

Roxanne Maher

From: Carmen Garcia Irizarry
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 6:23 PM
To: Roxanne Maher
Subject: Fwd: Ethics Ordinance - Administration Committee for the Ledyard Town Council

To be included in the agenda.

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Ritter, Matthew D." <MRitter@goodwin.com>
Date: February 3, 2026 at 3:20:58 PM EST
To: Carmen Garcia Irizarry <cgiri@ledyardct.org>
Subject: RE: Ethics Ordinance - Administration Committee for the Ledyard Town Council

Hi Carmen – thank you for your email.

Any amendments to the ordinance will have to go back through the same process as the original ordinance. Creating an “appendix” to the ordinance does not allow the Town Council to avoid following the same process to amend the ordinance in the future.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions related to this issue.

Thanks, Matt



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From: Carmen Garcia Irizarry <CGIri@ledyardct.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 2:19 PM
To: Ritter, Matthew D. <MRitter@goodwin.com>
Subject: Ethics Ordinance - Administration Committee for the Ledyard Town Council

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please be cautious of links and attachments.

Hi Matt,

I think I have exchanged communications with you in the past, but either way, I want to introduce myself. My name is Carmen N. Garcia-Irizarry and I am the current Chair of the Administration Committee.

In the last few meetings, the Administration committee took another look of the draft of the Ethics Ordinance and we incorporated the feedback that you had sent to Councilor Buhle, some of the feedback received during the public hearing and from Town employees. Before I send you the hopefully final draft of the ordinance, I would like to ask you a question.

During the last meeting, one of the councilors suggested that instead of including every single commission or committee that we have in Town to only include a subset - mainly the ones that have regulatory power and/or whose decisions affect residents directly. The two other members (including myself) of the committee would like to keep them all, but we arrived at a compromise that entails including an appendix to the ordinance that will indicate which committees and commissions have to follow the ordinance. As of right now, the ordinance will include everyone, but the purpose of the appendix is to allow the Town Council in the future to modify who is covered by the ordinance without having to go through the whole process again of modifying the ordinance and bringing it to public hearing, etc. We also agreed that there were certain groups (such as P&Z, Economic Development Commission, etc.) that were mandatory and that no future council could remove from the ordinance.

I would prefer for all officials, elected or appointed, to be included and not just the ones from a subset of commissions and committees. And if future councils would like to remove groups from the ordinance then have them follow the traditional process for modifying ordinances. In my mind this is simpler. But it's not just about what I want, but what the full committee wants and agrees on. I just would like to hear your thoughts and recommendations about this appendix idea so I can share it with the rest of the committee next Wednesday.

The Administration committee has its next meeting next Wednesday, February 11th, and I am hoping that we can agree on the final draft that will be sent to Town Council. I am planning on sending you the draft either tomorrow or Wednesday so at our next meeting the committee can discuss the draft with your feedback and recommendations. But before I send you the draft, I wanted to hear your legal opinion about this and incorporate it into it.

Thank you very much for your help and please let me know if you have any questions.

Respectfully,
Carmen
Ledyard Town Council
860-389-4644

Sent from my iPad

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