MOTION to authorize overspending of account # 10120501-54300 Ledyard Fire Repairs and Maintenance by an amount not to exceed \$6,000.

**VOTE:** 9 - 0 Approved and so declared

**RESULT:** APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

**MOVER:** Tim Ryan

**SECONDER:** April Brunelle

**AYE:** 9 Barnes, Brunelle, Buhle, Dombrowski, Garcia-Irizarry, Rodriguez, Ryan, Saccone, and St. Vil

3. MOTION to approve a proposed "Amendment 2025-1 to the Town of Ledyard 401(a) Plan" Pertaining to Employees eligible for Matching Contributions; as presented by the Retirement Board in the draft dated March 18, 2025.

**VOTE:** 9 - 0 Approved and so declared

**RESULT:** APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

**MOVER:** Tony Saccone

**SECONDER:** Jessica Buhle

**AYE:** 9 Barnes, Brunelle, Buhle, Dombrowski, Garcia-Irizarry, Rodriguez, Ryan, Saccone, and St. Vil

4. MOTION to adopt a proposed Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Water Operations Budget in the amount \$1,765,531.86.

**VOTE:** 9 - 0 Approved and so declared

**RESULT:** APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

**MOVER:** April Brunelle

**SECONDER:** Tim Ryan

**AYE:** 9 Barnes, Brunelle, Buhle, Dombrowski, Garcia-Irizarry, Rodriguez, Ryan, Saccone, and St. Vil

5. MOTION to adopt a proposed Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget in the amount of \$71,062,240 comprised of:
- General Government: \$30,395,998\_
  - Board of Education: \$40,667,242 .

MOTION to amend the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget to reduce the Board of Education proposed budget increase from 5.99% to 5% for a revised Education Budget in the amount of \$40,288,314.

Moved by Councilor Ryan, seconded by Councilor Barnes

**VOTE: 3 - 6 Amendment Failed** ( Brunelle, Buhle, Garcia-Irizarry, Rodriguez, Saccone, St. Vil not in favor)

Vote on Main Motion as follows:

- MOTION to adopt a proposed Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget in the amount of **\$71,062,240** comprised of:
- General Government: **\$30,394,998**
  - Board of Education: **\$ 40,667,242**

**VOTE: 6 - 3 Approved and so declared** ( Barnes, Dombrowski, Ryan not in favor)

**RESULT:** APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

**MOVER:** Tony Saccone

**SECONDER:** April Brunelle

**AYE:** 6 Brunelle, Buhle, Garcia-Irizarry, Rodriguez, Saccone, and St. Vil

**NAY:** 3 Barnes, Dombrowski, and Ryan

6. MOTION to set a Public Hearing (Hybrid Form - (Video Conference and In-Person) date to be held on April 21, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. to be held in Ledyard Middle School Auditorium 1860 Route 12, Gales Ferry, Connecticut, to receive.

**VOTE: 9 - 0 Approved and so declared**

**RESULT:** APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

**MOVER:** Jessica Buhle

**SECONDER:** Tony Saccone

**AYE:** 9 Barnes, Brunelle, Buhle, Dombrowski, Garcia-Irizarry, Rodriguez, Ryan, Saccone, and St. Vil

- 7. MOTION to set the Annual Town Meeting ( Hybrid Format (Video Conference and In-Person) date regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget on May 19, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. to be held at the Ledyard Middle School Auditorium, 1860 Route 12, Gales Ferry, Connecticut; and to adjourn to a Referendum to be held on May 20, 2025 between the hours of 6:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m.

**VOTE:** 9 - 0 Approved and so declared

**RESULT:** APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

**MOVER:** Tim Ryan

**SECONDER:** Jessica Buhle

**AYE:** 9 Barnes, Brunelle, Buhle, Dombrowski, Garcia-Irizarry, Rodriguez, Ryan, Saccone, and St. Vil

- 8. MOTION to acknowledge the following “Advisory Questions” will be placed on the May 20, 2025 Referendum, in accordance with Chapter VII, Section 7 of the Town Charter:

1.) Do you believe the Board of Education budget is:

Too High

Or

Too Low

2.) Do you believe the General Government budget is:

Too High

Or

Too Low.

**VOTE:** 9 - 0 Approved and so declared

**RESULT:** APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

**MOVER:** Jessica Buhle

**SECONDER:** Kevin Dombrowski

**AYE:** 9 Barnes, Brunelle, Buhle, Dombrowski, Garcia-Irizarry, Rodriguez, Ryan, Saccone, and St. Vil

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Buhle moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Dombrowski.

**VOTE:** 9 - 0 Approved and so declared. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

**DISCLAIMER:**

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

The Town Council's Official Agenda and final Minutes will be on file in the Town Clerk's Office.