



# TOWN OF LEDYARD

## Town Council Meeting Minutes

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

Chairman S. Naomi  
Rodriguez

### Regular Meeting

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Wednesday, July 9, 2025

7:00 PM

Town Hall Council Chambers

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### WORKING DRAFT

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

**Remote:** Information noted below:

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

**<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86475891587?pwd=yWP4HEbsSBMs08Cnk1CenKJRgaam2m.1>**

**Audio Only: Telephone: +1 646 558 8656; Meeting ID: 864 7589 1587; Passcode: 836523**

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

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

**Excused:** Councilor William Barnes

IV. PRESENTATIONS

Proclamation - David Holdridge

- Proclamation Mr. David Holdridge

Chairman Rodriguez presented the following:

Be it known that the  
Town of Ledyard

Recognizes  
**A Lifetime of Community Service**  
**david holdridge**

*For his more than Fifty years of dedication to the Town of Ledyard*

*In serving as a volunteer and leader on numerous Town Committees, as President of the Ledyard Ecclesiastical Society, Civic Organizations, and as a Member of the Ledyard Town Council for over five -decades; .*

**Mr. Holdridge** as a husband, father, grandfather, history professor, and avid lover of the outdoors, he also made time to serve his community;

**During his Sixteen years on the Town Council** Mr. Holdridge served on the Community Services Committee and Land Use/Planning/Public Works Committee; and as its Chairman from 1977 - 1979; and again from 1983-1985. In addition, he served as the Liaison to the Conservation Commission, Historic District Commission, and the Inland Wetlands and Water Courses Commission.

**Mr. Holdridge** has passion and commitment to preserve open space and maintain the beauty of Ledyard's rural community with its rolling hills, farmland, and woodlands.

**Amongst his Many Accomplishments in 2008** Mr. Holdridge played an instrumental role in the vision, design, and construction of the Tri-Town Trail from Bluff Point to Preston Plains Park; working tirelessly with his fellow residents, Ketih and Karen Parkinson, Barbara Kil, and others to establish a regional network trail for passive recreation that would improve residents quality of life for years to come. The Tri-Town Trail Committee; later became the Non-Profit Tri-Town Trail Association; and in 2022 Mr. Holdridge sought and received a Greenway Designation for the Tri-Town Trail from the Connecticut Greenway Designation CT Greenways Council (CGC).

**Mr. Holdridge viewed Public Health, Safety, and Education** as being essential to a viable and healthy community. He was a proponent of providing reliable potable water to Ledyard residents, supporting the many water projects that now serve 1,200 households. In addition, he supported the construction of a new Gales Ferry Elementary School in 1999; the expansion of the Vo-Ag Wing in 2000; High School Critical Needs Improvements in 2001; the construction of the Emergency Services Building on Fairway Drive in 2002; and the construction of the Police Facility in 2013 to house the Town's Independent Police Department, which included improvements to the Town Hall Complex.

**Mr. Holdridge** also recognized the need to prevent rural sprawl, and he encouraged smart growth, responsible development, and valuable initiatives to address Ledyard's current and future infrastructure demands, its ability to increase its tax base, its impact on the future of his community, and the importance to take care of Ledyard's aging population as well as its youth by providing affordable housing and creating neighborhoods where the residents could retire comfortably and where families could raise their children.

**Those of Us Who Witnessed** his quiet, but steadfast demeanor will attest that **David Holdridge** has been motivated by the highest ideals of public service. The citizens of Ledyard have benefited and will remain grateful for his tenacity and tireless years of service, commitment, integrity and perseverance during a period of growth and change. The citizens of Ledyard are fortunate to have been, and will continue to be served by his forethought and leadership qualities.

**We Also Thank** his wife Sarah for graciously sharing Dave with all of us... for all these years!

*Given this Ninth day of July, in the year 2025 at Ledyard, Connecticut.*

*S. Naomi Rodriguez,  
Chairman  
Ledyard Town Council*

Proclamation - Daniel and Laura Troy

Be it known that the  
Town of Ledyard  
Recognizes  
And

## **Honors Daniel and Laura Troy**

*For their Forty-Five Years of dedication to their Community*

***Mr. Daniel Troy*** as a teen began working as a Produce Clerk when Stop & Shop was a small neighborhood grocery store in Groton, that was then locally owned by a Massachusetts I

***Mrs. Laura Troy*** as a teen also began working a Stop & Shop as a Payroll Clerk. Her steady presences, organizational skills, and knowledge of store operations made her a trusted aide to the store manager and associates; and an essential part of the Team.

***In 1980*** while working at Stop & Shop Daniel and Laura met and began dating, and later married in 1985; and have remained devoted to each other, the Company, and to their Community.

***Mr. and Mrs. Troy*** chose Ledyard in 1990 to build their home and raise their family; *inspiring their children to choose to reside in Ledyard and raise their family as well. Mr. and Mrs. Troy are devoted Grandparents, taking every opportunity to spend time with their Grandchildren and their Grand dog.*

***In Addition*** to celebrating Forty-five years of continuous service as dedicated employees of Stop & Shop, Mr. and Mrs. Troy not only found time for their family and coworkers, they understood and valued what it takes to make a community.

***Mrs. Troy*** spent many hours volunteering in the Ledyard Public Schools, supporting students and teachers in the classroom, chaperoning field trips, helping in the school library, and with the music boosters. She also volunteered with the Girl Scouts of America, and helped local churches with fundraisers, as well as doing charity work with the Groton Chapter of Ame

***Mr. Troy*** was a steady source of warmth and familiarity for shoppers each week because of his dedication to providing quality produce, his great pride in his work, and his friendly interactions with customers and coworkers he made everyone feel like family.

***Now Therefore, be it Resolved that*** Daniel and Laura Troy are recognized as outstanding citizens and neighbors for their selfless contributions, for always stepping up to volunteer their time to help their Friends and Neighbors in need; and for Making Ledyard a Welcoming and Great Community for all to call it their Home.

*The townspeople will remain extremely grateful for their generosity, commitment, and dedication.*

*And under this Charter Daniel and Laura Troy shall hold and enjoy a place of high esteem in the minds and hearts of the people of the Town of Ledyard.*

Given this Ninth day of July, 2025 at Ledyard, Connecticut.

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S. Naomi Rodriguez, Chairman  
Ledyard Town Council

State of Connecticut Citation

***Senator Cathy Osten*** presented Chairman Rodriguez with the following State of Connecticut General Assembly Citation that was introduced by herself, Representative Kevin Ryan, Representative Greg Howard and Representative Brian Leneau:

***Be It Hereby Known to All:*** That the Connecticut General Assembly in recognition of her many years of dedicated public service in the town of Ledger. Your hard work and dedication have left a lasting positive mark on the community, and will be greatly missed

We join with your friends and family to offer our congratulations to Chairman Rodriguez, and we wish you the best of luck for the future

*The entire membership extends its very best wished on this memorable occasion and expresses the hope for continued success.*

*Given this eight day of July, 2025 at the State Capitol in Hartford, Connecticut.*

Martin Looney  
Senate President

Speaker of the House  
Mark Ritter

Secretary of the State  
Stephanie Thomas

Senator Osten note that she stopped by the Ledyard's Farmers' Market and picked up some flowers to present to Chairman Rodriguez, and she thanked her for her service.

· Proclamation Town Council Chairman S. Naomi Rodriguez

On behalf of the Twenty-seventh Town Council Councilor Buhle presented the following:

BE IT KNOWN THAT THE TOWN OF LEDYARD RECOGNIZES  
**S. NAOMI RODRIGUEZ**

*For Her more than Nineteen years of service and dedication to the Town of  
Ledyard*

**2006 to 2025**

**As a Volunteer and Elected Official**

**Ms. Rodriguez** began her service in Ledyard's town government in 2006 when she was appointed to the Planning Commission; serving as the Commission's Vice Chairman from 2012 - 2016. In 2016 she was appointed to the Gypsy Moth Committee, serving as the Committee's Chairman working to mobilize residents to address the infestation of gypsy moths in her community in an effort to protect Ledyard's trees, woodlands, and picturesque rural environment. In addition, she served on the Charter Revision Commission in 2009, on Senior Citizens Commission from 2016-to 2019; and on Parks & Recreation Commission from 2018- to 2019.

**Ms. Rodriguez viewed Education** as an essential component of the future of her community's youth. In 2007 she began volunteering to help students and teachers in the classroom, she also served as a member of the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO); and as a Ledyard Center School Shining Star Friend. Also, Ms. Rodriguez was a cofounder of the Ledyard Public Schools Recycling Program that was launched in 2008.

**In 2019 Ms. Rodriguez was elected to the Board of Education**, during her term she was an advocate for diversity, and she worked to help foster a school environment of inclusion, where Ledyard's children would excel in academics, social, and emotional development. As a member of the Board of Education Ms. Rodriguez served on the Board of Education's Strategic Planning Committee, helped with the vision and district goals to ensure that when all students left their schools they were able to thrive and succeed in any endeavor. In addition, she served as the Ledyard Public Schools Representative to LEARN and on LEARN's Negotiation Committee for the administrators contract; and organized and participated in Ledyard Public Schools Teacher Residency Program through LEARN to bring minority teachers to Ledyard.

**In 2021 Ms. Rodriguez was elected to the Town Council** serving two consecutive terms where she was a member of the Land Use/Planning/Public Works Committee and served as the Town Council Liaison to the Agricultural Commission, Ledyard Farmers Market Committee, the Retirement Board, the Parks and Recreation Commission, Senior Citizens Commission and the newly combined Parks, Recreation and Senior Citizens Commission.

**During her time on the Town Council** Ms. Rodriguez was instrumental in the 2021 establishment and the success of the Black History Month Essay and Poster Contest working with the Board of Education and the Community to ensure that all Ledyard Students including their Public Schools, Magnet Schools, and Homeschooled Students had the opportunity to participate. This program brought the entire community together for parents, educators, and students to recognize the accomplishments of their community's youth.

**Ms. Rodriguez was elected Town Council Chairman** by her peers in 2023 and served in this role until her departure in 2025 when her family relocated for employment reasons. During her short time as Chairman she presided over the financial and legislative body of the town; working tirelessly with her fellow councilors as well as local, state, and federal officials to help secure grant funding which included the COPS Law Enforcement Technology and Equipment Grant to modernize and increase the functionality of the Police Department's software to maintain their records and to interface with the judicial system; and the 2025 STEAP Grant to replace the

*Playscapes at following Parks: Town Green, Aljen Heights, Blonders Park, and Chirsty Hill Park.*

***Mrs. Rodriguez viewed Public Health and its Youth*** as critically important working to arrange the Ledyard Summer Meals Program through Groton Public Schools in 2020; and securing a portion of the Town's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding to hire licensed professional clinicians through the Child & Family Agency School-Based Health Centers to provide her community's youth mental health support. In addition, each year Ms. Rodriguez invited the Brian Dagle Healing Hearts Foundation to the Ledyard Farmers Market to discuss grief support, mental health, and suicide prevention providing lifesaving outreach programs to her community.

***Those of Us Who Witnessed*** these actions will attest that ***S. Naomi Rodriguez*** motivated by the highest ideals of public service. The citizens of Ledyard have benefited from her years of service, commitment, and perseverance during a period of growth and change; and are fortunate to have been to be served by her steadfast and compassionate qualities.

*Given by the Twenty-seventh Town Council on this Nineth day of July, 2025 at Ledyard, Connecticut.*

The Town Council presented the Chairman Rodriguez with a bouquet of flowers.

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

***Mr. Steve Munger***, 12 Nutmeg Drive, Gales Ferry

***Mr. Jake Troy***, 53 Vinegar Hill Road, Gales Ferry

***Ms. Caitlyn Greco***, 9 Stone Court, Gales Ferry,

***Mr. Jacob Hurt***, 6 Nugget Hill Drive, Gales Ferry

Ms. Ferbie Herndon, 16 Bittersweet Drive, Gales Ferry,

VI. COMMITTEE COMMISSION AND BOARD REPORTS

VII. COMMENTS OF TOWN COUNCILORS

VIII. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION to approve the following Town Council Minutes:

- Regular Meeting Minutes of June 11, 2025
- Special Meeting Minutes of June 18, 2025
- Special Meeting Minutes of June 25, 2025

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

Communications List - July 9, 2025

## X. REFERALS

## XI. COUNCIL SUB COMMITTEE, LIAISON REPORTS

1. Administration Committee Report Fiscal Year 2025/2025
2. Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion - Report- Sical Year 2025/2026
3. Finance Committee Report Fiscal Year 2025/2025
4. LUPPW Committee Report Fiscal Year 2025/2025

## XIII. Mayor Report Fiscal Year 2025/2025

## XIII. OLD BUSINESS

## XIV. NEW BUSINESS

**\*\*ADD ON\*\***

- \* MOTION to Amend the Agenda to add  
MOTION to grant a Bid Waiver in the amount of up-to \$390,782 to Tradesmen of New England, Bloomfield, Connecticut, to address the emergency replacement of the Chiller at the Gales Ferry School.

Meeting went into Recess

A motion was made by Councilor Saccone, seconded by Councilor Buhle, that this be Approved and so declared. The motion carried by the following vote:

**RESULT:** APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

**MOVER:** Tony Saccone

**SECONDER:** Jessica Buhle

**AYE:** 8 Brunelle, Buhle, Dombrowski, Garcia-Irizarry, Rodriguez, Ryan, Saccone, and St. Vil

**EXCUSED:** 1 Barnes

1. MOTION to grant a Bid Waiver in the amount of up-to \$390,782 to Tradesmen of New England, Bloomfield, Connecticut, to address the emergency replacement of the Chiller at the Gales Ferry School.

**RESULT:** APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

**MOVER:** Jessica Buhle

**SECONDER:** Gary St. Vil

**AYE:** 8 Brunelle, Buhle, Dombrowski, Garcia-Irizarry, Rodriguez, Ryan, Saccone, and St. Vil

**EXCUSED:**    1    Barnes

XV.    ADJOURNMENT

The Meeting Adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

**DISCLAIMER:**

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

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