



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

Town Meeting Meeting Minutes

Sp. Town Mtg- JWL HVAC Project- Hybrid Format

Monday, June 23, 2025

7:00 PM

Council Chambers - Town Hall Annex
Building

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

Video Conference: [https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88245336277?
pwd=dsL5439nviyhuTta0qRkyP6MrXZL3D.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88245336277?pwd=dsL5439nviyhuTta0qRkyP6MrXZL3D.1)

or by audio only telephone: +1 646 558 8656; Meeting ID: 882 4533 6277; Passcode: 558287

I. CALL TO ORDER

Town Council Chairman S. Naomi Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
There were 14 people in attendance and 7 remote attendees.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The public stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR MODERATOR

The Chairman called for nominations for Moderator. Carmen Garcia-Irizarry, 58 Eagle Ridge Drive, nominated S. Naomi Rodriguez, 6 St. Peters Court. Seconded by Jessica Buhle, 65 Pheasant Run Drive.

IV. ELECTION OF MODERATOR

Those voting in favor of Ms. Rodriguez as Moderator: All present. Opposed: None.

CALL OF THE MEETING

Legal Notice - Special Town Meeting- June 23, 2025- Increase Bond Authorization to \$9,800,000

Attachments: [LEGAL NOTICE-JULIET W LONG HVAC PROJECT-2025-07-08](#)

**TOWN OF LEDYARD
NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING - JUNE 23, 2025
Notice of referendum - JULY 8, 2025**

A hybrid (In-Person & Video Conference) special town meeting of the electors and citizens qualified to vote in town meetings of the Town of Ledyard, Connecticut, will be held in the Council Chambers, 741 Colonel Ledyard Highway, in the Town of Ledyard, Connecticut, on Monday, June 23, 2025, at 7:00 p.m., via Zoom Video Conference: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88245336277?pwd=dsL5439nviyhuTta0qRkyP6MrXZL3D.1>; or by audio only telephone: +1 646 558 8656; Meeting ID: 882 4533 6277; Passcode: 558287 for the following purposes:

1. To consider and discuss and vote upon a resolution adopted by the Town Council on April 16, 2025, to amend the resolution, approved by voters on February 22, 2022 and amended by voters on October 17, 2023, increasing the appropriation and borrowing authorization by an additional \$1,250,000 (thereby increasing the appropriation and borrowing authorization to an aggregate \$9,800,000) 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; upgrades to the building management systems at Gales Ferry School; and electrical and HVAC upgrades at Juliet W. Long School.

The full text of each resolution is on file with the Town Clerk.

2. Pursuant to Section 14 of Chapter III and Section 9 of Chapter VII of the Town Charter, to adjourn said town meeting at its conclusion and to submit the aforesaid Resolution to vote at referendum to be held on Tuesday, July 8, 2025 between the hours of 12:00 Noon and 8:00 p.m. at the Town Hall - Lower Level, 741 Colonel Ledyard Highway in the Town of Ledyard, in the manner provided by said Sections. The Resolution under item 1 of this Notice will be placed on the voting machines under the following heading:

“SHALL THE TOWN OF LEDYARD APPROPRIATE AN ADDITIONAL \$1,250,000 (INCREASING THE APPROPRIATION AND BORROWING AUTHORIZATION TO AN AGGREGATE \$9,800,000) FOR VARIOUS SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION?”

Voters approving the Resolution will vote “Yes” and those opposing the Resolution shall vote “No”. Voting will be held at the following polling places:

District One: Town Hall Lower Level - Registrar’s Office
District Two: Town Hall Lower Level - Registrar’s Office
District Three: Town Hall Lower Level - Registrar’s Office

Persons qualified to vote in Town Meetings who are not electors shall vote in-person at:

Town Hall - Lower Level with District One.

Absentee ballots will be available from the Town Clerk’s office.

Dated at Ledyard, Connecticut, this 28th day of May 2025.

S. Naomi Rodriguez, Chairman
Ledyard Town Council

Patricia A. Riley, Town Clerk
Town of Ledyard

RETURN OF PUBLICATION AND POSTING OF NOTICE

*I, S. Naomi Rodriguez, chairman of the Ledyard Town Council, do hereby certify that I caused a copy of notice of Hybrid Format (In-Person and Video Conference) Special Town Meeting to be held Monday, June 23, 2025 at 7:00 p.m., to be legally posted in the office of the Town Clerk and that I caused a copy of said notice to be published in **The Day**, a newspaper having a circulation in the Town of Ledyard, in its issue of Friday, June 6, 2025.*

*s/S. Naomi Rodriguez, Chairman
Ledyard Town Council*

*Dated at Ledyard, Connecticut
This 26th day of June 2025*

*Attest:
PATRICIA A. RILEY
Town Clerk*

VI. MOTION MUST BE MADE AND SECONDED

MOTION to approve a “Resolution Amending the Resolution Entitled “Resolution Appropriating \$8,550,000 for Various School Improvement Projects; And Authorizing the Issue of Bonds And Notes in the Same Amount to Finance Said Appropriation” to Increase the Appropriation And Borrowing Authorization To \$9,800,000”.

Attachments: [RESOLUTION INCREASEING AUTHORIZATION TO \\$9,800,000-2025-04-16](#)
[CT Administrative Services JWL HVAC Grant Commitment 6.4.2024](#)
[Juliet W Long School HVAC Additonal Appropriation- Finance Director 2025-04-14 response to Superintendent email-2025-04-09](#)
[Juliet W Long HVAC-PMBC Request Additional Funding-ltr-2025-04-07](#)
[Juliet W Long HVAC-PMBC Request Additional Funding-ltr-2025-04-07-Nutmeg Companies](#)
[Juliet W Long HVAC-PMBC Request Additional Funding-ltr-2025-04-07-Project Budget](#)
[School Superintendent-Juliet W Long HVAC Additonal Appropriation-email-2025-04-09](#)

Ms. Carmen Garcia-Irizarry moved, seconded by Bill Barnes,.

VII. PRESENTATION

Presentation- Juliet W. Long Heating Ventilation & Air Condition System (HVAC)

Attachments: [JWL-HVAC-Project-Background Informtaion-2025-06-23](#)
[JWL-HVAC-Project-Background Informtaion-2025-06-23](#)
[CT Administrative Services JWL HVAC Grant Commitment 6.4.2024](#)

Presentation was given by PMBC Chairman Joe Gush.

Slides are attached.

VIII. MODERATOR CALLS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Moderator Rodriguez then issued a call for Public Comment.

Ms. Wendy Hellekson, 14 Lakeside Drive, Ledyard, states that she is a teacher at Gallup Hill and knows what it is like to work with children that are uncomfortable and try to get through the day without them overheating themselves and without having them running around. It is hard for them to try and concentrate when it is hot and without air conditioning. She hopes this passes for the children.

Mr. Jacob Hurt, 6 Nugget Hill Drive, Gales Ferry, thinks it is ironic and glad that we are having a heat wave now and not a couple weeks ago week when school was still in session. He supports this and hopes others will also.

Mr. Joe Gush, PMBC Chair, 57 Town Farm Road, Ledyard, mentioned that there is a survey out there for the industry. Every degree over seventy-five, there is a five percent loss of efficiency of people working. What is the difference when you have children trying to learn. They are distracted because they are too hot.

Ms. Angela Cassidy, 62 Hurlbutt Road, Gales Ferry, looking for clarification with discussing the system. Not just the air conditioning but the carbon dioxide levels in the classrooms as well. Is it a state mandated level regulation.

PMBC Chairman Joe Gush, responded yes, that the grant requires a CO2 monitoring system.

Ms. Kate Dipalma-Herb, 20 August Meadows, Ledyard, mentioned that she went to school in Ledyard and remembers not learning in a heated environment and that it would also be a shame to lose out on the grant money if this doesn't pass. Construction costs will also go up.

Mr. Craig Breverrman, 13 Phillip Lane, Ledyard, noted that we raise our tax dollars by making our schools better. We are a military city, and word gets around that our schools are hot. Yet, we actually vote not to make them better. He encourages people to vote yes to modernize the air

conditioning in the schools.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The Moderator adjourned the meeting at 7:24 pm to a Referendum to be held on Tuesday, July 8th, 2025, between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. under the following heading:

“SHALL THE TOWN OF LEDYARD APPROPRIATE AN ADDITIONAL \$1,250,000 (INCREASING THE APPROPRIATION AND BORROWING AUTHORIZATION TO AN AGGREGATE \$9,800,000) FOR VARIOUS SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION?”

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Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Riley, MCTC, CMC
Ledyard Town Clerk

REFERENDUM RESULTS

"SHALL THE TOWN OF LEDYARD APPROPRIATE AN ADDITIONAL \$1,250,000 (INCREASING THE APPROPRIATION AND BORROWING AUTHORIZATION TO AN AGGREGATE \$9,800,000) FOR VARIOUS SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION?"

Yes:
295

No:
66