

Roxanne Maher

From: ghosey924@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, August 14, 2023 6:42 PM
To: John C. Marshall; Kevin J. Dombrowski; Fred Allyn, III; Town Council Group
Subject: RE: LMS

Hi again all,

As always, I'll take this moment to remind everyone that the opinions stated in this email are mine and mine alone and do not necessarily reflect the thoughts and opinions of anyone else, including my fellow PMBC members.

As such, it was with much interest that I read the following passage in the Town Council's meeting minutes of June 14th of this year:

"Councilor Ingalls stated at the Finance Committee's June 7, 2023 meeting they learned that the Permanent Municipal Building Committee (PNBC) was not holding their meetings in a Hybrid Format and that they were not recording their meetings. She stated that she has made Chairman Dombrowski aware of this, noting that he would be picking up the baton. Councilor Saums stated when the Finance Committee discussed their concern that the PMBC was not holding Hybrid meetings or recording the meetings, noting that they meet at the Board of Education Central Office, that Superintendent of Schools Jason Hartling, who was in attendance, stated that there was equipment in the room for recording. Councilor Saums noted that anyone could record a Zoom Meeting using their laptop. Chairman Dombrowski stated that he would send PMBC Chairman Gary Schneider a letter regarding the matter, and that he planned to attend one of their meetings. He stated he found this disconcerting noting that the PMBC was responsible for overseeing and spending significant amounts of tax dollars, **and because one of the PMBC Members continues to send the Town Council emails** regarding transparency and other issues about access to minutes, noting that the PMBC was one of the least transparent Committees."

I'd like to start by saying I completely agree that PMBC meetings should be held in the hybrid format and the meetings recorded. Lo and behold, the PMBC discussed it at our meeting July 3rd, and beginning with our next regular meeting August 7th, PMBC meetings are now hybrid Zoom meetings. Amazing how easily things can be solved if folks communicate.

One, thus, can't help but wonder – if the Finance Committee was so concerned about the lack of hybrid PMBC meetings, why not simply email PMBC Chair Schneider directly to inquire? Gary's a nice guy; I'm sure he would have replied. What was the real or perceived benefit of taking this circuitous "baton" passing route?

One also can't help wonder further – the Town Council finds the lack of hybrid meetings for this single committee the previous 11 months "disconcerting", but the loss of ALL meetings of ALL committees prior to July 2022 from the town meeting portal is, apparently, "disconcerting" to no one but me?? Why is that again?

Also disconcerting, given the lack of response to any of my last 4 emails, is the fact that my elected Town Council would rather talk *about* me than *to* me, and that having received emails regarding a legitimate concern involving both children's safety and taxpayer dollars, that rather than take action, or at least respond, the Town Council would prefer to bemoan receiving said emails.

As to the gym floor, well, looks like that issue is finally "resolved", although hardly in the manner I think any of us would have liked.

One can imagine that the take away from this event, not only for PMBC or Town Council, but for all Town committees, is the importance of good record keeping. O&G apparently presented a change order that they used to imply (but certainly not prove) that the face nails in the gym floor were pre-existing their involvement. Ledyard, unfortunately, had no documentation of any sort with which to counter that claim, so once again O&G escapes accountability for their mismanagement of the construction projects and the shoddy work of the trades they hired and allegedly oversaw. That we had this level of harm done to the gym floor, not once, but twice, by flooding, yet did not have (or could not find) supporting documentation of the incidents, should serve as a lesson in just how important such documentation can be.

Regards,

GH

From: ghosey924@gmail.com <ghosey924@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, June 18, 2023 8:07 AM

To: 'John C. Marshall' <jcmar@ledyardct.org>; 'Kevin J. Dombrowski' <KJDom@ledyardct.org>; 'Fred Allyn, III' <mayor@ledyardct.org>; 'Town Council Group' <TownCouncil@ledyardct.org>

Cc: boe@ledyard.net; jhartling@ledyard.net

Subject: RE: LMS <<Not-Sensitive>>

Hello again one and all.

As always, I speak on behalf of myself and myself alone. The opinions expressed in this email do not necessarily represent those of any other parties.

Three things in life are inevitable

- Death
- Taxes
- No reply from the Town Council

That said, I simply ask ...yet again...

- Will O&G replace the floor?
- Will one of their subcons replace the floor?
- Will Ledyard replace the floor and then seek reimbursement?
- Is the town simply accepting the floor as it is and doing nothing to remedy the situation?

Thank you as always for your lack of attention to this matter.

GH

From: ghosey924@gmail.com <ghosey924@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, May 19, 2023 4:13 PM

To: 'John C. Marshall' <jcmar@ledyardct.org>; 'Kevin J. Dombrowski' <KJDom@ledyardct.org>; 'Fred Allyn, III' <mayor@ledyardct.org>; 'Town Council Group' <TownCouncil@ledyardct.org>

Cc: boe@ledyard.net; jhartling@ledyard.net

Subject: RE: LMS <<Not-Sensitive>>

Hi once again everyone.

As always, the opinions expressed herein are mine alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of anyone else, including my fellow members of the PMBC.

So, in the 72 days since my last correspondence, I've seen no evidence of progress with, or even discussion of, the LMS gym floor issue. I am unable to find any reference to the issue in any public town meeting minutes. So, while history offers me little reason to expect any reply, I must ask YET AGAIN...What is going on with this matter? What is the plan?

- a) Will O&G replace the floor?
- b) Will one of their subcons replace the floor?
- c) Will Ledyard replace the floor and then seek reimbursement?
- d) Is the town simply accepting the floor as it is and doing nothing to remedy the situation?

I certainly *hope* it's not d) but judging by the town's own meeting minutes and the 163 days of this email thread, one could easily assume it is d).

Moving on to my second favorite discussion point – the lost records in the town meeting portal, rather than ask what the plan is (as there clearly is none), how about I suggest one instead? With summer fast approaching, why not hire some HS kids at min wage to scan and upload the minutes prior to June 2022?

Thank you as always for your attention.

GH

From: ghosey924@gmail.com <ghosey924@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 3:44 PM

To: 'John C. Marshall' <jcmar@ledyardct.org>; 'Kevin J. Dombrowski' <KJDom@ledyardct.org>; 'Fred Allyn, III' <mayor@ledyardct.org>; 'Town Council Group' <TownCouncil@ledyardct.org>

Cc: boe@ledyard.net; jhartling@ledyard.net

Subject: RE: LMS <<Not-Sensitive>>

Hi all, 'still here.

Oops, almost forgot my disclaimer:

The opinions expressed in this email are mine and mine alone. They do not represent the opinions of any other persons or entities, including but not limited to, my fellow PMBC members, the Lieutenant Governor or Iowa, The Loch Ness Monster, woodland creatures real or imaginary, or the King of England.

It has been a month since my last correspondence – the one with the lovely full color photos suitable for framing. In that time, I have received no reply, nor have I seen any indication in Town Council meeting minutes of any efforts to address the problems about which I have inquired. While this is, of course, saddening for me, I have managed to wipe away the tears long enough to persevere and write again. I know you're all very excited.

Several months ago, regarding the gym floor debacle (and it is a debacle), it was stated that there were "avenues being taken to hold O&G accountable to fix the ongoing issues". The same questions remain months later...

- What are these avenues?
- What is the timeline for these avenues?
- Have these avenues borne fruit? If so, what is the plan regarding the gym floor? If not, well,...what is the plan regarding the gym floor?

As for the loss of online access to meeting minutes prior to June 2022:

- Is there any plan?
- If so, what is it?
- If not, why not? Is Ledyard really satisfied with having no online access to residents and taxpayers prior to 9 months ago? Is Ledyard really satisfied with the risk of having only hard copy of records legal requiring retention? Is Ledyard really satisfied with the

prospect that if town hall was hit by a meteor tomorrow, all records before 6/22 are gone?

I realize that these topics are not simple, and they are likely no one's favorite to discuss, but ignoring them will not simply make them go away either.

Thank you again for your time and attention.

George Hosey
Ledyard Resident, Parent, and Taxpayer

From: ghosey924@gmail.com <ghosey924@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 6:45 PM
To: 'John C. Marshall' <jcmar@ledyardct.org>; 'Kevin J. Dombrowski' <KJDom@ledyardct.org>; 'Fred Allyn, III' <mayor@ledyardct.org>; 'Town Council Group' <TownCouncil@ledyardct.org>
Cc: boe@ledyard.net; jhartling@ledyard.net
Subject: RE: LMS <<Not-Sensitive>>

Hello John,

Thank you for your reply, it is much appreciated. My thoughts below come with my usual disclaimer (These opinions are mine alone, etc.,...)

My apologies for the slow response, I wanted to wait until I had a chance to go see the gym for myself. Unfortunately, it lives down to its reputation. 😞

Regarding the reimbursement, yes, with it in the hands of our state legislators, obviously, this will take time. I have mixed feelings about this approach. Assuming our state reps are able to obtain reimbursement from the state, this is, of course, the best course of action for the town, as Ledyard can not afford to pay tens or even hundreds of thousands of dollars in interest on the ~\$1M in disallowed reimbursement while waiting for a lawsuit to resolve. I do, however, lament that this approach allows O&G to, once again, escape accountability for the incompetent manner in which the school refurb projects were managed.

As for the gym floor, that would seem like a related, but wholly separate, item. I assume the state is not going to fix that for us.

It was stated in previous email that “avenues” were being pursued to hold O&G accountable “to fix the ongoing issues”. Does this include the gym floor? I know O&G has been back to fix other items, most of which are relatively small ticket items compared to the floor, which will likely run in excess of \$100k to replace.

I think we all here in Ledyard agree that O&G is responsible for the floor, but has O&G agreed to that? Is there any plan/schedule by which this gets dealt with? The news that nails are coming out of the floor makes this a safety matter and calls for a quicker timeline.



These are but two of the many nails attempting to hold the floor down. The stress lines and cracks in the wood make it obvious that these nails are not the first to be used in these places and are struggling to stay in place. In the second pic, the nail is clearly beginning to protrude from the floor. Worse yet, these nails are not off in a corner or under the bleachers, where they might be relatively harmless. They are in the far end key and top of the key – among the highest traffic areas of the court. This is bound to end badly.



Floor boards separating and even breaking apart.



It is difficult to get a full sense of the “waviness” of the floor in some locations just from a 2D photo, but hopefully, the degree of cupping of the boards in this picture comes through.

Thank you again.

GH

From: John C. Marshall <jcmar@ledyardct.org>

Sent: Friday, January 27, 2023 5:03 PM

To: ghosey924@gmail.com; Kevin J. Dombrowski <KJDom@ledyardct.org>; Fred Allyn, III <mayor@ledyardct.org>; Town Council Group <TownCouncil@ledyardct.org>

Cc: boe@ledyard.net; jhartling@ledyard.net

Subject: Re: LMS <<Not-Sensitive>>

Good Evening George,

With regards to the reimbursement and the gym floor, those are both works in progress, and that is all the information we have at the moment. I am confident we will recover from both of these, its just going to take some time. *I have let it be known in the past, and i'll say it again. O & G is responsible for the floor. the*

building was in their care when the damage occurred. I dont know why the text changed fonts, it was not intentional.

John Marshall

From: ghosey924@gmail.com <ghosey924@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2023 5:19 PM

To: Kevin J. Dombrowski <KJDom@ledyardct.org>; Fred Allyn, III <mayor@ledyardct.org>; Town Council Group <TownCouncil@ledyardct.org>

Cc: boe@ledyard.net <boe@ledyard.net>; jhartling@ledyard.net <jhartling@ledyard.net>

Subject: RE: LMS <<Not-Sensitive>>

Hi all once again.

As always, the views expressed in this email are my own and do not necessarily reflect those of any entity, private, public, charitable, governmental, overt or clandestine. Nor do they necessarily reflect the views of any other persons or creatures, living or deceased, real or fictional.

I read with great interest the minutes of the last TC meeting on 11-January, in particular the PMBC update from Councilor Marshall and the update from Mayor Allyn regarding work with our local representatives regarding construction reimbursement. Thank you Mayor Allyn and Councilor Marshall.

That said, though, I was disappointed by the lack of any further discussion around the matter and especially regarding the matter of the LMS gym floor. It has been stated in previous email that “avenues” are being pursued by which to hold O&G to account for that debacle. Is there any update on this matter? I have not taken note of any in recent TC meeting minutes.

I would also like to take this opportunity to reiterate my question regarding meeting minutes prior to June 2022 being backfilled into the Meeting Portal. Of late, I have been reviewing old meeting minutes, and I have learned that PMBC minutes, prior to 2019 are available by paper copy in the Town Hall only – no soft copy backup. This seems like an accident waiting to happen, and I would imagine the problem goes well beyond just the PMBC.

Thank you, as always, for your time and attention.

GH

From: George Hosey <ghosey924@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2023 1:43 PM

To: Kevin J. Dombrowski <KJDom@ledyardct.org>; Fred Allyn, III <mayor@ledyardct.org>

Cc: Town Council Group <TownCouncil@ledyardct.org>; boe@ledyard.net; jhartling@ledyard.net

Subject: Re: LMS <<Not-Sensitive>>

Hello again all,

The usual disclaimer - though I am currently a member of the PMBC, the opinions expressed in this email are my own and do not necessarily reflect those of the PMBC or other members thereof.

Has there been any update regarding O&G and the gym floor or other items? This seems an all the larger issue in light of recent revelations of hundreds of thousands of dollars in expenditures deemed ineligible for reimbursement by the state because O&G failed to submit them in a timely manner.

On a separate note, as discussed previously, the town changed systems for online meeting records last June. Is there any effort underway or even under consideration for backfilling meeting records prior to last June into the system? While Roxanne Maher has done an exemplary job helping me with records I have needed, she should not have to. All public meeting records should be readily available online for any Ledyard resident or taxpayer wishing to access them.

Thank you

GH

On Tuesday, December 13, 2022, <ghosey924@gmail.com> wrote:

Kevin,

Thank you for the prompt reply.

I, honestly, do not care where y'all meet to discuss the matter as long as it is, indeed, discussed, and appropriate action taken. When can Ledyard's taxpayers and Middle School parents expect an update on the "avenues being taken to hold O&G accountable"? While I hate to sound impatient, as we know, this has been ongoing for four years or more.

Thank you

GH

From: Kevin J. Dombrowski <KJDom@ledyardct.org>

Sent: Monday, December 12, 2022 5:45 PM

To: ghosey924@gmail.com; Fred Allyn, III <mayor@ledyardct.org>

Cc: Town Council Group <TownCouncil@ledyardct.org>; boe@ledyard.net; jhartling@ledyard.net

Subject: Re: LMS <<Not-Sensitive>>

George,

Since there are currently avenues being taken to hold O&G accountable to fix the ongoing issues, I am not inclined to take legal action at this time. Also any legal matter would be an issue to be discussed during an executive session, and not as a Council agenda item.

Regards

Kevin

From: ghosey924@gmail.com <ghosey924@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, December 12, 2022 5:36 AM

To: Fred Allyn, III <mayor@ledyardct.org>; Kevin J. Dombrowski <KJDom@ledyardct.org>

Cc: Town Council Group <TownCouncil@ledyardct.org>; boe@ledyard.net <boe@ledyard.net>; jhartling@ledyard.net <jhartling@ledyard.net>

Subject: RE: LMS <<Not-Sensitive>>

Good morning,

I'm writing to ask that the agenda for this week's Town Council meeting be amended to include an item for discussion and possible action on pursuing legal action against O&G for the damage done to the gym floor.

Thank you

GH

From: Hosey, George <ghosey@gdeb.com>

Sent: Wednesday, December 7, 2022 7:45 AM

To: mayor@ledyardct.org; kidom@ledyardct.org

Cc: towncouncil@ledyardct.org; boe@ledyard.net; jhartling@ledyard.net; George Hosey <ghosey924@gmail.com>

Subject: LMS <<Not-Sensitive>>

Mayor Allyn, Chairman Dombrowski,

While I currently serve as a member of the Ledyard PMBC, the opinions expressed in this email are my own and do not necessarily reflect those of the PMBC or any other members thereof.

This time of year reimaginings of *A Christmas Carol* are everywhere. Ledyard is no exception. You are, of course, aware of the audit work Colliers is performing on the LMS &

GHS construction projects. With Colliers cast in the role of The Ghost of Christmas Past, Ledyard is being forced to revisit unpleasant moments from our past, but instead of Fezziwig's office party, we get the LMS gymnasium floor.

You're probably better acquainted with the details of that situation than I, but as I recall, the gist of it is that, subsequent to the *expensive* gym flooring being installed, we had a water leak issue in the gym causing the floor to warp/buckle. At that time, the guidance was to allow the floor to dry and "settle". I'm not sure how successful that approach was, but it became moot soon after anyway, as another leak incident occurred, once again warping and buckling the floor.

At this point, I understand our Manager-at-Risk, O&G, and the associated subcon(s) deemed it best (for them anyway) to make stress relief cuts in the brand new flooring and face-nail it down. This is, obviously, not how the floor was intended to be installed. The rep from Colliers stated in the November PMBC meeting that he'd *never* seen that done before.

Like Scrooge, we can not undo the past. We can either dismiss it as a "bit of underdone potato" or learn from it and make changes to prevent an unpleasant future.

So I would ask of you merry gentlemen – are steps being taken to hold O&G and/or their subcons accountable for this debacle? Through the fault of neither the Town of Ledyard, nor Ledyard Public Schools, the taxpayers of this town, as well as the taxpayers of the state of CT, who shelled out over \$30M for the reconstructed Middle School, were delivered a substandard gym floor, damaged and improperly installed, yet at the full price of a correctly installed new floor.

If steps have not yet been initiated to have O&G replace the LMS gym floor with a brand new, correctly installed floor at their cost, I would implore you to take up such action as soon as possible. It is not reasonable for the students of Ledyard Public Schools or Ledyard's taxpayers to continue to suffer the consequences of O&G's negligence.

Thank you, and the best to all of you and your loved ones for the holiday season.

“God bless us, everyone”

George Hosey

Principal Engineer – Reliability

D422

(860) 433-4881

GHosey@gdeb.com

