



TOWN OF LEDYARD

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Ledyard, Connecticut 06339-1551
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Town Council Meeting Minutes

Chairman Kevin J.
Dombrowski

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, September 14, 2021

7:00 PM

Council Chambers - Town Hall
Annex- Hybrid Format

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/89132227848?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89132227848?pwd=dGowRWVxeFBXQIRTZDNEMHZrdmt3UT09)

pwd=dGowRWVxeFBXQIRTZDNEMHZrdmt3UT09

Or by Audio Only: Telephone: +1 646 558 8656; Meeting ID 891 3222 7848;

Passcode:398644

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

Chairman Dombrowski welcomed all to the Hybrid Meeting. He stated for the members of the Town Council and the Public who were participating via video conference that 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: Chairman Kevin Dombrowski
Councilor Whit Irwin
Councilor Whit Irwin
Councilor Gary Paul
Councilor Gary Paul
Councilor S. Naomi Rodriguez
Councilor S. Naomi Rodriguez
Councilor Tim Ryan
Councilor Tim Ryan
Councilor Bill Saums

Excused: Councilor Andra Ingalls
Councilor Andra Ingalls
Councilor John Marshall
Councilor John Marshall
Councilor Mary K. McGrattan
Councilor Mary K. McGrattan

IV. PRESENTATIONS

None.

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

Ms. Joanne Kelley, 12 Thames View Pentway, Gales Ferry, stated she has lived at this address for 43 years noting that the road opened onto Route 12 close to the traffic light at the Dow Chemical site. She stated she was present this evening to comment on the complicated and confusing process the Cashman Dredging and Marine Contracting proposed Solid Waste Facility at the former Dow Chemical Site on Route 12 was to residents. She stated that she belonged to a *Committee of Concerned Citizens* who were trying to follow the process, be informed, and to seek as much transparency as possible. She requested the following:

- The Town's Traffic Commission schedule Public Meetings to allow residents to ask questions regarding traffic impact, traffic studies, traffic history and historical data. Ms. Kelley noted it was the residents understanding that this type of data may come into play as part of the approval process.
- The Town Council, the Mayor, and others to be transparent with the residents about the benefits the proposed Solid Waste Facility at the former Dow Chemical Site on Route 12 would provide to the Town.

Ms. Kelley stated records from the Tax Assessor's Office show that over the last several years the value of the former Dow Chemical property has dramatically decreased noting it has dropped from \$8 million to \$5.4 million. Therefore, she stated that she would assume that tax revenue has also been sharply reduced during that time period. She questioned whether there was a reason to believe that the proposed Solid Waste Facility would increase the value to the town. She stated it did not appear that the Developers planned to build any structures and that they would mostly use third party vendors.

Ms. Kelley stated that she was not anti-dredging or anti-business, noting that she understood that it was a necessary evil for our industries and our national security. She stated that she saw a number of potential businesses that would be a very nice fit at the Dow Chemical site, even if they would increase traffic. She stated she was pro-development for Ledyard, noting that there was such a thing as the "*Right Plan for the Wrong Place*".

Ms. Kelley stated she first heard about the Solid Waste Facility proposal when Mr. Bill Saums posted the Environmental Justice Public Participation Plan on Facebook last spring (2022). She stated as a resident who lived less an a tenth of a mile from the site that it was a

red flag to her when she was not included on the list of abutters the Developers notified. She stated the Environmental Justice Public Participation Plan stated the Developer would notify the impacted community. She noted the Application for the proposed Solid Waste Facility was currently being reviewed by the Department of Environmental and Energy Protection (DEEP) and she explained that this process included a 60-day clock, which began on July 18, 2022 with the Public Information Forum that was held at the Ledyard Middle School, which only left residents with more questions than answers, noting that there was a lot of information that was contradictory to the written Plan. She stated at the July 18, 2022 Public Information Forum the residents were promised that there would be more meetings and vigorous interaction with the Company. However, she stated to-date the Company has refused any and all of the residents attempts to have further meetings. She stated the written Plan has not been revised to reflect any of the verbal concessions that were given at the July 18, 2022 Public Information Forum, noting that the Plan still stands with 1,000 trucks per day.

Ms. Kelley stated residents thought that perhaps they could talk with the Planning & Zoning Commission and look at the Zoning Regulations to learn about the process. However, she stated residents learned that the Zoning Regulations were in the middle of being completely overhauled. Therefore, she stated they have no idea if the permits for the Solid Waste Facility would fall under the old Zoning Regulations or the new Zoning Regulations. She stated every question regarding the process was answered with “*Well, it depends*”. She stated that the residents were aware that to-date an Application for the Solid Waste Facility has not been submitted to the town; and that DEEP would be a big factor in all of this. She stated residents cannot find any information. She stated State Senator Cathy Osten attended the DEEP August, 2022 meeting and that there was no Public Hearing planned for the approval of the proposed Solid Waste Facility on Route 12 in Gales Ferry.

Ms. Kelley continued by noting that residents have heard that there may be other agencies involved in the process regarding the proposed Solid Waste Facility, such as the Environmental Protection Agency, Army Core of Engineers, Department of Transportation, Federal Railroad Administration, and on, and on. She stated residents were struggling to understand the process.

Ms. Kelley concluded by asking whether the Town could provide to residents any resources, or information other than the two items she requested this evening.

Chairman Dombrowski thanked Ms. Kelley for her comments. However, he stated Ledyard does not have a Traffic Commission, noting that the State has a Traffic Commission. Ms. Kelley stated she was told by an elected official that every town has a Traffic Commission and that they rarely meet, and that Ledyard’s Traffic Commission was headed up by Police Chief Rich. Ms. Kelley asked that Police Chief Rich hold a meeting for residents to ask questions and to obtain general information about traffic. Chairman Dombrowski stated that Chief Rich would only be able to obtain any previous traffic records that the Department of Transportation had. He stated that Ms. Kelley could obtain the same information from the Department of Transportation. Ms. Kelley stated that it would be helpful if Chief Rich could obtain the records from the State Department of Transportation (DOT).

VI. COMMITTEE COMMISSION AND BOARD REPORTS

None.

VII. COMMENTS OF TOWN COUNCILORS

Councilor Paul stated on August 31, 2022 he had the honor and privilege to serve his community with some of his fellow Councilors at the Community Relations Committee “*Are You Ready for Winter?*” table at the Farmers Market. He thanked Councilor Saums and Councilor Rodriguez for their efforts in preparing for and their participation in hosting the event. He stated the “*Are You Ready for Winter?*” Event featured the following gtown and regional services:

- ✓ Mental Health Resources
- ✓ Brian’s Healing Heart Suicide Prevention from Niantic
- ✓ Youth & Family Counseling Services -
- ✓ Ledyard Visiting Nurses - Home Health Care
- ✓ Energy Home Heating Fuel Assistance
- ✓ Utilities - Electric & Water Assistance
- ✓ Meal Delivery for Home Bound Individuals
- ✓ Renters Rebate Program
- ✓ No Interest Home Improvement Loans
- ✓ Linda C. Davis Food Pantry
- ✓ United Way of Southeastern Connecticut located in Gales Ferry
- ✓ Special Needs Family Registry
- ✓ Blue Envelope & Green Envelope Program for drivers with special needs was supported by the Police Department
- ✓ Ledge Light Health District Alliance for Living
- ✓ NLC Cares Team who were in attendance to recognize “*Overdose Awareness Day*”

Councilor Paul thanked the Ledyard Farmers’ Market Committee and all the volunteers who work hard every week to put on the Farmers Market all summer long. He stated there was no better Farmers Market than what they have in Ledyard; and that it was the volunteers who run it that make it so successful. He thanked the Farmers Market Committee for allowing the Community Relations Committee to host tables at the Market this summer to provide important information to our residents.

Councilor Paul continued by thanking the following:

- Ledyard Police Department - Councilor Paul stated the Police Department's willingness to actively seek out ways to bring our community together, while also being willing to listen, learn and grow. He noted the Police Department's work does not go unnoticed.
- Brian's Healing Heart Suicide Prevention from Niantic. - Councilor Paul stated the Brian Dagal Foundation provides education to help break the stigma of mental health, while saving countless lives.
- Ledyard Prevention Coalition and Ledge Light Health District Alliance for the Living and the NLC Cares Team. Councilor Paul stated they provided Narcan Kits to reverse drug overdose.
- Ledyard Youth Services Coordinator Kate Sikorsky-Maynard and Social Services Coordinator Kristen Chapman. Councilor Paul stated Ms. Sikorsky took the time to talk with him about the various services she and her Department provides to the community. He also thanked Ms. Chapman for her work in helping to support residents in our community. He stated Ms. Chapman provided the Committee with a lot of information which helped the Community Relations Committee prepare for the August 31, 2022 event.

Councilor Paul concluded by stating he was grateful, and that he appreciated everyone who helped the Community Relations Committee host the "*Are You Ready for Winter?*" table at the Farmers Market. He noted the number people he thanked this evening showed the community that help, and services were available. He stated it showed that to break the stigma of mental health, to overcome racism, and to beat violence that they must come together as a community. He stated only by listening, educating and overcoming challenges together was how they could build a strong community that would weed out the things that seek to divide us. He stated it starts with us, within our homes, and moves to our neighbors, then the neighborhood, then the schools, and then to other towns, and to the region. He stated he was proud of our community and that he was proud of Ledyard' volunteers who serve to make Ledyard such a great place live and work. He stated all this was on display at the Community Relations "*Are You Ready for Winter?*" table at the August 31, 2022 Farmers Market; like it was everyday here Ledyard. He reminded people that if they need to help to please reach out, noting information was available on the town's website at www.ledyardct.org <<http://www.ledyardct.org>>; or they could call the Town Hall or any member of the Town Council. He stated folks should never be ashamed or embarrassed if they need help. ***He stated if you were suffering from depression, anxiety or any mental health crisis please call 211;*** or the Ledyard Youth & Social Services Department at: (860) 464-3213 or (860) 464-3222 to find out how you can be connected to people who can help. He stated ***No One is Alone*** and if you or someone you know was having thoughts of suicide, to please call the ***Suicide Crisis Center*** at ***988*** or dial ***911***.

Councilor Paul continued by announcing on Saturday, October 8, 2022 that an Inspirational Festival - *First Fruits of the Harvest* will be held at the Sweet Hill Farm in Gales Ferry from 12:00 Noon - 4:00 p.m. He stated this would be a non-town event, which would feature

vendors, inspirational worship music, and some churches would be represented. He stated the focus would be on mental health and that he would give a short talk on mental health.

Councilor Rodriguez thanked the Ledyard Farmers' Market Committee for organizing and managing the Farmers' Market. She stated the Committees hard work does not go unnoticed, stating that she enjoyed the Farmers Market all summer. She stated on August 31, 2022 the Farmers Market and Community Relations Committee hosted the Brian Dage Foundation and Brian's Healing Heart Center for Hope and Healing. She stated the Brian Dage Foundation had many visitors to their tent at the Market at which they spoke with folks about dealing with grief, loss, and suicide prevention. She thanked Brian's Healing Heart for coming to Ledyard.

Councilor Rodriguez stated Chief Rich has been working with the Groton Town Police Department, Waterford Police Department, and the Southern Connecticut State University Center for Excellence in Autism Spectrum Disorders to provide a *Mock Traffic Stop Program* that would be directed toward individuals with Autism, Deaf -Hearing Impaired or New Drivers. She stated the *Mock Traffic Stop Presentation* would be held on Saturday October 1, 2022 at Fitch High School from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon. She noted this idea for a *Mock Traffic Stop* came up during a meeting with the Ledyard Police Department and parents of autistic children. She stated in preparation for the *Traffic Stop* the Ledyard Police Department would be hosting an Ice Cream Social at the Ledyard Senior Center on Van Tassel Drive, Gales Ferry, on Friday, September 30, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. for the community and families with autistic individuals.

Councilor Rodriguez continued by noting that she along with Mayor Allyn, III, attended the Ledyard Prevention Coalition Meeting on September 6, 2022 at which their Annual Report was provided. She went on to announce the following events: (1) Trunk or Treat October 28, 2022 - Ledyard Prevention Coalition would participate in the event; (2) National Prescription Drug Take Back Day October 29, 2022 - The Ledyard Police Department would be participating in the event; (3) Suicide Mental Health Prevention Awareness September 21, 2022 2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. at the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation Pharmacy parking lot.

Councilor Saums complimented Community Relations Committee Chairman Paul on the work he was doing. He stated Councilor Paul was doing a great job and he thanked him for his work.

Councilor Irwin stated tonight was the last Farmers' Market for the 2022 Summer Season. He stated the Farmers Market was a phenomenal weekly event that has brought the community together all summer long. He thanked Market Manager Lauriann Hary and Committee Volunteers who put their hearts and sole into the event and it showed every week.

VIII. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION to approve the following:
Special Meeting Minutes of July 27, 2022

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Whit Irwin

SECONDER: S. Naomi Rodriguez

AYE: 6 Dombrowski, Irwin, Paul, Rodriguez, Ryan, and Saums

EXCUSED: 3 Ingalls, Marshall, and McGrattan

Regular Meeting Minutes of July 27, 2022

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Whit Irwin

SECONDER: S. Naomi Rodriguez

AYE: 6 Dombrowski, Irwin, Paul, Rodriguez, Ryan, and Saums

EXCUSED: 3 Ingalls, Marshall, and McGrattan

Special Meeting Minutes of August 3, 2022

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Whit Irwin

SECONDER: S. Naomi Rodriguez

AYE: 6 Dombrowski, Irwin, Paul, Rodriguez, Ryan, and Saums

EXCUSED: 3 Ingalls, Marshall, and McGrattan

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

Chairman Dombrowski stated a Communications List has been provided and he noted the referrals listed.

Communications List for September 14, 2022

X. REFERRALS

XI. COUNCIL SUB COMMITTEE, LIAISON REPORTS

1. Administration Committee

Councilor Irwin noted although the Administration Committee has not met since the last Town Council meeting, that they had two items on tonight’s agenda.

RESULT: .

2. Community Relations Committee

Councilor Paul stated the Community Relations met on August 17, 2022 and addressed the following: (1) *Are You Ready for Winter Event ?* - Councilor Paul stated as he mentioned earlier this evening (see above - *VI. Councilor Comments*) the Committee hosted a table at the August 31, 2022 Farmers Market to connect the community with services that were available to help those in-need and to focus on mental health; (2) *Mission Statement* - The Committee was making progress on their Mission Statement to more accurately reflect the purpose and goals of the current committee; (3) *Informal Gathering with the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Council (MPTN)* - Councilor Paul stated due to illness the Gathering that was previously scheduled for September 8, 2022 would be rescheduled; (4) *Informal Conversations with the Community* - Councilor Paul noted the Community Relations Committee engaged with residents at the East Drive Park on July 20, 2022 and he stated that the Committee was looking to host more informal conversation with residents at various venues in town. He stated The Committee would be looking for community input on topics for discussion. He stated the Informal Conversations around town was a great way for residents to engage and talk about issues in a casual setting and allowed the Committee to bring those issues back to the Town Council. He encouraged residents to contact any member of the Town Council to suggest topics that they were interested in; (5) *National Faith and Blue Weekend - Sunday October 9, 2022 from 2:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.* - Councilor Paul stated the Community Relations Committee would be participating in the “*National Faith and Blue Weekend*” with the Ledyard Police Department. He explained the focus of the *National Faith and Blue Weekend*, which was scheduled for the weekend of October 7 - 10, 2022, was to pro-actively engage community members, faith-based organizations, civic organizations, and law enforcement in activities that would allow them to connect on a personal level, and in doing so, create a safer and stronger community. He stated the event would be a Clam Chowder-Fish Fry and would be held at either the Holdridge Pavilion at the Town Green or at the Congregational Church Fellowship Hall. He stated this would be a non-political event with the hope that they would be joined by other civic and faith-based organizations, along with the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Police Department and Tribal Members as well. He encouraged residents to mark their calendars for the *Ledyard’s Faith and Blue Weekend - Sunday October 9, 2022 from 2:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.*

Councilor Saums addressed *National Faith and Blue Weekend*, noting that the date has been set for *Sunday October 9, 2022 from 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.* however, the event was still in the planning phase. He stated to-date the Congregational Church has not met to consider the proposal. He stated that they were also reaching out to other churches in town.

RESULT: .

3. Finance Committee

Councilor Saums stated the Finance Committee held their hybrid meeting on September 7, 2022. He stated in addition to the items on tonight’s agenda the Commission discussed a Board of Education request to: (1) Increase the Roof Project Bid amount from \$35.000 per square foot to \$50.000 per square foot for the reroofing of the Gales Ferry School and Juliet W. Long School; and (2) Acknowledge that the town was aware that the State would only provide a Grant reimbursement rate of 75% of the cost of the project to satisfy the State and their process. He explained according to the State’s records, the Gales Ferry School roof was not accepted by the Board of Education until 2006. He stated although the School opened in

1999 that the State's records indicate that the roof does not meet the 20-year lifecycle requirement. Therefore, he explained the State would reduce the reimbursement by 20%; and that the State was looking for the Town Council to acknowledge this 20% reduction in the grant reimbursement to the town. He also noted that Finance Director Matthew Bonin has contacted the State Board of Education to obtain the documentation imposing these requirements. He noted Board of Education Director of Facilities and Grounds Mr. Donaldson stated for the School reroofing projects that he obtained a cost estimate in the amount of \$35.00 per square foot from the contractor who put the new roofs on the Town Hall and the Annex Building this summer. He stated in developing his numbers that Mr. Donaldson stated that he increased the dollar amount to \$38.00 per square foot because he knew the Board of Education's roof projects were going to be a year out. Councilor Saums stated at the February 22, 2022 Town-wide Referendum the townspeople approved to Bond \$6,725,000 for various school improvement projects, including replacement of the roofs at the Central Office, **Gales Ferry School, and Juliet W. Long School**; installation of solar equipment at Gales Ferry School and Juliet W. Long School "*Resolution Appropriating \$6,275,000 for Various School Improvement Projects; and Authorizing the Issue of Bonds and Notes in the Same to Finance Said Appropriation*". Therefore, he stated they believed the town has bonded enough money to cover the State's increase requirements. He stated the Finance Committee hoped to have more information at their September 21, 2022 to make a recommendation to the Town Council.

RESULT: .

4. Land Use/Planning/Public Works Committee

Councilor Paul stated at their August 1, 2022 meeting the LUPPW Committee discussed the following: (1) "*An Ordinance Regulating Parking of Commercial Vehicles on Public Streets in Residential Zones and/or In Front of Residentially Used Properties*" - Councilor Paul explained in response to some residents' concerns regarding safety issues pertaining to large commercial vehicles being parked on residential streets which was impeding sightlines, and other concerns, the LUPPW Committee forwarded a proposed Ordinance, as contained in the draft dated June 8, 2022 to the Administration Committee for their review; (2) Commercial activity at 576 Lantern Hill Road, relative to the Court's Stipulated Agreement to determine whether the matter was a Zoning issue or a Town legal matter - Councilor Paul reported that the LUPPW Committee agreed by consensus that the 576 Lantern Hill Road matter was a Zoning Issue; and therefore, the Town Council had no authority to take any action regarding this land use matter; (3) Proposed Ledyard Garden - Councilor Paul noted the LUPPW Committee discussed Mr. Moriarty's proposal dated July 13, 2022 regarding a Ledyard Garden and invited him to attend their September 19, 2022 meeting to further discuss Mr. Moriarty's proposal and to obtain clarification regarding his idea.

Councilor Rodriguez addressed the LUPPW Committee's decision regarding the commercial activity at 576 Lantern Hill Road. She stated although the LUPPW Committee discussed the subject that they did not come to the conclusion Councilor Paul reported this evening. Councilor Paul stated during their discussion the LUPPW Committee realized that the Town Council had no authority on the pending legal matter.

RESULT: .

5. Water Pollution Control Authority

Councilor Saums stated the WPCA met on August 23, 2022 and addressed the following: (1) Tetrahydroane (THM) Levels - Routine flushing (twice per week) of specific fire hydrants and blow-offs resulted in the THM Levels dropping just below the .081 milligrams per liter in both water systems in July. Customers have been notified of this change thru their Billing Statement; (2) Wastewater Treatment Plant agitator was not properly working and may need to be redesigned at a cost of approximately \$15,000. The WPCA planned to have an Engineer assess the cause and recommend a solution; (3) Chidley Way Dry Main Connection - Groton Utilities provided a cost estimate to connect the dry main on Chidley Way to the watermain on Gallup Hill Road, as requested by the Chidley Way residents. The cost would be \$500,000 for an 8-inch main or \$618,000 for a 12-inch main if they decided to install a larger main for future expansion to Iron Street. If the testing of the dry main on Chidley Way was found not compliant with water class pipe, the pipe must be replaced at an additional cost of \$390,000. The WPCA would be communicating this information to the Chidley Way residents. If the Chidley Way residents were willing to support a portion of the cost the watermain project, the WPCA may come to the Town Council to seek additional funds; (4) Demolition of Gallup Hill Water Storage Tank - The demolition of the Gallup Hill Water Tank has been completed; (5) Ledyard Center Water Tank Painting - To-date no estimates to paint the Ledyard Center Water Tank (Route 117) have been received. Groton Utilities continues to pursue companies to provide cost estimates to paint the top/roof of the Ledyard Center Water Storage Tank. Calls to painters were not being returned; (6) Wastewater Pump - The installation of the Smith and Loveless Pump was completed in mid-August, 2022. However, the delivery of the pump has been delayed to October, 2022; (7) Ledyard Center Sewer Line Extension Project - Multi-Model Pathway Project - The Engineering Plans for the Ledyard Center Sewer Line Extension Project - Multi-Model Pathway Project have been completed. The Plans will be sent for an Agency review before soliciting competitive bids.

RESULT: .**6. Economic Development Commission**

Councilor Paul stated the EDC met on September 6, 2022 and discussed the following: (1) Continuing to work on their Strategic Plan; (2) Sunnyside Diner in Gales Ferry Ribbon Cutting was held on July 27, 2022; (3) Upcoming Ribbon Cuttings, with dates to be announced were as follows: Portalina Restaurant, My Pets World, Lucille's Café, Costal Mud Works Pottery Studio, Lucky's Nail Salon & Spa under new ownership, and Mohegan Trading Store; (3) Arc of Eastern Connecticut Donation Station Program - Arc supports individuals with disabilities. Arc was looking to place bottle recycling bins at various locations. The bottle return fees would be collected to support Arc. There would be two size bins and most communities were participating in the program. The EDC discussed the following potential locations for the Arc Bottle Recycling Bins: Transfer Station, Ocean State Job Lot or CVS in Gales Ferry. More information can be found at their website at:

[<https://www.thearcct.org/>](https://www.thearcct.org/)

RESULT: .**7. Senior Citizens Commission**

Councilor Rodriguez stated the Senior Citizens Commission met on August 24, 2022. and she

reported: (1) Covid Vaccine Clinic - Wednesday, September 28, 2022 from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.; (2) Flu Vaccine Clinic -Wednesday, October 5, 2022 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Bring your insurance cards. For those who have do not have insurance the cost was \$20.00; (3) Senior Center Power Washing - Public Works power washed the Senior Center Building and expanded the front entrance. The Senior Citizens Commission thanked Mayor Allyn and the Public Works Department.

RESULT: .

8. Agricultural Commission

Councilor Rodriguez stated the Commission has scheduled a joint meeting for Tuesday October 18, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex Building to meet with other Land Use Commissions (Conservation Commission, Planning & Zoning Commission, Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission). The joint meeting would focus on common issues to become aware of the goals that could benefit more than one Commission for both the short-term and long-term objectives. The Agricultural Commission would like to host this type of joint meeting on an annual or biannual basis.

RESULT: .

9. Inland Wetland and Water Courses Commission 9/14/2022

Councilor Paul noted the IWWC met on September 6, 2022 at which Weston & Sampson Engineers presented their Application for the Multi-Model Pathway (Trail and Sidewalk Extension Project) for Colonel Ledyard Highway. Of the 3.65 acres of disturbance only about 18,000 square feet was in the wetland regulated area. The only impacted areas were 120 square feet of permanent wetland in one area and 570 square feet of permanent wetland in another area. With regard to the impact to water quality and potential runoff new catch basins and a hydrodynamic separator would be installed to filter out sediments and other substances. The Plan also included detention basins to naturally filter the water. The IWWC voted to classify the Application as a Class B Nonsignificant Activity and they also approved the Wetlands Application.

RESULT: .

10. Conservation Commission 10/12/2022

Councilor Rodriguez stated the Conservation Commission met on September 13, 2022 and she noted Commissioner David Holdridge attended the meeting and presented a proposal for the Conservation Commission to apply for an Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition (OSWA) Grant. She stated Mr. Holdridge has done so much for Ledyard, noting that he served on the Town Council for sixteen years and has been instrumental in the development of the Tri-Town Trail (Bluff Point to Preston Plains Park). She congratulated Mr. Holdridge for all that he has done for the Town, noting that that everyone was very happy to see him and wished him good health in the future.

RESULT: .

XII. REPORT OF THE MAYOR

REPORT OF THE MAYOR:

Mayor Allyn, III, reported on the following: (1) Commercial activity at 576 Lantern Hill Road, relative to the Court's Stipulated Agreement - Mayor Allyn noted Councilor Paul's LUPPW Committee Report earlier this evening and Councilor Rodriguez's comments regarding the Lantern Hill property. He urged caution regarding the discussion of the 576 Lantern Hill Road, explaining that this was a pending legal zoning matter. He stated the Town's Land Use Attorney was handling the matter and he stated the matter would likely go back to court. He stated should anyone involve themselves in the matter they would most likely be called into court; (2) Cashman Dredging and Marine Contracting proposed Solid Waste Facility at the former Dow Chemical Site on Route 12, in Gales Ferry - Mayor Allyn stated his first and only meeting to date with Jay Cashman and his Team was on August 3, 2022. He stated because there was no pending Application before the Town there was little to no discussion on the matter. He stated other than the fact that Mr. Cashman owned the former Dow Chemical property on Route 12 in Gales Ferry, that there was nothing regarding the proposed development with the town. He stated to meet the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) requirements Mr. Cashman held an Environmental Justice Informational Forum on July 18, 2022 at the Ledyard Middle School. Mayor Allyn stated he understood that there were some frustrations surrounding the property and with what was going on. However, he stated because there was no Town Application pending there was nothing for the town to look at to be able to ask questions. Therefore, he asked that residents to be patient, noting when the time was right more information would come forward; (3) United States Coast Guard Academy 232nd Birthday Celebration - Mayor Allyn stated he attended the Celebration at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, noting there was a lot of positive activity in terms of renovations and construction; (4) Road Surfacing Work continues - Mayor Allyn noted Oak Hills Trail and sections from Whalehead Road from Route 214 to Sandy Hollow Road and several smaller roads were on the list for work before the paving season ends this year; (5) GovDeals.com Surplus Sale - Mayor Allyn stated he conducted a Surplus Sale for the Board of Education using the on-line Gov Deals.com site, noting they had a lot of cafeteria equipment to sell; (6) National Opioid Settlement - Mayor Allyn stated the National Prescription Opiate Litigation Plaintiffs' Executive Committee confirmed that the \$26 billion global opioid settlements were finalized with the "Big Three" drug distributors - AmerisourceBergen, Cardinal Health, and McKesson and opioid manufacturer Johnson & Johnson for the participation of litigating local governments nationwide. He stated as part of this settlement that Ledyard would be receiving \$8,748.22 in their first payment. He stated Ledyard would be receiving four payments from the Global Opioid Settlement Fund. He noted that he forwarded the fifteen-page document that outlined the terms of how the money could be used, noting that there were multiple options. He explained that the town could use their funding to support programs provided by organizations such as Ledge Light Health District Prevention Coalition or Southern Regional Action Council (SERAC) as subrecipients; (7) *Agreement on Food Vendor Reciprocity* - Mayor Allyn stated Ledge Light Health District and Uncas Health have entered into a ten-year *Agreement on Food Vendor Reciprocity*. He explained that the *Agreement* would allow businesses licensed by either Health District to do business in each other's district, noting that both Health Districts hold the Food Vendors to same high standards; (8)

School(s) Consolidation-Improvement Projects (Middle School and Gallup Hill School) - Mayor Allyn stated another meeting was held with the General Contractor O&G Industries, Colliers Project Leaders, Superintendent of Schools Mr. Jason Hartling, Finance Director Matthew Bonin, and former PMBC Chairman Steve Juskiewicz to discuss the *Change Orders*. He stated they followed-up the meeting at the Middle School at 7:00 a.m. on September 7, 2022, where they reviewed the issues with the Audit Team noting they saw two large trash cans collecting rainwater in the hallway on the third floor of the school; and there were other locations where they saw water running down the classroom walls causing the paint to peel off the walls, and heating and cooling issues (one classroom was 87 degrees and very humid and on other days there were classrooms that were 50 degrees). He stated it was disheartening to see the many issues in the brand-new wing of Middle School. He stated after they stop the flow of water that there would need to be remediation work to correct the internal issues. He stated Colliers Project Leaders, who the Town hired for the State Audit preparations, was doing an outstanding job and they hoped to get the issues rectified;

(9) Nuclear Safety Desktop Drill - Mayor Allyn stated on August 30, 2022 he participated in the Nuclear Safety Desktop Drill as a precursor for the practice Drill that would take place at the end of the September. He stated the evaluated Drill has been scheduled for November 2, 2022, which was the same day as the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) Annual Convention. Therefore, he asked whether Chairman Dombrowski would be available to participate in the Drill. Chairman Dombrowski stated he would be available on November 2, 2022;

(10) Stormwater Utility - Mayor Allyn stated he attended a Stormwater Utility Meeting with Public Works Director/Town Engineer Steve Masalin. He explained the Stormwater Utility would annually bill every property owner, including non-profit organizations, who had impervious surfaces, which would include houses, pools, sheds, barns, church roofs, parking areas, etc. He stated he had reservations regarding the Stormwater Utility because they were trying to veil this fee as a Utility, when it would be viewed as another tax. He stated Municipalities would be required to use the Storm Water Utility money for specific things such as repairing and cleaning storm drains, etc. He stated New London started their Stormwater Utility last year and was currently the only municipality in the State of Connecticut that has a Stormwater Utility. He noted for cities such as New London or Norwich that a Stormwater Utility may make sense because nearly 50% of their property was non-taxable. He stated Ledyard was one of four towns that was participating in the Stormwater Utility Study and that they had two more meetings scheduled;

(11) DEMIS Region 4 Annual Meeting on September 8, 2022 - Mayor Allyn stated he attended the DEMIS Annual Meeting at the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Government's Meeting at which they budgeted the \$343,000 Federal Funding to purchase various equipment for Region 4; which included all of Eastern Connecticut. He stated the Region agreed to purchase a second Utility Terrain Vehicle (UTV) to be positioned in Voluntown, noting the first UTV that was purchased was positioned Putnam. He stated funding would also be used to purchase large towable generators, light boards, command tents that have heating and cooling, etc. He stated all the assets purchased with the federal funding would be available to all towns in Region 4. He stated the equipment would be housed in towns throughout the Region 4 District and each town would be responsible to maintain the equipment housed in their town. He also explained that should equipment be needed in another area that the town that housed the equipment would be responsible to bring it to the town that was in-need of the equipment due to an emergency situation;

(12)

Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG) Geographic Information System (GIS) - Mayor Allyn noted Ms. Jessica was attending tonight's meeting remotely. He stated Ms. Cobb has taken on the role of the Geographic Information System (GIS) at the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG) noting her experience in GIS would make her an asset to SCCOG; (13) State Hazardous Mitigation Climate Resiliency Planning - Mayor Allyn stated he participated in the State Hazardous Mitigation Climate Resiliency Planning Meeting. He noted although Ledyard was not significantly impacted by Hazardous Mitigation he noted the following statistics: (a) Ledyard had a total of 34 Flood Policies; (b) During the past twenty years Ledyard has had 24 claims totaling just under \$180,000; with three of the properties being in a flood prone area and they have had multiple claims. The Rating showed that Ledyard was in a good place in terms of Hazardous Mitigation, with very limited exposure; (13) Ledge Light Health District Prevention Coalition Meeting - Mayor Allyn stated at the Ledyard Prevention Coalition Meeting they discussed: (a) Inviting speakers to talk to the kids; (b) Anti Vaping Message; (c) Upcoming Cannabis Vote on Ledyard's November 8, 2022 Ballot; (14) Police Department Promotions - Mayor Allyn stated he attended the Police Department's Promotion Ceremony on September 13, 2022 that took place at the Ledyard Senior Center. He announced Sergeant Muench was promoted to Lieutenant; and Officer Pudvah was promoted to Sergeant. He noted the Police Department had 22 Officers, which included 1 Detective, 5 Sergeants, 1 Lieutenant, 1 Captain and 1 Chief of Police; (14) Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Dispatch Consoles - Mayor Allyn stated the Dispatch Consoles in the EOC that were purchased using the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding have been installed under budget and were fully operational; (15) New Zoning Regulations - Mayor Allyn stated after several public hearings the Planning & Zoning Commission approved the New Zoning Regulations at their September 8, 2022 meeting. The New Zoning Regulations would become effective on September 28, 2022. The Zoning Regulations would be available on the town's website tomorrow.

Questions to the Mayor

Councilor Saums congratulated Lieutenant Muench on his promotion to Lieutenant and Officer Pudvah on his promotion to Lieutenant that took place on September 13, 2022. He stated the promotions were well deserved, noting that they were both fine Officers.

Councilor Saums addressed the Hazardous Mitigation Plan, noting a number of years ago a resident, who lived on Military Highway in Gales Ferry, asked him whether Ledyard was planning for the rising of ocean levels; and that the resident also questioned what would happen to the town. Mayor Allyn stated the State had a Hazardous Mitigation projected map going out to the year 2050. He stated the scalable map showed the frost level would be reduced from 121 to 80 which indicated that there was substantial global warming happening. He also noted that the map specifically showed three properties that would be affected which were located at the end of Military Highway and were inside the North Gate of the Navy Subbase. He stated he would provide the Town Council a copy of the Hazardous Mitigation projected map. Councilor Saums stated he was pleased to hear that the State was considering these issues and were actively working on them.

Chairman Dombrowski addressed the upcoming Nuclear Safety Drills (practice drill and evaluated drill) and he stated that he would be available to step in for the Mayor. Mayor Allyn stated Director of Emergency Management Jim Mann would be pleased that Chairman Dombrowski would be available for the Drills.

RESULT: .

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

None.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

Administration Committee

1. MOTION to appoint Mr. James Awrach (R) 1538 Route 12 Unit #30, Gales Ferry, to the Planning & Zoning Commission, as a Regular Member to complete a three (3) year term ending October 31, 2023 filling a vacancy left by Ms. Scanlon.

Moved by Councilor Irwin, seconded by Councilor Saums

Discussion: Councilor Irwin noted that Ms. Scanlon resigned from the Planning & Zoning Commission effective July 20, 2022 because she was moving out of town.

Chairman Dombrowski stated Mr. Awrach has been serving on the Planning & Zoning Commission as an Alternate Member. He noted in an e-mail dated July 21, 2022 Planning & Zoning Commission Chairman Capon requested Mr. Awrach be moved from an Alternate Member to a Regular Member to fill Ms. Scanlon's vacancy.

VOTE: 6- 0 Approved and so declared

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Whit Irwin

SECONDER: Bill Saums

AYE: 6 Dombrowski, Irwin, Paul, Rodriguez, Ryan, and Saums

EXCUSED: 3 Ingalls, Marshall, and McGrattan

2. MOTION to appoint Ms. Jessica Cobb (D) 7 Whippoorwill Drive, Gales Ferry, to the Planning & Zoning Commission, as an Alternate Member to complete a three (3) year term ending December 31, 2022 filling a vacancy left by Mr. Awrach.

Moved by Councilor Irwin, seconded by Councilor Rodriguez

Discussion: Councilor Irwin stated Ms. Cobb has been an active member in the community and that she has expressed an interest in serving on the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Councilor Saums stated Ms. Cobb was attending tonight's meeting remotely, and he thanked her for serving the community, noting with her background in land use that she would be an asset to

the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Councilor Rodriguez stated Ms. Cobb has a great resume, noting her background would make her a great addition to the Planning & Zoning Commission. She stated Ms. Cobb has a Bachelors of Science in Geosciences and a Certificate of Achievement in Inland Wetland Agency Comprehensive Training Program. She thanked Ms. Cobb for stepping forward to serve on the Planning & Zoning Commission.

VOTE: 6- 0 Approved and so declared

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Whit Irwin

SECONDER: Gary Paul

AYE: 6 Dombrowski, Irwin, Paul, Rodriguez, Ryan, and Saums

EXCUSED: 3 Ingalls, Marshall, and McGrattan

Finance Committee

- 3. MOTION to authorize the Mayor to enter into an Interlocal Agreement and sign a “Southeastern Connecticut Special Response Team Agreement” as presented in the draft dated August 10, 2022.

DRAFT: 8/10/2022

SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT
SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, Section 7-148 cc of the Statutes of the State of Connecticut authorizes municipalities to enter into interlocal agreements; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned municipalities find that the deployment of a highly trained and skilled special response team coupled with a crisis negotiation team can substantially reduce the risk of injury or loss of life to citizens, police officers, criminal suspects and persons in crisis; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned municipalities recognize the inherent manpower and training demands associated with special response and crisis negotiation teams and agree that it is in the best interest of the participating municipalities to share manpower, resources, and equipment associated with special law enforcement responses; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned municipalities find that an interlocal agreement is beneficial in order to protect the safety and well-being of the citizens of the respective municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned municipalities wish to cooperate on providing police services and in pursuing grants and raising monies to obtain capital resources in furtherance of these goals under the terms of this agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, the undersigned municipalities, acting by their respective chief executive officers, duly authorized, mutually agree, pursuant to this Interlocal agreement (hereafter, "Agreement") to establish the Southeastern Connecticut Special Response Team (hereafter "SCSRT") in accordance with the following:

ARTICLE ONE: Provision of Personnel and Equipment

1. The chief executive officers of the undersigned municipalities hereby delegate to the chiefs of police of their respective municipalities the authority to determine when the provision of police personnel and equipment best serves the purposes of this agreement.
2. The participating chiefs, hereinafter collectively designated and referred to as the "Board", shall meet periodically as determined by the needs of the Unit, but at least once per year, and each Chief of Police shall have an equal vote on decisions affecting the administration of the SCSRT.
3. The chiefs of police, collectively, as the decision-making authority, have the responsibility for the coordination of grant applications and the administration of funding awards and other initiatives.
4. The Board anticipates and agrees to make resources available for at least one full or partial deployment per quarter of personnel and equipment pursuant to this agreement for the duration of this agreement. Additional deployments are authorized, without further action, by the mutual consent of the participating municipalities.
5. During the deployment of personnel and equipment pursuant to this agreement, the officers so deployed shall be deemed members of their respective departments acting to further the goals of this agreement and each shall have the same powers, duties, privileges and immunities as are conferred on the police officers of the municipality in whose jurisdiction the Unit or any of its officers is operating.
6. During a SCSRT emergency deployment, it is expected that the undersigned municipalities shall provide at a minimum the following quantity of personnel and equipment:

One or more specially trained and equipped police officers and one or more marked and/or unmarked police vehicles.
7. A municipality may elect not to participate in a deployment if it has a good faith reason to do so. However, each municipality, in its discretion, may determine the extent of its participation in any deployment through the specific assignment of personnel and equipment.
8. The Board shall appoint collectively a supervisor from one of the participating departments to function as the SCSRT Team Commander. The Team Commander must at least hold the rank of sergeant in his/her department. The Board acknowledges appointment of a Unit Commander is necessary to maintain continuity of the unit and its members especially in the case of an emergency deployment. It will be preferable that the Team Commander

have experience and training in the area of tactical command. The Team Commander shall have the authority to appoint assistant team leaders as necessary.

9. The SCSRT Commander will act as the liaison between the departments for all activities of the unit.
10. During each full deployment, the host municipality, which is the municipality requesting the services, shall make every effort to provide a sergeant or higher-ranking officer to coordinate operations with the SCSRT Team Commander while in the field.

ARTICLE TWO: Duties of Personnel

1. The Chief of Police or designee in the host municipality shall retain ultimate responsibility for operational decisions and act as incident commander during any operation or team deployment.
2. Each officer assigned to the SCSRT shall wear the unit's approved uniform.
3. All custodial arrests or investigations shall be processed in a manner designated by the host agency.
4. In the case of a planned deployment for a warrant service or other planned event, the host agency shall prepare and distribute to all participating officers an operations plan for each deployment of a non-emergency nature.

ARTICLE THREE: Reimbursement and Liability

1. Each participating municipality agrees that it shall be responsible for its respective police department expenses incurred while participating in each deployment, whether that municipality's equipment and personnel was operating within or without its own jurisdiction. Any entitlement to reimbursement, except as stated herein, is hereby waived by the chief executive officer of each municipality that is a party to this agreement. Such expenses may include, but are not limited to:
 - a) The actual payroll (including overtime) cost to the municipalities of all personnel assigned;
 - b) The replacement cost of all equipment lost, destroyed or made unavailable for further service as a result of proper use in a SCSRT deployment. Nothing in this section waives a municipality's right to seek reimbursement for equipment lost or destroyed negligently, recklessly, willfully, or purposefully.
 - c) Fuel and maintenance for police vehicles;
 - d) The cost of repairing damaged equipment;
 - e) Awards for death, disability or injury to personnel arising as a result of services

provided pursuant to this agreement to the extent that such awards exceed Worker's Compensation coverage;

- f) Worker's Compensation claims as set forth in C.G.S. 31-275, et seq.;
 - g) Survivor's benefits as set forth in C.G.S. 7-323.
2. In the event outside funding becomes available to pay for the expenses of the municipalities operating under this agreement such funds shall be allocated among the participating municipalities on a proportional cost basis agreed to in advance. This does not include subrogation. The proportional cost basis may be adjusted to each deployment or initiative depending on the location of the host, number of personnel assigned to the deployment by each agency, etc.
 3. The services performed under this agreement shall be deemed for public and governmental purposes, and all immunities from liability enjoyed by the local government within its boundaries shall extend to its participation under this agreement outside its boundaries.
 4. Each municipality shall indemnify and hold harmless the other municipalities to this agreement from all claims, including, but not limited to, third party claims, for property damage or personal injury (including death) which may arise out of and be attributable to a municipality or to the actions of those acting on behalf of each municipality. Each town shall be liable only for their own percentage of negligence as determined by the courts or a jury.

ARTICLE FOUR: Appointment of a Depository Municipality, Pursuit of Regional Grant Initiatives, And Revenue Sharing/Usage

1. Appointment of a Depository Municipality; Functions of Depository Municipality
 - a) The Board of SCSRT shall mutually select a depository municipality from one of the members of SCSRT which shall receive and hold in trust for SCSRT all monies obtained by SCSRT from grants or other sources. Said monies shall be held in a special revenue account (hereafter, the "SCSRT Joint Account") or an account with like budgetary permissions that will allow the convenient use of said funds as needed by SCSRT. The depository municipality agrees, in furtherance of the goals of this agreement, to pass any ordinance or resolution required by its own municipal Charter in order to effectuate the creation of said SCSRT Joint Account.
 - b) Upon a request from any member municipality, the depository municipality shall provide an accounting of all funds contained in the SCSRT Joint Account.
 - c) Upon affirmative vote of two-thirds of the member municipalities, the depository municipality may be changed. Upon a vote to change the depository municipality, the prior depository municipality shall, within 60 days of said vote, turn over all

funds and provide a full accounting to the successor depository municipality.

- d) In the event that a depository municipality withdraws from SCSRT or no longer wishes to serve in said capacity, a successor depository municipality shall be appointed by the members of SCSRT. At such time, the prior depository municipality shall, within 60 days of said appointment, turn over all funds and equipment purchased with funds from the Shared Revenue Account to the successor municipality. The prior depository municipality shall, within 60 days, provide a full accounting, and an itemized list of transferred equipment to the successor depository municipality.

2. Pursuit of Regional Grant Initiatives, Development of Capital Goals

- a) It shall be an essential function and purpose of SCSRT to pursue grants and other initiatives to raise monies in order to purchase capital resources to further the purposes of this agreement.
- b) From time to time, and as necessary, SCSRT shall meet to develop a short-term (1 year) and long term (5-year) capital plan for the SCSRT. The monies raised pursuant to this agreement shall be utilized to further the capital goals set by SCSRT.

3. Revenue Sharing

- a) All revenue raised and remitted to the SCSRT Joint Account shall be shared and used for the collaborative and joint purposes of the SCSRT. Nothing in this provision shall be construed to conflict with or alter the reimbursement or funding provisions of Article III regarding deployments.
- b) Expenditures from the SCSRT Joint Account of \$500 or less can be made by the Team Commander, without prior approval. All expenditures greater than \$500 from the SCSRT Joint Account shall require the unanimous vote of all SCSRT member municipalities in writing via electronic mail (e-mail).
- c) Any property obtained with funds from the SCSRT Joint Account shall be considered property of the depository municipality, held for the benefit of itself and all other SCSRT municipalities. No property obtained with monies from the SCSRT Joint Account or with funds attributable to said account shall be sold, modified, gifted, or otherwise transferred without the unanimous vote of all member municipalities in writing.
- d) Any depository municipality which misappropriates funds from the SCSRT Joint Account or otherwise disposes of property obtained with SCSRT funds in violation of this section shall be liable to all of the other member municipalities for the loss to SCSRT and any and all costs, including court costs and attorney's fees, incurred in recovering said funds or property from the depository municipality or any other third party.

- e) Funds from the SCSRT Joint Account are intended for equipment and services for the unit and shall not be used to pay salary or overtime to SCSRT members.

ARTICLE FIVE: Miscellaneous

1. The Chief of Police of the municipality providing assistance may, if necessary to protect the safety and well-being of said municipality, recall any personnel or equipment provided pursuant to this agreement.
2. Withdrawal from this agreement by any municipality hereto shall be made by thirty (30) days' written notice to all other municipalities but shall not terminate the agreement among the remaining municipalities.
3. If any provision of this agreement shall be unlawful, void, or for any reason unenforceable, then that provision shall be deemed severable from this agreement and shall not affect the validity and enforceability of any remaining provisions.
4. This Agreement contains the entire understanding between the parties hereto and supersedes any and all prior understandings, negotiations, and agreements whether written or oral, between them respecting the written subject matter, hereof.
5. This Agreement, to the extent permitted herein, shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the parties hereto and any and all successors and assigns.
6. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws and relevant ordinances and regulations of the State of Connecticut and the participating municipalities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this agreement as follows:

TOWN OF LEDYARD

By: _____
Frederic B. Allyn, III, Mayor

TOWN OF WATERFORD

By: _____
Robert J. Brule, First Selectman

Moved by Councilor Saums, seconded by Councilor Ryan

Discussion: Councilor Saums stated the proposed “*Southeastern Connecticut Special Response Team Agreement*” was a well thought out, lengthy document and was between the towns of Ledyard and Waterford at this time. He stated Ledyard has been wanting to have a Regional Response Team for quite a while and that Police Chief John Rich initiated the idea and that the Town of Waterford has agreed to participate in Special Response Team. He stated

the goal was to have more than two towns participate in *Special Response Team*. He explained the function of the Special Response Team was for towns to share resources including manpower, equipment, and crisis negotiation teams associated with special law enforcement responses, if they had a significant and expanding event that was more than one town could handle. He stated the *Special Response Team* was similar to the Mutual Aid Agreement between Fire Departments in the region.

Councilor Saums went on to note that the Agreement included language to:

- Allow the participating towns to separate from the Agreement with a thirty (30) day notice; and
- Apply for grant funding.

Councilor Saums stated under the *Agreement* Ledyard Police Officers would be going out of town, as needed, for training; and Waterford Police Officers would be coming to Ledyard for training. He commented on the critical importance to provide a regional presence and to be ready to respond to regional events, should they occur, noting when the country was attacked 21 years ago on September 11, 2001 the region realized that our emergency response teams were too separate and too siloed, stating they had a difficult time coordinating with each other.

VOTE APPROVED and so declared

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Bill Saums

SECONDER: Tim Ryan

AYE: 6 Dombrowski, Irwin, Paul, Rodriguez, Ryan, and Saums

EXCUSED: 3 Ingalls, Marshall, and McGrattan

4. MOTION to grant a bid waiver in the amount of \$34,000 to Physicians One Urgent Care for firefighter physicals and to authorize the Mayor to sign an MOU with Physicians One Urgent care to provide physicals for all town firefighters.

Moved by Councilor Saums, seconded by Councilor Ryan

Discussion: Councilor Saums stated using Physicians One Urgent Care to provide physicals for all town firefighters would be a benefit to the town, noting that the Firefighters would have more access to getting physicals at a reasonable cost. He stated Administrator of Emergency Services Steve Holyfield was present this evening and he deferred to him to provide the background regarding this request.

Administrator of Emergency Services Steve Holyfield stated about two years ago, they began discussing the availability of physicals for existing and new candidate firefighters for the fire departments (LFD/GFFC/TOLFD). He explained that one of the issues they found was the limited availability of physicals, noting that the old practice was to have a physical clinic at a Ledyard School once per month from September to June. However, he stated the lack of summer appointments and the fixed time (normally 3:30 on a weekday) effected volunteer recruitment and retention negatively.

Mr. Holyfield went on to state in response to Requests for Proposals - RFP #2023-003

(Firefighter Physical Exams) the town only received two responses as follows: (1) Physicians One Urgent Care; and (2) Site Med, noting that it appears that Yale did not want to get involved with the bid process. He explained Site Med only offered a clinic style of service where the firefighters would have to attend on fixed dates. He stated Physicians One was not only the low bidder, they were also their preferred provider because they offered physicals by appointment, including Saturdays, at any of their locations including Norwich and Groton, maximizing appointment options for the town's current and future members.”

Mr. Holyfield continued by stating \$38,000 was included in the emergency services budget for physicals and he explained that he opened a Purchase Order for \$4,000 to pay for physicals starting on July 1st until they had a provider in place. He noted the average cost of a physical was about \$500.00. He stated the cost of a physical for a new volunteer firefighter was about \$587.00; which included a chest x-ray and the annual physicals for existing firefighters was about \$413.00, which averaged out to about \$500.00 per physical. He went on to explain that chest x-rays would be repeated about every four years, explaining that there were some pricing differences for interior and exterior personnel and different services based on new recruits, existing personnel, age, etc.

Mr. Holyfield addressed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and he stated after the September 7, 2022 Finance Committee meeting he contacted Physicians One to discuss the MOU. He stated the premature MOU would provide a thirty-six-month (3-year) Agreement with no cost increase, and two individual one-year renewals, providing for a five-year fixed price. He stated the benefit of providing routine physicals would help limit the town's liability, explaining that the physicals would help the volunteers to maintain their CDL Licenses to operate the fire apparatus. He concluded by stating because the required three bids were not received that a Bid Waiver has been requested in accordance with Ordinance #200-001 (rev.1) “*An Ordinance for Purchasing*

VOTE APPROVED and so declared

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Bill Saums

SECONDER: Tim Ryan

AYE: 6 Dombrowski, Irwin, Paul, Rodriguez, Ryan, and Saums

EXCUSED: 3 Ingalls, Marshall, and McGrattan

5. MOTION to grant a bid waiver to A & E Services Group, LLC of Cheshire, CT due to receiving fewer than three bids, as a result of RFP 2023-01 (Administrative and Technical Support for the Town's Small Cities Program Income Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program); in accordance with Ordinance #200-001 (rev 1) “An Ordinance for Purchasing”.

Moved by Councilor Saums, seconded by Councilor Ryan

Discussion: Councilor Saums stated the town has been involved in the Small Cities Program Income Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program for over a decade. He stated the program provided no interest loans to residents who qualified for certain home repairs such as the replacement of a furnace, new roof, septic system, new roof, etc. He stated Wagner & Associates was the contractor that had managed the program for the town for many years. He stated Mr. Peter Testa

spun off of Wagner & Associates and started his own company (A&E Services Group , LLC). He stated A & E Services Group, LLC was the sole respondent to RFP 2023-01 (Administrative and Technical Support for the town's Small Cities Program Income Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program). He stated A&E Services Group, LLC, Peter Testa would act as the General Contractor on the projects, and that he handled all the paperwork which involved placing the lien on the property.

Mayor Allyn, III, stated a few years ago Wagner & Associates stopped providing services to manage the Small Cities Program Income Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program. He stated because Mr. Testa enjoyed doing this type of work that he has continued providing these services under A&E Services Group LLC. He stated this would be Ledyard's second contract with A&E Services Group LLC to perform this work.

VOTE Approved and so declared

6. MOTION to approve a bid waiver to CLA Engineers in the amount of \$25,100 for technical services related to streamlining and consolidation of ordinances and creation of technical standards for roads, drainage, and other work in the Town rights-of way.

Moved by Councilor Saums, seconded by Councilor Ryan

Discussion: Councilor Saums stated he recalled serving on the Land Use/Planning/Public Works Committee with Chairman Dombrowski and Mayor Allyn, III, a number of years ago during which time they discussed the need to update Ordinance #300-25 (formerly Ordinance #45) "*An Ordinance Regulating the Addition of Any New Street or Highway to the Highway System of the Town of Ledyard*". He also stated prior to his passing in 2014 that Mr. Bob Lamb regularly attended the LUPPW Committee meetings and the Town Council meetings to talk about the need and the importance to update Road Ordinance.

Councilor Saums went on to explain in rewriting technical regulations and specifications for engineering projects that you need to be undisturbed. He stated the town did not have the resources to dedicate to this work, noting that Public Works Director/Town Engineer Steve Masalin wears many hats; and although he has started the work to update the Ordinances that Mr. Masalin does not have time to dedicate to this type of project. Therefore, he stated he was pleased that the town was finally going to update Ordinance #300-25 (formerly Ordinance #45) "*An Ordinance Regulating the Addition of Any New Street or Highway to the Highway System of the Town of Ledyard*".

Chairman Dombrowski stated that the Planning & Zoning Commission also attempted to update/rewrite Ordinance #300-25 (formerly Ordinance #45) "*An Ordinance Regulating the Addition of Any New Street or Highway to the Highway System of the Town of Ledyard*"; noting that they were also unable to complete the task.

Councilor Saums concluded his remarks by stating because CLA Engineers was currently operating under a Standing Bid Waiver as the Town's technical agent in providing substantial

assistance in the management of administrative efforts toward compliance with the Municipal Separate Storm System (MS4) program that Mr. Masalin has requested a Bid Waiver to engage CLA Engineers directly for their technical work related to rewriting Town's road and drainage ordinances, noting a significant portion of updating the technical standards of the town's ordinances overlapped with the MS4 area.

VOTE: 6- 0 Approved and so declared

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Bill Saums

SECONDER: Tim Ryan

AYE: 6 Dombrowski, Irwin, Paul, Rodriguez, Ryan, and Saums

EXCUSED: 3 Ingalls, Marshall, and McGrattan

7. MOTION to authorize the BOE to spend up to \$146,558 from Account #21070101-58261 (BOE CNR Ag-Science) as outlined in the Board of Education Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Supplemental Spending Plan for Agri-Science Program.

Moved by Councilor Saums, seconded by Councilor Ryan

Discussion: Councilor Saums stated the Board of Education receives state funding and tuition revenue from out-of-town students that support the Vo-Ag Science Program. He stated for the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 the town received \$997,428 in the Agricultural Technology Education (ASTE) grant from the State, which was \$301,692 more than the amount of revenue that was included in the budget. He stated the ASTE Funding must be spent on the Ag-Science program; and he explained rather than use the funding for on-going operational expenses that Ledyard's practice has been to spend the funds on capital or one-time expenses.

Councilor Saums continued by providing some background noting that the ASTE Funding comes into the town in three payments. He stated at their March 9, 2022 meeting the Town Council authorized the Board of Education to spend 695,736 of the ASTE Funding in accordance with their Spending Plan. He stated the Town Council's action also included transferring and the remaining balance in the amount of \$301,692 from Account 10188210-59300 (Transferred Funds) to Account #2101402-49002 (CNR Transfers In). He stated in a letter dated September 2, 2022 the Board of Education submitted a ***Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Supplemental ASTE Spending Plan*** in the amount of \$146,558; as listed in the "*ASTE Wish List*" above. He stated that he was comfortable with allocating the ASTE Funding as recommended by the Ag-Science Director.

VOTE: 6- 0 Approved and so declared

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Bill Saums

SECONDER: Tim Ryan

AYE: 6 Dombrowski, Irwin, Paul, Rodriguez, Ryan, and Saums

EXCUSED: 3 Ingalls, Marshall, and McGrattan

General Business

- 8. Discuss Work Session Items as time permits
None.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Rodriguez moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Irwin
VOTE Approved and so declared. The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Transcribed by Roxanne M. Maher
Administrative Assistant to the Town Council

I, Kevin J. Dombrowski, Chairman of the Ledyard Town Council,
hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and
correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Town Council
Meeting held on September 14, 2022.

Kevin J. Dombrowski, Chairman

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.