



TOWN OF LEDYARD
CONNECTICUT
LEDYARD TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES

FINANCE COMMITTEE

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339
<http://www.ledyardct.org>
Roxanne Maher
(860) 464-3203

Chairman S. Naomi Rodriguez

ISCAL YEAR 2025/2026 WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025 - 2:00 P.M.
HYBRID MEETING FORMAT
VIDEO CONFERENCE & IN-PERSON
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ANNEX BUILDING

- I. CALL TO ORDER – The Work Session was called to order by Councilor Saccone at 2:08 p.m. at the Town Hall Annex Building, Council Chambers.

Councilor Saccone welcomed all to the Video Conference Meeting; and he noted that the remote meeting information for the Town Council Finance Committee Budget Work Session and members of the Public to participate in this afternoon’s meeting was available on the Agenda that was posted on the Town’s Website – Granicus/Legistar Meeting Portal.

- II. ROLL CALL –

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Location
Jessica Buhle	Town Councilor	Present	In-Person
Tim Ryan	Town Councilor	Present	In-Person
Tony Saccone	Town Councilor	Present	In-Person
S. Naomi Rodriguez	Town Council Chairman	Present	In-Person
Bill Barnes	Town Councilor	Present	In-Person
Fred Allyn III	Mayor	Present	In-Person
Matthew Bonin	Finance Director	Present	In-Person
Ian Stammel	Assistant Finance Director	Present	In-Person
Patricia Riley	Town Clerk	Present	In-Person
Kristen Chapman	Social Services Coordinator	Present	In-Person
Vincent Godino	Historic District Commission Member	Present	In-Person
Scott Johnson, Jr.	Director of Parks & Recreation & Senior Citizens	Present	In-Person
Erica Christofferson	Library Administrative Assistant	Present	In-Person
John Bolduc	Library Commission Chairman	Present	In-Person
Karen Goetchius	Director of School Nurses	Present	In-Person
Steve Masalin	Public Works Director/Town Engineer	Present	In-Person
Christine Dais	Human Resources Director	Present	Remote
Jason Hartling	Superintendent of Schools	Present	Remote
Christopher Jelden	Resident	Present	Remote
Roxanne Maher	Administrative Assistant	Present	Remote

III. PRESENTATIONS

DEPARTMENTS' PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2025/2026 BUDGET

2:00p.m. Town Clerk Patricia Riley

Department 10110311 Town Clerk

Mayor proposed \$173,64557,087; an increase of \$16,558 or 10.5% over the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 budget.

➤ **Town Clerk No CIP Request Fiscal Year 2025/2026**

2:15 p.m. Parks & Recreation, Senior Citizens Center Director Scott Johnson, Jr.

Department 10160101 Parks & Recreation, Senior Citizens

Mayor proposed \$628,170; an increase of \$10,686; or 1.7% over the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 budget.

➤ **Recreation & Senior Citizens Capital Improvement Plan Requests – Director Scott Johnson, Jr.**

<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Amount Budgeted</u>
✓ Clark/Purdy Field Light Pole Replacement	\$5,000	\$5,000
✓ Mop sink Judge Crandal Concession Stand	\$5,000	\$5,000
✓ Master Plan – Needs Assessment	\$125,000	\$25,000 \$100,000
✓ Pickleball Court Upgrades	\$25,000	\$25,000
✓ Playscape Wood Chips	\$5,000	\$5,000

The Finance Committee and Mr. Johnson discussed the expenditure of funding from the Parks & Recreation Capital Non-Recurring Fund 0203 as delineated in Ordinance: #200-012 “An Ordinance Creating a Municipal Park And Recreation Capital and Non-Recurring Expense Fund for the Town of Ledyard” which stated the following:

*“Upon authorization by the **annual budget meeting** of the Town or upon authorization by a **special Town meeting** of the Town, relative to the expenditure of funds from Fund 0203”*

Total Parks & Rec CIP Fiscal Year 2025/2026 \$140,000

3:00 p.m. – Library Administrative Assistant Erica Christofferson & Chairman John Bolduc

10150101 Library

Mayor proposed \$628,883; an increase of \$974 or 0.2% over the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 budget.

➤ **No Library Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Requested for 2025/2026**

**3:30 p.m. Historic District Commission
Department 10110103 Historic District Commission**

Mayor proposed \$17,771; a decrease of \$175,929 or 47.4%% from the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 budget.

➤ **Historic District Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Request –**

Building Maintenance Drainage Work	\$10,000
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Nathan Lester House work

Total Historic CIP Fiscal Year 2025/2026	\$10,000
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3:45 p.m. – School Nurses Director Karen Goetchius

10130103 School Nurses

Mayor proposed \$504,690; an increase of \$32,198 or 6.8% over the Fiscal Year 2024/20245 budget.

➤ **No School Nurses Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Requested 2025/2026**

4:00 p.m. Public Works/Town Engineer Steve Masalin

Public Works Director Department -Administration 10140101 –

Mayor proposed \$224,000; an increase of \$11,790 or 5.6% over the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 budget.

Highway Department 10140103 –

Mayor proposed \$1,279,871; an increase of \$30,344 or 2.4% over the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 budget.

Vehicle Maintenance Department 10140105 –

Mayor proposed \$370,294; an increase of \$83,243 or 29% over the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 budget.

Road Upkeep Department; 10140107

Mayor proposed \$184,800; no change from Fiscal Year 2024/2025 budget.

Property Maintenance of Town Buildings Department 10140111 –

Mayor proposed \$88,550 an increase of \$2,500; or 2.9% over the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 budget.

This budget provides for critical building improvements

Sanitation Department 10140113 –

Mayor proposed \$1,330,000; an increase of \$156,00 or 1338% over the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 budget.

Mr. Masalin stated in response to the town soliciting bids for Curbside Collection Services that only two bids were received on March 6, 2025. Therefore, he stated in

accordance with Ordinance #200-001 “*An Ordinance for Purchasing*” he would be attending the March 19, 2025 Finance Committee meeting to request a Bid Waiver. He went on to note that based on the Low Bid received that Account #10140113-54210 (Disposal Services) could be reduced from \$752,500 to \$711,000.

➤ **Public Works Requests – Public Works Director Steve Masalin**

Heavy Equipment Reserve Fund **\$90,000**
 This account needed to be funded annually to meet long-term replacement needs in accordance with the equipment replacement plan. Funds were appropriated at a rate necessary to meet the anticipated future refitting and/or replacement.

Lantern Hill Road Bridge Replacement **\$2,250,000**
 The existing bridge over Whitford Brook at the Ledyard-Stonington Town Lines was too narrow for normal traffic and was particularly unsafe in the event of a head-on large vehicular traffic. Senator Cathy Osten worked to secure \$3 million for the bridge and dam replacement and repairs. The town has an executed Agreement with the State to receive the \$3 million grant funding. Mr. Masalin stated the hope was to have the bridge replacement work completed this calendar year. However, there would be some costs that would be shared by Ledyard and Stonington for this project.

Large Truck Reserve Account **\$185,000**
 This account needed to be funded annually to meet long-term replacement needs of the large dump truck fleet. Originally, funding was sought to meet a 15-year replacement cycle for each of the trucks in the fleet.

Light Equipment Reserve Fund **\$16,000**
 This account funds long-term requirements in accordance with minor equipment upgrade and replacement needs. This involved a large variety of light/small equipment assets.

Small Truck Reserve Fund **\$40,000**
 This account needed to be funded annually to meet long-term replacement needs in accordance with the equipment replacement plan. A combination of internal reassignments of assets and new purchases continue to be undertaken to efficiently utilize the fleet.

Pooled Vehicle Reserve fund **\$15,000**
 This account needs to be funded annually to meet long-term replacement needs in accordance with the equipment replacement plan. The State of Connecticut has privatized its sale of surplus vehicles and items, which has severely curtailed the town’s ability to obtain lightly used vehicles at a low cost.

Municipal Building Reserve Fund **\$100,000**
 This fund provides for ongoing capital level renovations and life-cycle maintenance for the Town's non-BOE municipal buildings. Maintenance and renovations were based on a combination of factors, including facility age, inconsistent capital investment and normal maintenance needs.

Road Maintenance **\$147,889**

Road maintenance for routine repairs, etc., funding to come from Town Aid Road (TAR) Grant funding

Road Restoration Fund **\$900,000**

Road restoration, reconstruction and resurfacing was programmed through a systemic plan derived through a comprehensive assessment and evaluation of the condition of all Town roads. From 1988 to 2008, the source of funding for this program was through bonding. Currently the town has a Road Surface Rating (RSR) 85.6 based on a scale of 100, which was reasonable. To continue to maintain the roads at 83-85 which was a reasonable level \$1,000,000 annually was required.

Total Public Works **CIP Fiscal Year 2025/2026** **\$3,653,000**

4:30 p.m. Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

Capital Improvement Plan
2025/2026

Department	Project Description	Dept Request 2026	Mayor 2026	Preliminary Tax Levy	LoCIP	Town Aid Road Grant	Municipal Aid Grant	Conveyance	Other	TOTAL
Town Council	Laptop Reserve Fund	1,500	1,500	1,500	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL Town Council		1,500	1,500	1,500						1,500
Historic Districts	Drainage projects	10,000	10,000	10,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL Historic Comm		10,000	10,000	10,000						10,000
Assessor	Revaluation Reserve	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL Assessor		50,000	50,000	50,000						50,000
MIS	Technology Upgrades	73,500	71,500	71,500	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL MIS		73,000	71,500	71,500						71,500
Police	Police Vehicles	106,653	53,326	53,326	-	-	-	-	-	-
Police	CALEA Accreditation	7,868	6,500	6,500	-	-	-	-	-	-
Police	Psychological Exam Reserve	1,375	1,375	1,375	-	-	-	-	-	-
Police	No current year request	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Police	Flock Safety Cameras	12,750	12,750	12,750						
Police	Firearm Reserve Fund	7,000	7,000	7,000						
Police	In Car Video	1,800	1,800	1,800	-	-	-	-	-	-
Police	Body Worn Cameras	7,050	7,050	7,050	-	-	-	-	-	-
Police	Radio Base Station Reserve Fund	8,500	8,500	8,500	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL Police		152,996	98,300	98,300						98,300

Department	Project Description	Dept Request 2026	Mayor 2026	Prelim Tax Levy	LoCIP	Town Aid Road Grant	Municipal Aid Grant	Conveyance	Other	TOTAL
ACO	ACO Vehicle Reserve Fund	2,000	2,000	2,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ACO		2,000	2,000	2,000						2,000
Ledyard Fire	Fire Hose	3,000	3,000	3,000	-	-	-	-		-
Ledyard Fire	SCBA Replacement	12,000	12,000	12,000						
Ledyard Fire	R-11 light tower	15,000	-	-						
Ledyard Fire	Gear Dryer	12,000	12,000	12,000						
Ledyard Fire	Battering ram	12,000	12,000	12,000						
Ledyard Fire	Fire Fighter Personal Protective Equip.	15,000	15,000	15,000	-	-	-	-		-
TOTAL Ledyard Fire		69,000	54,000	54,000						54,000
Gales Ferry Fire	Fire Fighter Personal Protective Equip.	16,000	16,000	16,000	-	-	-	-		-
Gales Ferry Fire	Communication Equipment	5,000	5,000	5,000	-	-	-	-		-
Gales Ferry Fire	Firefighting Equipment	3,000	3,000	3,000						
Gales Ferry Fire	Air Bottles	3,000	3,000	3,000						
Gales Ferry Fire	SCBA Replacement	13,000	13,000	13,000						
Gales Ferry Fire	Breathing Air Compressor	12,000	12,000	12,000						
Gales Ferry Fire	Jaws of Life Tools Replacement	4,000	4,000	4,000						
Gales Ferry Fire	Fire Station Generator Replacement	-	-	-						
Gales Ferry Fire	Fire Hose Replacement	4,000	4,000	4,000						
TOTAL Gales Ferry Fire		60,000	60,000	60,000						60,000
Admin Emerg Serv	AED Reserve	9,175	9,175	9,175	-	-	-	-		-
Admin Emerg Serv	Fire Apparatus Replacement	384,305	307,444	307,444	-	-	-	-		-
TOTAL Admin Emerg Serv		393,480	316,619	316,619						316,619
Public Works	Heavy Equipment	90,000	90,000	45,000	-	-	-	45,000		-
Public Works	Large Trucks	185,000	185,000	185,000	-	-	-	-		-
Public Works	Small Trucks	40,000	40,000	40,000	-	-	-	-		-
Public Works	Light Equipment	16,000	16,000	16,000	-	-	-	-		-
Public Works	Pooled Vehicles	15,000	15,000	15,000	-	-	-	-		-
Public Works	Road Restoration	1,115,000	900,000	155,659	175,367	147,889	421,085	-		-
Public Works	Road Maintenance	147,889	147,889	-	-	147,889	-	-		-

Department	Project Description	Dept Request 2026	Mayor 2026	Prelim Tax Levy	LoCIP	Town Aid Road Grant	Municipal Aid Grant	Conveyance	Other	TOTAL
Public Works	Municipal Building Reserve Fund	100,000	100,000	100,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Public Works	Whitford Brook Watershed Infrastructure	2,250,000	2,250,000	-	-	-	-	-	2,250,000	
TOTAL Public Works		3,958,889	3,743,889	556,659	175,367	295,778	421,085		2,250,000	3,743,889
Library	Technology Upgrades	-	-	-						
TOTAL Library										-0-
Parks & Recreation	Clark / Purdy Field light pole replacement	5,000	5,000					5,000		
Parks & Recreation	Mop sink - Judge Crandall concession stand	5,000	5,000					5,000		
Parks & Recreation	Master plan - Needs Assessment	125,000	25,000					<i>BWS 3/18/2025 100,000</i>		
Parks & Recreation	Pickleball court upgrades	25,000	25,000					25,000		
Parks & Recreation	Playscape woodchips	5,000	5,000					25,000		
TOTAL Parks & Recreation		165,000	65,000	-	-	-	-	65,000 160,000		160,000
Board of ED Operating		134,500	134,500							
Board of Ed CNR		577,500	504,500							
		5,648,365	5,111,809	1,606,450	175,367	295,778	421,085	160,000		2,384,500

Board of Education
Capital Improvement Plan
2025/2026

BOARD OF EDUCATION CAPITAL REQUESTS FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025												
Funding Source	Project Title	Board of Ed Request	Mayor Recommendation Fiscal Year 2025 / 2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2033	2033	2034	2035
<i>Operating</i>												
	LHS - Parking Lot Repairs	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	-				
	LHS/JWL - Air Conditioning	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	-				
	LHS - Athletic Field Repairs	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500	-				
	LHS - Masonry Repairs	5,000	5,000	5,000-	-5,000	-5,000	-5,000	-				
	Districtwide - HVAC Maintenance	110,000	110,000	140,000	130,000	120,000-	160,000-	-				
TOTAL BOE Operating		134,500	134,500	164,500	154,500	144,500	184,500					

Project Title	Board of Ed Request	Mayor Recommendation Fiscal Year 2025 / 2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	Total Accumulative Request
<i>BOE CIP Non-Recurring</i>												-
LHS - Lower Level Restrooms	-	-	-	-	85,000-		-	-	-			85,000
LHS - Lower Level Locker Rooms	-	-	-	-	-	125,000-		-	-			125,000
LHS - Boiler System Repairs	22,500	22,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			22,500
LHS - Electrostatic Locker Painting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		30,000		25,000
JWL - Classroom Renovations	135,000	135,000	139,000	143,222			-	-	-			417,222
JWL - Nurses Office Cabinets	8,000											
LHS - Science Lab Upgrades	125,000	125,000	128,750	132,613	-	-	-	-	-			511,363
LHS - Culinary Room Renovations	-	-	-	-	-75,000		-	-	-			75,000
LHS - Resurface Tennis Courts	-	-	-	45,000-		-	-	-	-			45,000
LHS - Outdoor Athletics Lavs / Storage	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-0-
LHS - Replace Turf Field Scoreboard	55,000	55,000-			-	-	-	-	-			200,000
Central Office - Replacement Truck	-	-	60,000-		-		-	-	-			125,000
LHS - Varsity Locker-room Renovation	-	-	-	-	150,000-		-	-	-			150,000
LHS - Athletic Locker-room Renovation	-	-	-	-	150,000-		-	-	-			150,000
LHS - Replacement Field Lights	-	-	75,000-	-	-	-	-	-	-			75,000
LHS - Gym Bleachers	-	-	-	125,000-		-	-	-	-			150,000
LHS - Gym Dividing Wall	-	-	35,000-		-	-	-	-	-			35,000
LHS - Aux Gym Padding	-	-	--	30,000		-	-	-	-			30,000
LHS - Gym Ceiling	65,000	-	65,000		-	-	-	-	-			65,000

Enclosed Bird Nesting Locations	15,000	15,000										15,000
Project Title	Board of Ed Request	Mayor Recommendation Fiscal Year 2025 / 2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	Total Accumulative Request
LHS Bollards for Outdoor Seating	5,000	5,000										5,000
LHS Fire Doors	20,000	20,000	20,600									40,600
LHS Replace Lower Level Celin & Lighting			25,000									25,000
LHS Sewer Piping Replacement	10,000	10,000										10,000
LHS Bullet Resistant Film	15,000	15,000										15,000
LHS Baseball Field Renovation	45,000	45,000										45,000
LHS Softball Field Renovation			45,000									45,000
GFS - Playground Surfaces	-	-	50,000-		-	-	-	-	-			50,000
GFS Bullet Resistant Film	9,000	9,000										9,000
JWL - Playground Equipment			70,000-	-	-	-	-	-	-			50,000
JWL – Sewer Pipe Replacement	10,000 -	10,000-	10,300-		-	-	-	-	-			20,300
JWL – Bullet Resistant Film	5,000-	5,000			-	-	-	-	-			5,000
Central Office – Bullet Resistant Film	3,000-	3,000			-	-	-	-	-			3,000
GHS Driveway Repairs	30,000	30,000										30,000
TOTAL CIP NON RECURRING	577,500	504,500	733,700	510,835	470,000					30,000	200,000	2,653,985

Project Title	Board of Ed Request	Mayor Recommendation Fiscal Year 2025 / 2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	Total Accumulative Request
Bondable												
LHS - Boiler System Replacement & BMS System	-	-	-	4,500,000	-	-	-	-				4,500,000
LHS - Parking Lot	-	-	-	-	1,500,000-		-	-				1,500,000
LHS - Window Replacement	-	-	3,000,000	-	-	-	-	-				3,000,000
LHS - Add Elevator to Lower Level	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	320,000				320,000

Project Title	Board of Ed Request	Mayor Recommendation Fiscal Year 2025 / 2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	Total Accumulative Request
LMS - Expand Cafeteria	-	-	550,000		-	-	-	-				550,000
LHS - Classroom Ventilation and Air Conditioning	-	-	-	6,000,000-		-	-	-				6,000,000
LHS - Roof Replacement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,000,000				4,000,000
JWL - Window Replacement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					600,000
JWL - Parking Lot	-	-	-	-	-400,000-							400,000
LHS - Replace Media Center Roof	-	-	-	525,000		-	-					400,000
LHS - Auditorium Air Conditioning	-	-	450,000		-	-	-	-	-			450,000
LHS - Fire Alarm Systems	350,000	275,000-				-	-	600,000-	-			875,000
GHS Dehumidification	250,000	250,000										250,000
LMS Dehumidification	250,000	250,000										250,000
GFS Chiller Replacement	380,000	380,000										380,000
TOTAL BONDING	1,230,000	1,155,000	4,000,000	11,525,000	1,900,000		600,000	4,325,000				23,475,000

4:55 p.m. Budget Work

During the work sessions the Finance Committee asked questions about line items in each category in the department’s budget. The Committee also explained to each Department that should there be any changes in State Revenues proposed by the Governor’s Budget, that they may want to meet again with the Finance Committee to offer alternatives, suggestions and recommendations as the Finance Committee works to put forwarded a recommended Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget.

The Finance Committee also noted during their review of the information provided by the Departments; that they were pleased to see that Staff worked to off-set General Government contractual increases with reductions in other expenses and to find efficiencies. The Committee commented that considering the current inflationary environment the Mayor and his staff have done a good job to proposed a reasonable Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

The Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget Work Session adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony Saccone, Sr.
Committee Chairman
Finance Committee