



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

Town Meeting Meeting Minutes

Sp. Town Meeting - JWLV HVAC Increase Appropriation

Monday, May 12, 2025

6:30 PM

Council Chambers, Town Hall Annex
- Hybrid Format

In Person: Council Chambers, Town Hall Annex Building

Remote Participation: Information Noted Below:

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

Video Conference: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89828041846?pwd=55NUbF7GikenhMJhLvnxAaCOcqakPo.1;>

or by audio only telephone: +1 646 558 8656; Meeting ID: 898 2804 1846; Passcode: 767185

I. CALL TO ORDER

Town Council Chairman S. Naomi Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
There were 10 people in attendance and 5 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 Tony Saccone, 29 Richard Road.

IV. ELECTION OF MODERATOR

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

V. CALL OF THE TOWN 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](#)

Moderator Rodriguez asked for the Call of the Meeting to be read.

Town Clerk Patricia A. Riley so read the Call of the meeting.

**TOWN OF LEDYARD
NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING - MAY 12, 2025
Notice of referendum - MAY 20, 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, May 12, 2025, at 6:30 p.m., via Zoom Video Conference: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89828041846?pwd=55NUbF7GikenhMJhLvnxAaCOcqakPo.1>; or by audio only telephone: +1 646 558 8656; Meeting ID: 898 2804 1846; Passcode: 767185 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, May 20, 2025 between the hours of 6:00 a.m. 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 17th day of April, 2025.

S. Naomi Rodriguez, Chairman
Ledyard Town Council

Lisa Sartori, Assistant 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, May 12, 2025 at 6:30 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, April 18, 2025.*

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

*Dated at Ledyard, Connecticut
This 19th day of May 2025*

*Attest:
PATRICIA A. RILEY
Town Clerk*

VI. MOTION MUST BE MADE AND SECONDED

Ms. Carmen Garcia-Irizarry moved, seconded by Tony Saccone, that the Town votes upon the following:

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 Aditonal 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 Aditonal Appropriation-email-2025-04-09](#)

VII. PRESENTATION

Presentation was given by PMBC Chairman Joe Gush.

The presentation is attached.

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](#)

VIII. MODERATOR RODRIGUEZ CALLS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Eric Treaster, 10 Huntington Way, Ledyard, has three questions:

1. He asked if these systems have filters on them and if the air would be pulled from the outside and delivered into the classrooms. There is a concern about silica dust.
2. What were the operating costs going to be. Will the costs be significantly higher than the original amount on the split-level system. If it measures the CO2 level from the inside of the classroom, will it automatically cause the system to pull outside air and when it's freezing outside, will it dramatically increase the cost of keeping the classrooms warm.
3. Last, what happens if the town votes no on this application and what are the consequences.

PMBC Chair, Mr. Gush, believes they are 10-micron filters.

Mr. Treaster stated he is concerned with the query that he learned about recently that the experts claim that there was some silica in that test.

Jay Hartling, Superintendent, confirmed that as he understood it, silicone dust will not filter through and that it is not sufficient to filter that level of contaminated dust and doesn't know of any systems that are designed like that.

Mr. Gush answered no to the cost being higher on the split-level system, most of the cost for running the system will be offset by the new solar panels that are going up.

Mr. Treaster asked if the system will have a warranty and for how long. He also wanted to know how often the filters will need to be replaced, and how costly they are.

Superintendent Hartling answered that there is a 5-year warranty and that the preventative maintenance cycle is changed quarterly but they are monitored for clogging and daily sufficiency. The cost is \$45 to \$50 a piece.

Mayor Allyn responded that if the budget doesn't pass then we lose the 61.78 percent reimbursement rate. So, going forward, if we choose to do this project, we don't have the luxury of having that level of reimbursement.

Superintendent Hartling added there's the impact of 1.3 million dollars of lost reimbursement from the state just on the HVAC portion and he doesn't believe the families of Juliet Long would not continue to advocate for this to happen.

Counciler Saccone remarked that the kids will continue to suffer, and the funding will increase and cost the town more.

Chairman Gush stated that you would want to take care of the CO2 in the classroom that gets built up from just sitting there and that it is a safety issue. With the system the State requires, the mini split, you don't get that.

Counciler Barnes mentioned that perhaps it might be worth considering putting a mini split system in if the cost was less. He asked if they had an idea if the mini-split system would be economically less than a centralized system.

Chairman Gush stated that the line sets for the mini split system is very expensive because of where they would need to be mounted to make it work. It also requires a lot more maintenance because there are compressors involved.

Superintendent Hartling stated that the State continues to regulate air quality. The community should know it will drive the cost up and that the point is, instead of kicking the can down the road and being forced to update the system to meet a certain indoor air quality measurement, that the state will force them to this system.

Mr. Treaster asked if a baseline CO2 test was performed, so they will know if there's an improvement or not when they install the new system.

Superintendent Hartling said they did not do that because the method of cooling the room was to open the windows and the CO2 was active.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The Moderator adjourned the meeting at 6:52 pm to a Referendum to be held on Tuesday, May 20th, 2025, between the hours of 6:00 a.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

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1. "Shall the Town of Ledyard adopt a Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget as proposed by the Town Council in the amount of \$71,062,240?" (comprised of General Government of \$30,394,998; and Board of Education of \$40,667,242)

Yes:

No:

430

887

2. Do you believe the Board of Education budget is:

TOO HIGH

TOO LOW

855

380

3. Do you believe the General Government budget is:

TOO HIGH

TOO LOW

923

247

4. “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:

No:

526

781