



TOWN OF LEDYARD CONNECTICUT

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

Town Council ~ AGENDA ~

Chairman S. Naomi
Rodriguez

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, May 22, 2024

7:00 PM

Town Hall Council Chambers

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/83996780106?pwd=zrZUDZp8aM6otiaC2HS3UQBrBTv52U.1>

Audio Only: Telephone: +1 646 558 8656; Meeting ID: 839 9678 0106; Passcode: 289116

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. ROLL CALL
- IV. PRESENTATIONS
 - Director of Planning & Land Use Elizabeth Burdick
- V. RESIDENT & PROPERTY OWNERS (COMMENTS LIMITED TO THREE (3) MINUTES)
- 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 April 24, 2024
- Public Hearing Minutes of May 8, 2024

Attachments: [TC-MIN-2024-04-24.pdf](#)
[PUB HEAR-MIN-2024-05-08-THAMESVIEW
PENTWAY-CONVEYANCE .pdf](#)

- IX. COMMUNICATIONS

Communications List - May 22, 2024

- Attachments:** [C-LIST-2024-05-22.pdf](#)
[APPOINT APPLICATION-RIBE-PLANNING & ZONING-2024-04-254-20.pdf](#)
[Budget Fiscal Year 2024-2025- Irwin-Garcia-Irizarry_email thread-2024-04-25.pdf](#)
[Garcia-Irizarry - Irwin Addiitonal Funding Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget-email-2024-04-24.pdf](#)
[Zoom Audio-FY 24-25 Budget Public Hearing-Hellekson-Maher_email thread-2024-04-25.pdf](#)
[Action Letter WPCA Mtg-2024-04-23.pdf](#)
[Mulit-Family Dwellings-Zoning Regulations-Treasterr-email-2024-04-29.pdf](#)
[Grahams letters-Fishways & Planner Position 2024-05-01.pdf](#)
[Allen-Rodriguez-Thamesview Pentway- Sp Town Meeting -email-2024-05-06.pdf](#)
[Mayor out of state 2024-05-06.pdf](#)
[Planning Director Hodge Employment Status Ltr -4-25-24.pdf](#)
[Town Planner-email dated 2024-05-06.pdf](#)
[Congressional Grant-Dispatch Equipment-email-2024-05-17.pdf](#)
[Annual Town Meeting Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Video-email-2024-05-21.pdf](#)
[APPT-ENORS-PR & SC-2024-05-22.pdf](#)
[APPT-ENORS-BOARD ASSESSMENT APPEALS-RTC-2024-05-22.pdf](#)
[APPT-ENORS-BOARD ASSESSMENT APPEALS--2024-05-22.pdf](#)

X. REFERALS

XI. COUNCIL SUB COMMITTEE, LIAISON REPORTS

1. Administration Committee
2. Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
3. Finance Committee
4. Land Use/Planning/Public Works Committee
5. Liaison Reports

XII. REPORT OF THE MAYOR:

- Attachments:** [Mayors Report 3-27-24.docx](#)

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Administration Committee

1. MOTION to appoint Mr. Peter Diette (U) 15 Hyde Park Drive, Gales Ferry to the Library Commission to complete a two (2) year term ending November 7, 2024 filling a vacancy left by Ms. Gantz.

Attachments: [APPOINT APPLICATION-DIETTE-LIBRARY2024-04-04.pdf](#)
[DIETTE RESUME-2024-04-05.pdf](#)
[LIBRARYCOMMISSION-2024-04-01.pdf](#)
[RESIGNATION-GANTZ-LIBRARY COMMISISON](#)
[LTR-2024-03-29.pdf](#)

2. MOTION to appoint Ms. Beth Ribe (U) 129 Rose Hill Road, Ledyard to the Planning & Zoning Commission as an alternate member, to complete a three (3) year term ending December 31, 2026 filling a vacancy left by Ms. Cobb.

Attachments: [APPOINT APPLICATION-RIBE-PLANNING & ZONING-2024-04-254-20.pdf](#)
[PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION-2024-04-30.pdf](#)

3. MOTION to appoint Ms. Lauren Hawes (U) 8 Warbler Way, Gales Ferry, to the Ledyard Beautification Committee, to complete a three (3) year term ending October 26, 2026 filling a vacancy left by Ms. Vincent.

Attachments: [APPOINT APPLICATION-HAWES-PARKS-REC-S&C - BEAUTIFICATION-2024-03-20.pdf](#)
[BEAUTIFICATION CMT-2024-04-30.pdf](#)

4. MOTION to make the following appointment adjustments to the Cemetery Committee:

- Appoint Ms. Martha Reynolds (R) 1684 Center Groton Road, as a Regular Member, to complete a three (3) year term ending April 26, 2026 filling a vacancy left by Ms. Sheila Godino.

- Appoint Mr. Vincent Godino (D) 1906 Center Groton Road, Ledyard, as an Alternate Member, to complete a three (3) year term ending April 26, 2025 filling a vacancy left by Ms. Reynolds.

Attachments: [Cemetery Committee Appointments - Roster-Godino email-2024-04-23.pdf](#)
[CEMETERY CMT- 2024-04-30.pdf](#)

5. MOTION to appoint Ms. Kristie Gardiner-Lundgren (U) 70 Iron Street, Ledyard, to the Cemetery Committee, as a regular member, to complete a three (3) year term ending April 26, 2026 filling a vacancy left by Mr. Godino.

Attachments: [APPOINT APPLICATION-GARDINER-IUNDGREN-CEMETRY-2024-04-09.pdf](#)
[Cemetery Committee Appointments - Roster-Godino email-2024-04-23.pdf](#)

6. MOTION to appoint Ms. Lauren Hawes (U) 8 Warbler Way, Gales Ferry, to the Parks, Recreation & Senior Citizens Commission, as an Alternate Member, to complete a three (3) year term ending June 28, 2027 filling a vacancy left by Mr. Gallagher.

Attachments: [APPOINT APPLICATION-HAWES-PARKS-REC-S&C - BEAUTIFICATION-2024-03-20.pdf](#)

Finance Committee

7. MOTION to approve a water rate increase of 5% to become effective on July 1, 2024 as recommended by the WPCA and contained in the water and sewer rate table presented at the WPCA April 23, 2024 Public Hearing; in accordance with Ordinance #400-001 “An Ordinance Creating a Water Pollution Control Authority for the Town of Ledyard”)

Attachments: [Water Rate Increase - Effective-2024-07-01.docx](#)
[Action Letter WPCA 4-23-24.pdf](#)
[WPCA - 2024 Water Rate Increase Request-email 2024-02-28.pdf](#)
[ORD-#400-001-An Ordinance Creating WPCA-2019-09-25.docx](#)

8. MOTION to approve two tax refunds in the combined total amount of \$7,321.19 with each exceeding \$2,400.00 in accordance with tax collector departmental procedures.
- Kineo Properties LLC \$3,602.19
 - Messier, Massad, Burdick & Associates \$3,719.00

Attachments: [AIR 24-0345 Tax Refund](#)

General Business

9. Discussion regarding the Town Council’s 2024 Summer Meeting Schedule.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

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.



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard
Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

File #: 24-0429

Agenda Date: 6/12/2024

Agenda #:

AGENDA REQUEST
GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

Subject:

- Director of Planning & Land Use Elizabeth Burdick

Background:

(type text here)

Department Comment/Recommendation:

(type text here)



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard
Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

File #: 24-0408

Agenda Date: 5/22/2024

Agenda #:

MINUTES

Minutes:

MOTION to approve the following Town Council Minutes:

- Regular Meeting Minutes of April 24, 2024
- Public Hearing Minutes of May 8, 2024



TOWN OF LEDYARD
CONNECTICUT
TOWN COUNCIL

Chairman S. Naomi Rodriguez

MINUTES
LEDYARD TOWN COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2024; 7:00 PM
HYBRID FORMAT
VIDEO CONFERENCE VIA ZOOM

I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chairman Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Council Chambers, Town Hall Annex Building.

Chairman Rodriguez welcomed all to the Hybrid Meeting. She stated for the members of the Town Council and the Public who were participating via video conference that the remote meeting information was available on the Agenda that was posted on the Town’s Website – Granicus-Legistar Meeting Portal.

II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

III. **ROLL CALL** –

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Location
April Brunelle	Town Councilor	Present	In-Person
Jessica Buhle	Town Councilor	Present	In-Person
Carmen Garcia-Irizarry	Town Councilor	Present	In-Person
Kevin Dombrowski	Town Councilor	Excused	
Gary Paul	Town Councilor	Present	In-Person
S. Naomi Rodriguez	Town Councilor	Present	In-Person
Tim Ryan	Town Councilor	Present	In-Person
Tony Saccone	Town Councilor	Present	In-Person
Gary St. Vil	Town Councilor	Present	In-Person

IV. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/PRESENTATIONS**

Chairman Rodriguez wished Roxanne Maher a Happy Administrative Assistant’s Day!, and presented her with a bouquet of flowers from the Town Council. Chairman Rodriguez thanked Ms. Maher for HER support to the Town Council. Ms. Maher thanked the Town Council for their thoughtfulness, noting that she appreciated their kind gesture.

- Ledyard Prevention Coalition Senior Health Coordinator Kerenza Mansfield - Opioid use disorder, prevention, access to intervention, treatment, and recovery options.

Ms. Mansfield thanked the Town Council for inviting her to tonight’s meeting, noting that both Mayor Allyn, III, and Chairman Rodriguez sit on the Ledyard Prevention Coalition Board. She stated that she was joined by her Ledge Light Health District colleagues Senior Health Program Coordinator Margaret Lancaster and Alliance for Living Ruben Santiago. She provided some background explaining when the Town of Ledyard began to receive National Opioid Settlement Funding from the Sackler Family Trust - Purdue Pharma, and others who were party to the case such as Johnson & Johnson, Teva, Allergan, Walgreens, CVS, and Walmart, that Ledyard reached out to Ledge Light Health District and invited them to provide a proposal on how the Ledyard Prevention Coalition could partner with the Town to use the National Opioid Settlement Funds to make a positive difference in their community. She stated after presenting a proposal to the Finance Committee, that the Town Council, at their September 27, 2023 meeting, approved to appropriate \$36,100 from the National Opioid Settlement Funds to Ledge Light Health District/ Ledyard Prevention Coalition to implement programs to address opioid use disorder, prevention, to expand access to intervention, treatment, and recovery options.

Ms. Mansfield continued by stating some of the funding they received from Ledyard was being used to give Emergency Overdose Response Trainings in town, noting that Ledge Light Health District’s New London CARES Program has been presenting the trainings, noting that

they provided a training at the Gales Ferry Library last night, which was open to the community. She stated during the Emergency Overdose Response Trainings, they explain how to recognize an overdose, what to do, and they talk about having no judgement, and the stigma associated with opioid addiction. She stated during the trainings that free Narcan was provided for people to take home and use should they need to. She stated between January, 2023 to February, 2024 there were 40 overdoses and one fatal overdose in Ledyard/Gales Ferry. She deferred to New London CARES Emergency Overdose Response Team Senior Health Program Coordinator Margaret Lancaster and Alliance for Living Ruben Santiago to continue with the presentation, stating that the presentation this evening was timely, noting that Ledyard had a fatal overdose on Monday morning, April 22, 2024.

Ledge Light Health District Senior Health Program Coordinator Margaret Lancaster stated she was present this evening with her colleague Ruben Santiago to discuss the signs of an opioid overdose and what to do. She went on to explain that New London County Coordinated Access Resources Engagement and Support Services (CARES) Team was affiliated and collaborated with two agencies those being Ledge Light Health District and Alliance for Living. She stated the Team was comprised of eight members who were actively engaged with area towns noting that they do Outreach Work and Narcan Training. She stated they provide trainings at schools, restaurants, bars, etc. She stated tonight that she and Mr. Santiago would provide information regarding an opioid overdose and how to administer Narcan.

Ms. Lancaster and Mr. Santiago reviewed the following:

- ***Call Emergency 9-1-1***
For any circumstance (overdose, heart attack, stroke, etc.)
- ***Signs and Symptoms of an Overdose:***
 - ✓ Not responsive to shaking, touch, or calling their name out.
 - ✓ Slow-shallow breathing.
 - ✓ Choking or gargling, rattle breathing.
 - ✓ Tiny pupils if eyes were open.
 - ✓ Cold, clammy skin.
 - ✓ Blue lips or blue finger tips.
- ***Administer Narcan (Nasal spray – two per box)***
 - ✓ Make sure person's head is tilted back
 - ✓ Plunge one spray in one nostril of nose (wait 2- 3 minutes)
 - ✓ If the person was laying on the floor try to get them on their side, so they do not choke as they come to.
 - ✓ If the person was sitting in a chair, leave them in the chair, tilt their head back.
 - ✓ If no response after first dose, administer the second dose in the other nose nostril.
 - ✓ If the Emergency Personnel has not yet arrived, use a CPR mask and perform rescue breaths.
 - ✓ Pinch nose and give one rescue breath every six-seconds, look for chest to rise when doing breaths.

Mr. Santiago explained how Narcan worked, stating that the nasal spray would only go to the receptors. He stated that the Narcan was not harmful to a child or someone who did not have opioids in their system, noting that the Narcan would have no effect at all.

Mr. Santiago addressed the Good Samaritan Law, explaining that the person who called Emergency 9-1-1 would be covered by the Good Samaritan Law should there be drug paraphernalia in the area.

Ms. Lancaster stated that opioids slows the breathing down, explaining that an overdose was respiratory suppression. Therefore, she stated you need to get breath back into the person's lungs, so they could breath on their own again. She also noted that the lack of air could lead to the heart stopping.

Ms. Lancaster went on to state that should you find someone in a bathroom at a restaurant or another place that appears to have overdosed, that you should administer Narcan, noting that the person may have Narcan in their things, or the restaurant may have Narcan. She stated the Good Samaritan Law would cover those helping the person. She stated as the person comes-to

that they may be a little agitated, noting that they were not trying to fight or hurt the person helping them, that they were just confused, because they do not know that they overdosed.

Ms. Lancaster reviewed the Narcan Emergency Kits as follows:

- ***Fentanyl Test Strips*** – Fentanyl was the number one opioid being adulated into other drugs such as heroin, methamphetamine, and cocaine, increasing the likelihood of a fatal interaction and was causing overdoses in our area.

Mr. Santiago demonstrated how to use the Fentanyl Test Strip noting that one line was positive, and two lines were negative. He stated the Test Strip would only test for fentanyl.

Mr. Santiago stated unfortunately people were going to use substances, explaining CARES' Mission was to work to reduce harm and reduction. He stated a lot of people do not know what they were putting in their body. He stated they have been getting these tools out into the community and that their data has shown that they have been having less fatal overdoses. He recommended that if you have Narcan in your home to make sure that it was accessible, noting that it should not be in the medicine cabinet or under the bed.

- ***Narcan:***

Ms. Lancaster stated the Narcan Box has instructions on how to store it. She suggested during very cold winter days or very hot summer days that Narcan not be left in the car. Ms. Santiago stated when in doubt use the Narcan anyway, even if it has expired, noting that time was of the essence, in saving a life. Ms. Lancaster suggested people call Ledge Light Health District to replace expired Narcan supplies.

Ms. Lancaster and Mr. Santiago answered the following questions:

- ***Difference in identifying someone who may be having a heart attack or an overdose relative to using Narcan or administering CPR*** - Signs and symptoms of an overdose were similar to a heart attack. There may be things laying around in the area that would indicate that an opioid substance was used. Using Narcan for someone who had a heart attack, and did not have opioids in their system, would not hurt them. Always call Emergency 9-1-1- first.
- ***How can members of their Community get Narcan and Fentanyl Test Strips-*** Ledyard Prevention Coalition recently purchased two Narcan Emergency Kits for Ledyard, and they were working with the Police Department and Parks & Recreation to determine the best locations, noting one Kit would be in Ledyard at the Town Green; and one Kit in would be in Gales Ferry by the Library. The two Kits would be stocked regularly, and based on use, additional Emergency Kits would be purchased and installed. In addition, the Ledyard Prevention Coalition would be launching a Marketing Campaign to make the community aware of the Emergency Narcan Kits and their locations. With the two Emergency Kits in Ledyard there would be fifteen Kits in New London County. In addition to the Emergency Kits, that Fire Departments, Libraries, and other community buildings have Kits. Also, the Ledge Light Health District website listed the locations of all the Kits.
- ***Number of residents that attended the Narcan Training at the Library last night*** about seven.
- ***Ledyard Prevention Coalition – Farmers Market Narcan Demonstration*** – The Farmers Market was a good venue to provide Narcan Demonstrations/Trainings because of the number of people who attend the Market each week.
- ***Stigma of Opioid Use Disorder and Mental Health*** – Family members were also affected by opioid use disorder and mental health issues. Often times people were self-medicating, which was where the opioid use disorder started; and family members do not know who to reach out to for help.
- ***Mental Health Navigators -Alliance for Living*** – If you or a loved one was struggling from opioid use disorder and/or mental health call the telephone (860) 333-3494. The Alliance for Living provides support for the whole family.

Councilor Paul thanked Ledge Light Health District, Ledyard Prevention Coalition, the Alliance for Living and their Staff for all the work they do for the community. He stated as someone who lost someone to an overdose and knows people who were still struggling, that knowing that services and help was available was important. He addressed the judgmental aspect of what people picture a drug addict looks like, noting that sometimes you do not know what they look like. He stated as Ms. Lancaster mentioned some people self-medicate, noting that it affects all people, all races, from all walks of life, noting that some people come from money, and some people don't. He stated that he appreciated all that they do.

Ms. Lancaster stated that people need help to find their way, to learn there were other ways to manage what they may have, and to learn not to use substances to self-medicate as a fall back. She stated their approach was to meet people where they were at, and not leaving them there alone.

Mr. Santago thanked Councilor Paul for his comments, stating that you don't know what opioid use disorder looks like, noting that he lost a family member earlier this year. He stated the loss made him want to work harder, noting that he loved his job, and he loved to help people, so they could get by one more day, and live one more day. He stated people with substance abuse were looked upon like Lepers, noting that a simple "*Hello - How are you doing today*" can take a person suffering from mental illness or addiction a long way. He stated if someone reaches out to you and tells you that they were going thru something that it may be the one chance that you have to give them hope, you can tell them that you know someone who could help them, give them a card with the Ledge Light Health District telephone number (860) 333-3494 and encourage them to call. He stated that he and Ms. Lancaster would definitely give them the help that they need.

Chairman Rodriguez and the Town Council thanked Ms. Mansfield, Ms. Lancaster, and Mr. Santiago for the work they do and for their presentation this evening.

V. RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS

Mr. Dave Holdridge, 29 Church Hill Road, Ledyard, requested the Town Council appropriate money; or earmark some of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money, to administer the sewer line through Ledyard Center. He stated the sewer line was currently being built in Ledyard Center, however, the construction contract would only bring the sewer line to the Bill Library. He stated that he was requesting that the sewer line run all the way through Ledyard Center to Stoddards Wharf Road by the Post Office. He stated the reason for constructing the sewer line was to create a Village Center in Ledyard, noting that this has been in the Town's Plan for decades dating back to the 1960's. He stated the reason he knew this was because he served on the Planning Commission during the 1970's stating that they were all excited about creating the Village Center, etc. However, he stated it did not happen for the following reasons: (1) High water table in Ledyard Center made it difficult to develop in the area because the on-site septic systems had to leave so much space for the leaching fields that they could not have buildings close together or to create a Village; and (2) Most of Ledyard Center was in the Reservoir Drainage Area, which discouraged on-site septic systems. He stated the sewer line has been in the Town Plan for decades noting that the landowners have been waiting and willing to cooperate; and the taxpayers have been hoping to expand the taxbase; however, he stated because the sewer line has not been constructed all this has not happened.

Mr. Holdridge continued by stating for full disclosure that he was one of the landowners in Ledyard Center. He noted that he was part owner of 34 acres located behind the Town Hall Annex Building which stretched from Stoddards Wharf Road, behind the Garden Nursery, behind the Town Buildings and behind the Village Market. He stated that they have been working with Eastern Connecticut Housing Organization (ECHO) to develop a Plan that they could present; however, he stated that they needed to be able to hook into a sewer line to support the Plan. He stated the Plan could include 40- 50 units of mixed housing, which would include workforce housing, and market value houses, that could be tied together seamlessly with one general architect type building. He stated the plan would create starter homes for young people, as well as retired couples who were trying to downsize. He stated in addition to the housing units they would have space for 250,000 square feet for commercial

businesses. He stated ECHO Julie Savin has told them that the new trend in housing was to have a 15-minute community, where you could walk from your home to access all your necessities, such as the grocery store, bank, post office, government buildings, church, and library, farmers market. He stated all this could be done if they could build in the areas he described. Therefore, he requested that they build the sewer line closer so that they could tap into it from Route 117. He explained if they do not finish the sewer line that the Town would be forfeiting millions of dollars in new tax revenues; and the new sewer line that they already paid for would go largely unused.

Mr. Whit Irwin, 2 Winfield Way, Ledyard, stated it was different being on this side of the aisle as opposed to the Town Council's side of the aisle. He stated that his comments this evening may take longer than the allowed three-minutes and he asked for their indulgence, noting that he believed that they would like to hear what he had to say. He began by reading his letter dated April 22, 2024 into the record as follows:

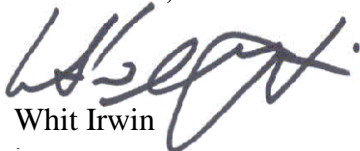
"To the Town Council of Ledyard:

I have nearly four years of experience publicly serving the Town of Ledyard on both the Board of Education and the Town Council. During this time, and in the 19 years I have lived here, I have neither heard of nor seen a Chair gavel another board or Council member to silence them prior to April 15th, where I saw it happen twice in one evening for no other reason than the Council Chair did not want another Councilor to be heard. Relatively early in the Town Hall meeting on the FY25 budget, Councilor Ryan attempted to ensure a misrepresentation was expressed in context, and Chairwoman Rodriguez pounded the gavel declaring Point of Order!!" until Councilor Ryan stopped talking. And later in the meeting, Councilor Ryan attempted to make another point in which Chairwoman Rodriguez both talked over him and pounded the gavel, again to silence Councilor Ryan.

Firstly, Point of Order is a statement to address a procedural misapplication or a breach of rules. It is not intended to silence another Councilor, and Councilor Ryan broke no town meeting rules in the meeting when he attempted to provide further context to statements being made. There is nothing in either the Town Charter or the meeting's Agenda which prevents a Councilor from speaking during the meeting. Councilor Rodriguez had no reason to gavel Councilor Ryan down other than she did not want to hear his statements. This is a dictatorial action, a model of authoritarianism, and a direct deprivation of the townspeople's duly elected representative, an action more associated with Nikita Khrushchev and the Soviet Union than any western democracy.

Secondly, the gavel's repetitive use against Councilor Ryan last Monday was chilling. It gives the townspeople little assurance that the Chair can effectively listen to and consider different viewpoints proffered by the various Councilors, much less incorporate their opinions into the management of town business. I laud Councilor Ryan in his actions to bring further clarity to ambiguous statements and apparent misrepresentations, and implore him and the other Councilors to ensure the fullest of information is presented to the public. And I hereby publicly admonish the Council Chair, to ensure the presentation of information more completely and more fully understandable, without partisan shading. It is early in this Council's tenure, which already appears to be riddled with fractious dissension and garbled communication, not present in the previous two years. I hope this is not the legacy you wish to leave. This town deserves better.

Get well soon,



Whit Irwin

Mr. Irwin continued by stating over this last week he spoke with someone in our town who was odious. He stated the person was particularly odious because they make personal attacks, had no intention of listening to anyone else, has a strident statement; and had a holier than thou attitude about everything they say, and does not let a fact get into the way of an argument. Mr. Irwin stated during the April 15, 2024 Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Public Hearing that he may have come across strident; noting that he had a dissention with between a half-percent and one-percent of the budget, where the Board of Education and the Town Council each seemed to have added \$300,000 to the proposed budget. He stated it was not clear where that money was being spent. He stated he was an experienced analyst noting in looking over both the Board of Education's budget and the Town Council's budget that he thought the \$300,000 must be buried somewhere in the 50- pages of small print. He stated that he hoped they could make it more apparent to the townspeople.

Mr. Irwin concluded by stating that he did not want to come across as a person that reels against what the Town Council was doing. He stated this was his third time speaking in-front of the Town Council and that he has yet to issue kudos. He stated he knows putting together a \$67,430,573 budget was a lot of effort, and he appreciated all the work that everyone has done. He stated that the only issue he had was the \$300,000 - \$600,000 that he could not make out. He thanked them all for spending the time and doing for all that work. He asked that they please let the town know what that extra money was for.

Chairman Rodriguez thanked Mr. Irwin for his comments.

Zoom Chat Question: Ms. Wendy Hellekson, 14-L Lakeside Drive, Ledyard, How many overdoses has Ledyard had per month. Police Chief John Rich attending remotely, stated the Ledge Light Health District website included a New London County Overdose Map that showed the updated statistics. He stated as the Ledge Light Health District speakers explained earlier this evening during their presentation that with the adulterated supplies that were out in the field that there were times when overdoses in our region were higher than other times. He stated although they were fortunate that they have not had too many overdoses in our area, that even one overdose was one too many. He stated the fatal overdose that occurred on April 22, 2024 was under investigation.

Ms. Joanne Kelley, 12 Thamesview Pentway, Gales Ferry, Board of Education Finance Committee Chairman, attending remotely, addressed Mr. Irwin's question regarding the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget. She stated the Town Council approved the Board of Education's adopted Budget as it was submitted to them. She went on to state that she provided a presentation at the Town Council's February 28, 2024 meeting during which she spoke in detail about the items the Board of Education added to the Superintendent's proposed budget. She stated that Mr. Irwin could review her February 28, 2024 presentation or she would be happy to provide him with a copy which addressed the additions in detail, noting that reviewing her presentation may be easier than reviewing the 136 page Education Budget.

IV. COMMITTEE COMMISSION AND BOARD REPORTS – None.

VI. COMMENTS OF TOWN COUNCILORS

Councilor Paul stated every so often he can be little winded during Councilor Comments and he asked that the Town Council allow him that opportunity this evening, noting that he would not do this at every meeting.

Councilor Paul stated that he wanted to take a few minutes to make some comments about the April 15, 2024 Public Hearing regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget. However, he stated that First, he would like to thank Roxanne Maher for all her hard work and dedication. He stated that she sets up everything, makes sure everyone has what they need, and that he was grateful to her for her dedication, expertise, and integrity to the Town of Ledyard. He stated Ledyard has been blessed to have her and he thanked her.

Councilor Paul continued by noting that during the April 15, 2024 Public Hearing a question was asked about why none of the Republican Councilors voted for the budget during the March 27, 2024 Town Council meeting; and it was noted that the three Republicans were not in attendance during that meeting. He stated that Chairman Rodriguez responded by stating

that elected officials also had personal lives which may sometimes prevent them from attending a meeting; and that she would not go into details, noting that it was not for her to tell. Councilor Paul stated that he appreciated Chairman Rodriguez's response, because unfortunately sometimes things do happen in our personal lives that does get in the way. He stated that he would like to take a few minutes this evening to answer for his absences, noting that Councilor Ryan addressed the reason he was not in attendance at the March 27, 2024 Town Council Meeting. Councilor Paul stated that would like to apologize to his fellow Councilors and to the residents because he has missed a few meetings including his liaison assignments due to multiple illnesses in his family, including himself unfortunately.

Councilor Paul continued by stating in listening to all the comments and in reading the correspondence about the proposed budget that it really challenged him. He stated there was so much to think about and to take in, noting that he believed the Finance Committee was the hardest Committee to serve on. He stated that he believed it gets harder each year to try to meet the needs of everyone while keeping taxes reasonable, noting that it was a fine balance. He stated after serving one term and now being into his second term that he sees all the work that the Mayor, Staff, Department Heads, Town Councilors, and everyone does. He stated that he truly believed that Ledyard has been blessed with a Mayor, Department Heads and Officials that truly care about their town and that they all work to do their very best, and to do what was right. He thanked everyone, and he thanked Mayor Allyn, III, noting that he appreciate him.

Councilor Paul went on to state that he was reminded that we represent everyone here, the old, the young, everyone. He stated that they had a school budget and a town side budget; that Ledyard had people who wholeheartedly support the proposed budget and some who do not. He stated during the April 15, 2024 Public Hearing a resident spoke about how she wanted to retire but that she could not because her taxes keep going up; and that even \$130 more in taxes could mean what meals she eats; or what medicine to buy. He stated that it was scary out there, and he gets it; especially when he finds himself suddenly faced with the possibility of becoming disabled and having to retire early. He stated that he had to ask himself: *Would he be able to afford where he was;... And If taxes keep going up, how would he afford it?*

Councilor Paul also noted that he hears those who say our kids are worth it and we need to invest in our kids. He stated that that he knows that Ledyard was funding their education at a cost that was far below any other school district in Southeastern Connecticut, and that Ledyard's Per Pupil Expenditure was among the lowest 10% in the State of Connecticut.

Councilor Paul stated this was all real and a reason to be concerned. He stated that he would like to applaud that they were recognizing mental health concerns in the budget. He stated as someone who believes in less government, fiscal responsibility, and that government should never set or advocate for social policy, or tell people how to think or feel, that mental health simply put was a legitimate health issue affecting our communities and our schools. He stated that this was not a social policy, it was a health crisis. He stated the answers to the questions are not the same as when he was a kid, and the solutions to the problems have changed since the 1960s; 1970s; and the 1980s. He stated that he truly believed in the building of a Mental Health Team at the schools and that the addition of a Clinical Supervisor for Mental Health Services was must. He stated addressing these issues now could be the difference between failure or success for these kids and in some cases it could mean life or death.

Councilor Paul stated May was Mental Health Awareness Month; and in light of transparency, he stated he suffered from Mental Illness, and that he has spent many times in the darkness of depression and was held hostage by his severe social anxiety. He stated that he would be lying if he did not admit that it unfortunately contributed to his recent absences from his obligations of late. He stated that it took a brave young kid who unfortunately inherited some of what he suffered from for him to finally start to be honest about his condition. He stated ironically, it was money and logistics that brought this to light, explaining that unfortunately, after COVID his daughter lost her bus stop when the kids returned to in-person learning at school. He stated the combination of a bad road to walk to school on, and her own severe anxiety caused her to withdraw from school and to be home schooled. He stated that she did not want people to know, including her own father, about her mental health issues; and therefore, the mental health issue was left out of their argument. However, he stated that his brave kid went and got

help; and that the situation brought them closer together. He stated although his daughter was now an adult, that he has made it his personal mission to help champion mental illness and shed light; and let others know they were not alone. He stated that he hoped that he could inspire someone to receive help and rise above their illness to succeed in whatever they wanted to do. He stated that he applauded and supported that investment in our schools, stating that maybe one of those kids would be sitting in a chair on the Town Council; or maybe the Mayor's chair.

Councilor Paul concluded by stating that he did not want to take anything away from all the hard exhausting work that the Finance Committee did. He stated while he was home sick he watched the videos from the Budget Work Sessions and the meetings that followed, noting that he appreciated all the questions Councilor Ryan, Councilor Saccone and Councilor Buhle asked. However, he stated that he questioned the additional \$300,000 that was over the budgets that were originally proposed. He stated that he was not sure if he was satisfied with the due diligence of why; and that he questioned whether further discussion and whether another look might be needed. He stated that this was his only concern, stating that he felt that they owed that to the public. He rhetorically questioned whether it would make a difference; stating that he did not know, but that he felt it was warranted to ask that question. He thanked everyone for their hard work.

Councilor Brunelle thanked Councilor Paul for his comments this evening regarding mental health. She stated that she also suffered from depression and anxiety, noting that it was not easy, but that it was important to let others know that people have it and that it was okay. She stated depression and anxiety were health issues, noting that it was no different than treating someone with a bad cold.

Councilor Brunelle continued by thanking the Beautification Committee for the wonderful fill the dumpster event. She stated it was great to see so many people in the community pitching in to help clean up Ledyard. She stated that she was happy that she participated, noting it was a lot of fun.

Councilor Ryan stated he had some general comments and some comments regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget. He stated he planned to deliver his general comments now and his budget comments later in the meeting during New Business Item #1; unless Chairman Rodriguez would like for him to give all his comments at this time. Chairman Rodriguez stated Councilor Ryan could provide his budget comments later this evening when the Town Council addressed the Budget.

Councilor Ryan stated that First, he would like to note that it is Administrative Professionals Day today, and recognize their very own Roxanne Maher; stating without her, we would truly be lost, noting that he thought this was the greatest comment anyone could receive; and he thanked Ms. Maher.

Councilor Ryan stated Second, he would like to address comments made by Mr. Jacob Hurt at the Finance Committee's April 17, 2024 in which he expressed his concern with what he called a "*lack of decorum*" at the April 15, 2024 Public Hearing regarding the budget. Councilor Ryan stated that he reached out to this resident after the Finance Committee meeting and offered to have a civil, frank, and open dialogue on the subject in order to better understand and discuss his concerns. He stated that his offer was not accepted, but that he hoped that the resident may reconsider as he personally believed that, in a world where we are confronted with bias-riddled news and dialogue every day, we – as Town Councilors – should make every effort to ensure we are doing business without reproach and communicating in a transparent, and accurate fashion, with all commentary presented in context and not misrepresenting events or votes – especially legislatively important ones. He said that this has been, and would always remain, his priority as a duly elected representative of our town.

Councilor Ryan went on to state Finally, on April 17, 2024 the Town Council received a concerned email communication from Ms. Wendy Hellekson, the Ledyard DTC Chairperson, claiming that there was three- minutes missing from the video recording of the April 15, 2024 Public Hearing. Shortly after receiving this email, our ever diligent and efficient Administrative Assistant responded to the email, not only with a full and transparent accounting of the timeline and process by which the recordings were uploaded to the meeting portal, but even offering Ms. Hellekson the opportunity to stop by the Town Hall and watch

the video recorded locally by the Zoom system. Councilor Ryan stated that he would have expected nothing less. Which was why he was disheartened to hear that, not only was she not taken up on her offer, but shortly after sending her response, this very same assistant was served with a Freedom of Information Complaint from Councilor April Brunelle (see correspondence list), requesting an “unedited” version of the recording, with the word “unedited” underlined, no less, insinuating that some nefarious action had taken place.

Councilor Ryan went on to state for those not familiar, that the long-established state and local FOIA policies^{3,4} state that a complaint form was only to be used when there is a denial of access to a public record, or that a record was not made readily accessible; neither was the case here. He stated not only did this action question our Administrative Assistant’s integrity without cause, but this was certainly not the way to build an atmosphere of trust and mutual respect, and he failed to see why a state law was inappropriately weaponized to procure something that was offered freely and readily. Councilor Ryan stated to her credit, that very same Administrative Assistant, ever ardent, immediately responded to the request the same day, despite having 4 days per statute to do so. He stated that he remained, however, disappointed at the lack of respect and consideration offered to our hard working public employees; and he personally thanked them for all that they do. Thank you.

Councilor Saccone stated that he wanted to add to the comments regarding Administrative Assistant Roxanne Maher. He stated as a member of the Gales Ferry Fire Company Ms. Maher has always gone out of her way to help the volunteer fire companies, noting that she does more than she really should, and that they appreciate that.

Councilor Saccone continued by noting the Ledge Light Health District presentation earlier this evening (see above – Informational Items/Presentations) which included a demonstration regarding how to administer Narcan to someone who may have overdosed on a narcotic. He stated being a Firefighter and Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) in town for many years that it was important to get this information out to residents. He stated putting up some Emergency Narcan Kits Stations in town was a great opportunity because of the stigma attached to what these people were going through. He stated the Emergency Narcan Kits would allow them to discreetly, at their choice, to try to get help. He stated the Ledge Light Health District Staff gave a great presentation, and he thanked Chairman Rodriguez for inviting them to tonight’s meeting.

Councilor Buhle stated that she also wanted to thank Ms. Maher, noting that she has spent countless hours in the Town Council Office, noting that Ms. Maher has helped her to learn the ropes of serving as a member of the Town Council, and has helped her in making sure she had the information she needed before she moved forward with an initiative.

Councilor Buhle continued by stating that this was National Infertility Awareness Week and that she wanted to share her heart with Ledyard families who may be struggling with infertility. She stated 48.5 million couples experience some form of infertility.

Councilor St. Vil stated he wanted to thank Ms. Maher not for the great job that she does, because that was obvious, but for going above and beyond with answering the telephones during the day to help talk thru the issues and problems. He noted that he appreciated what she does for the Town Council and he thanked her.

Councilor St. Vil continued by thanking the community, noting that Monday, April 22, 2024 was Earth Day. He stated as he was driving down Pumpkin Hill and Cow Hill Road on Sunday (April 21, 2024) he saw cars parked on the side of the road and people picking up roadside trash. He thanked their wonderful community and the residents who take time out of their Sunday afternoon to help care for our environment.

Councilor St. Vil went on to note that he was compelled to say that at one of his previous employers they had a concept that was promulgated called “*Assume Positive Intent*”. He stated sometimes when we hear words that we may tag an assumption to those words, such as “*I like your shoes*”. He stated that there were two ways he could take those words: (1) As a Compliment; or (2) As someone was making fun of his shoes. He stated as elected officials that they have the difficult job of discussing and voting on some difficult topics. He stated to be successful for their community, for their kids, and for their grandkids, was to assume

positive intent, to hear each other, and then ultimately vote the way they felt was the best for their community.

Councilor Garcia-Irizarry thanked Ms. Maher for all that she does for the Town Council, noting that she writes the best minutes. She stated that she also wanted to thank Councilor Paul for his comments regarding Mental Health and the importance to support building a Mental Health Team and the addition of a Clinical Supervisor for Mental Health Services in their schools. She stated that her family has suffered with mental health issues for over twenty years. She addressed the stigma associated with mental health, noting that her son had cancer when he was one-years old and received chemotherapy, and in elementary school he received special education specifically for speech therapy, noting he was still working through the effects of the chemotherapy. She stated that she appreciated the High School Psychologist and the Counselor noting that they were the best. She stated because of the special education program and the services provided by the School Psychologist and the Counselor, her son has good grades, noting the importance of having the personnel in their schools.

Councilor Garcia-Irizarry continued by addressing Mr. Irwin's questions regarding the additional \$315,750 (see above V. Residents Comments) that the Board of Education added to the Superintendent's proposed Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget noting the following:

- \$60,000 Human Resources/ Finance positions
- \$31,250 Substitute Teachers to cover for additional teacher absences
- \$125,000 Clinical Supervision
- \$85,999 Intervention
- \$14,500 Substitute Teachers wage increase
- Total BOE Budget Adjustments \$315,750 or an increase of 0.88%

Councilor Garcia-Irizarry stated that the Board of Education also worked to offset increases by decreasing other expenses which included the following:

- \$75,000 Eliminated buses for students who attend Magnet Schools
- \$105,000 from Teacher Retirements

Councilor Garcia-Irizarry stated the Board of Education's proposed Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget was available on-line and it included a spreadsheet regarding the Board of Education's adjustments to the Superintendent's proposed budget. She noted that she would send Mr. Irwin the spreadsheet. She thanked everyone for all the work they did to prepare the proposed Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget, noting as Councilor Paul mentioned earlier this evening, the Finance Committee had the hardest job; and that she appreciated all the work that they did.

Councilor Garcia-Irizarry concluded by stating that she drove through Sandy Hollow Road, noting that the new guiderails looked awesome. She commented on how quickly the guiderails were replaced, and she stated the road would be much safer with the new guiderails in place.

Councilor Paul stated the new Sandy Hollow Guiderails looked great. Mayor Allyn, III stated as the Guiderails weathered, that they would look better.

Chairman Rodriguez thanked Ms. Maher for all the work she does, noting that she sees or talks to her ever day. She stated Ms. Maher's mind was like a long file cabinet, noting that she remembered all that has been done throughout the decades. She stated Ledyard was lucky to have Ms. Maher, and this Town Council and past Town Council's have been lucky to have her.

Chairman Rodriguez went on to address the April 15, 2024 Public Hearing regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget. She explained that the OWL (360 degree video and audio recorder) has a noise cancellation feature, which would mute the audio when there was a loud noise, such as the gavel, or there were a number of people talking at the same time, because the OWL cannot quickly go from one person. Therefore, she stated that it appears that the video was edited, when it was not edited. She stated that the Town Council needed to hold

themselves to a higher standard, which included herself, to not talk over each other, not to cut people off and allow them to speak, to remember that the residents may be listening to meeting video; and that those who are doing the minutes may not be able to hear everything.

VII. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

MOTION to approve the following:

Regular Meeting Minutes of April 10, 2024

Public Hearing Minutes of April 15, 2024

Moved by Councilor Buhle, seconded by Councilor Ryan

Discussion: Councilor Ryan noted an amendment that was made to the April 15, 2024 Public Hearing Minutes regarding a comment that he made. However, he stated where his comment was added to the Minutes was incorrect. He stated he reviewed the video noting that his comment was made at approximately 55.26 minutes into the video. Therefore, he stated he would like to modify the same paragraph that was amended to read as follows:

“Councilor Ryan stated that he did not care (regarding the Point of Order) and that he was not going to let Mr. Graber be misrepresented”.

The Town Council accepted the modification to the amendment.

VOTE: 8 – 0 Approved and so declared

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

Chairman Rodriguez stated a Communications List has been provided on the meeting portal for tonight’s meeting; and she noted there no referrals listed.

X. COUNCIL SUB COMMITTEE, LIAISON REPORTS

Administration Committee

Councilor Garcia-Irizarry noted the Administration Committee’s next meeting was scheduled for May 8, 2024.

Community Relations Committee

Councilor Brunelle stated the Community Relations Committee met on April 17, 2024 and chose the following dates to host Booths at the Farmers’ Market: (1) July 3, 2024 – Red-White & Blue to feature First Responders/Emergency Services – Police and Fire Departments; (2) July 10, 2024 – Bee Bubbly to feature Land Use Commissions; and (3) August 21, 2024 – Old Folks Day to feature Mental Health, Home Heating Assistance, and the Linda C. Davis Food Pantry. She stated that they would need to contact the Farmers Market to reserve the space.

Finance Committee

Councilor Saccone stated the Finance Committee met on April 17, 2024 and they have a few items on tonight’s Agenda. He stated their May 3, 2024 meeting would be cancelled.

Land Use/Planning/Public Works Committee

Councilor St. Vil stated the Committee’s next meeting was scheduled for May 6, 2024.

Permanent Municipal Building Committee

Councilor Brunelle stated the PMBC next meeting was scheduled for May 6, 2024.

Chairman Rodriguez stated a resident who watches the PMBC meeting videos has indicated that audio was not consistent, noting that they cannot hear the Committee Members who were sitting at the far end of the table, but that residents who were near the microphone were very loud. She questioned whether the Board of Education’s Conference Room had an OWL to record the meetings; and she asked Councilor Brunelle to ask about the audio.

Historic District Commission

Councilor Ryan stated because the Historic District Commission was scheduled on April 15, 2024, which was the same time as the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget Public Hearing that he was not able to attend their meeting.

Ledyard Beautification Committee

Councilor Ryan reported that Ms. Jennifer Eastbourne was stepping down as the Committee's Chairman. He stated that she would continue to serve on the Committee.

Chairman Rodriguez stated that she was aware of a couple of residents who were interested in serving on the Beautification Committee.

Public Safety Commission

Councilor Saccone stated the Commission has not met since the last Town Council meeting.

Ledyard Fire Department

Councilor Saccone stated the Ledyard Fire Department met and addressed the following: (1) Nominated Officers for Administrative Responsibilities and for Operational Responsibilities; (2) \$600,000 New Tanker Truck Inspection – The Ledyard Fire Department went to Colorado to inspect the new Tanker Truck, and identified about a dozen minor problems, that the factory corrected on-site. He stated new Tanker should arrive in town within the next two-weeks.

Councilor Saccone went on to explain for both the Ledyard Center Fire Department and the Gales Ferry Fire Departments that there were the following two sides to the Fire House: (1) Fire Chiefs and Officers who run the emergencies; and (2) Administration side of the Fire Department.

Gales Ferry Fire Department

Councilor Saccone reported on the following: (1) Gales Ferry Fire Department's Annual Banquet was held on April 25, 2024 at which a number of community awards were given out; (2) Pumper Truck was out of service for a couple of weeks due to a transmission issue. The issues were repaired and the apparatus was now back in service.

Retirement Board

Chairman Rodriguez stated the Board met on April 16, 2024 and approved Payment of Fiduciary Advisory Invoice #609-03312024 in the amount of \$12,475.39 for consulting services.

Water Pollution Control Authority

Chairman Rodriguez stated in Councilor Dombrowski's absence that she attended the WPCA's April 23, 2024 meeting at which Groton Utilities Representative talked about conducting a Lead Sampling throughout town that would cost between \$300,000 - \$400,000. The WPCA discussed applying for a Grant which was due on April 26, 2024 to pay for the Lead Samples. Should they not be able to meet the Grant Application deadline, they plan to reapply again next year. They have between 3 – 7 years to conduct the Lead Samples, if they were a distressed community, which Ledyard was not. Chairman Rodriguez asked Mayor Allyn, III, to look into this matter. Mayor Allyn stated that there has been some emails regarding the Lead Samples.

Parks, Recreation & Senior Citizens Commission

Councilor Buhle stated in Councilor Paul's absence she attended the Parks, Recreation & Senior Citizens Commission's April 16, 2024 meeting noting they discussed the following: (1) Work-out Room – The Commission was moving forward to acquire the equipment for the exercise room; and (2) Chair Replacements – The Commission received Grant funding to replace all of the chairs in the Senior Citizens Facility.

Inland Wetland and Water Courses Commission

Councilor St. Vil stated the IWWC has not met since the last Town Council meeting.

Planning & Zoning Commission

Councilor St. Vil stated the Planning & Zoning Commission has not met since the last Town Council meeting.

Library Commission

Councilor Garcia-Irizarry noted after seventeen years of service that Ms. Carol Gantz resigned from the Commission. She noted that there were three qualified candidates interested in serving on the Commission.

Board of Education

Councilor Garcia-Irizarry stated the Board of Education met on April 23, 2024 and addressed the following: (1) Human Resources Director began working full-time; (2) Interviews have begun to fill positions for the next school year; (3) Selected the Multi-Tiered Support Systems (MTSS) Coordinator, which would be contingent upon the taxpayers adoption of the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget; (3) School Lunch Program had a debit of \$12,000; (4) Student Liaisons – The Board of Education has two High School Students that were serving as liaison; as well as a liaison from the Middle School. She stated during the Board of Education Meeting the Liaisons gave a report, noting that they did a great job; (5) Board of Education Chairman Alex Rode has temporarily stepped down due to illness. Vice-Chairman Mary Harris would be acting as Chairman during Mr. Rode's absence; (6) Transportation Agreement was approved for the period of 2025 thru 2028; (7) Approved Tuition Rates for the 2024/2025 School year; (7) Approved the Facilities Rates for 2024/2025 school year; (8) Reviewed and approved the Math Curriculum for Kindergarten thru Grade 2; (9) Approved a new Neuroscience and Society Course for the High School; (10) Approved the Family Consumer Science PILOT Program for the Middle School.

XI. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Allyn, III, reported on the following: (1) \$10 Million - Bond Anticipation Note Issuance School(s) Consolidation/Improvement Projects (Middle School & Gallup Hill School) – Mayor Allyn stated the town received three bids to purchase the Town's Bonds. He stated the net was 3.96% interest. He stated at this interest rate the town would be paying about \$404,000 - \$410,000 a year for interest expenses. He noted the Town has submitted everything that was required to receive State Grant Reimbursement. He stated State Senator Cathy Osten and Ledyard's Representatives were prodding the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to release the interim payment, noting that the town had hoped this payment would be \$8 million, however, he stated that they would be receiving \$6.5 million; (2) Earth Day Trash to Treasures Clean-up – Mayor Allyn thanked Beautification Committee Chairman Jennifer Eastbourne, noting that they did a nice job on Sunday, April 21, 2024. He stated that he and Chairman Rodriguez judged the creations the kids made turning trash into art, noting that they did a great job; (3) Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) Legislative Meeting – Mayor Allyn reported the following: (a) Early Voting - The State did not include money in next year's (24/25) budget to assist town's with early voting expenses. Mayor Allyn stated the state did provide towns funding for Early Voting in the current year. However, going forward the Early Voting would be an unfunded mandate; (b) Car Tax Sunset Bill failed; (c) House Bill #5173 Publication of Legal Notices in the Newspaper - Mayor Allyn stated this Bill was still being considered. He stated of the 50 pieces of written testimony, only five were opposed to the Bill which were all from Publishers (The Day Newspaper, Hartford Courant, etc.); (c) House Bill #5413 - Illegal Street Take Over – Mayor Allyn stated the Bill was approved *Joint Favorable* and was now before the Senate; (d) Senate Bill #356 - Increase in Mashantucket Pequot Fund passed *Joint Favorable* coming out of Committee by a vote of 44-1. Last year Governor Lamont vetoed the Bill. Mayor Allyn stated, the Bill appeared to be nice, however, there was a partner Bill that would remove the town's taxing authority. He stated although the town would gain a little funding from the Mashantucket Pequot Fund Bill that they would lose a lot should the Bill pass. He stated the State Legislative Session had eleven days remaining, noting that they were moving rapidly; (4) Habitat for Humanity Meeting – Colby Drive Project – Mayor Allyn stated the development would construct 40 deed restricted Affordable Housing units providing 28-three bedroom units; 8-two bedroom units; and 4-four bedroom units. He stated that the Applications would be submitted to Planning & Zoning; (5) Ledyard Prevention Coalition April 16, 2024 meeting – Mayor Allyn stated they were in the last year of a ten year Grant, which funded their operations. He stated Ledge Light Health District was working to determine how they could make the Ledyard Prevention Coalition sustainable beyond the grant term; (6) Southeastern (SERAC) Annual Prevention Conference May 17, 2024 – Mayor Allyn stated the Conference would be via

Zoom video conference only. He stated the event was from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. and that he would forward the Flyer to the Town Council tomorrow; (7) Emergency Narcan Kits – Mayor Allyn noted the Ledyard Prevention Coalition’s presentation earlier this evening (see above Section III Informational Items/Presentations) regarding the demonstration on how to administer Narcan. He stated after hearing about how excessive cold or heat could affect the Narcan that he now had some concerns regarding the locations of Ledyard’s the Kits being outside. He stated that the temperature issue was not mentioned during their previous discussions, therefore, he would need ask more questions; (8) Norwich Chamber of Commerce Round Table Discussion – April 23, 2024 - Mayor Allyn stated the Town Officials met with the following: (a) Non-profit Connecticut Main Street to talk about their role in assisting towns to create “Downtowns”. He stated he reached out to them to see if they would be interested in working with Ledyard Center or Gales Ferry; and (b) Eastern Regional Tourism District to talk about providing data for the CTVisit.com website. He stated that he would forward the information to the Economic Development Commission, noting events such as the Yale-Harvard Regatta, the Rotary Car Show, and the Farmers Market, noting that it would be great to get these and other idea on the CTVisit.com website; (9) Solar Charging Stations – American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding – Mayor Allyn stated he was disappointed to learn that the Solar Charging Station that was installed at the Town Green was destroyed, noting that someone used a rock to smash the unit. He stated they were checking to see whether the solar panel that powered the unit could be replaced. He went on to note that Solar Charging Stations were also installed at other locations in town for residents to charge their devices. He stated that perhaps something could be done to protect the units. He stated it was disheartening to see that someone destroyed the unit just because they could; (10) Sewer Line Contract - Phase III – Mayor Allyn stated at their April 23, 2024 meeting the Water Pollution Control Authority approved the Sewer Line Contract - Phase III. He explained that Phase I would be installed from the Bill Library to High School; Phase III would be installed from the High School to Pennywise Lane (Highlands); and Phase II would be from the Bill Library to the Post Office. He stated that Mr. Holdridge (see above Section V. Residents Comments) was referring to Phase II earlier this evening, which the town has not funded. He stated with the WPCA’s approval that the design and engineering work would be done for Phase II before working with the contractor; (11) Sandy Hollow Guiderail Replacement Project – Mayor Allyn stated as mentioned earlier this evening the Sandy Hollow Guiderail project has been completed; (12) Drug Take Back Day would be held on Saturday, May 4, 2024 at the Ledyard Senior Citizens Center on Van Tassel Drive, Gales Ferry, from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Mayor Allyn stated it would be drive thru, explaining that residents would not have to get out of their car; (13) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request regarding the video from the April 15, 2024 Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Public Hearing – Mayor Allyn stated as elected officials that they have a duty to communicate effectively with people; not with just with residents, but with staff as well. He stated that his advice and suggestion to all the members of the Town Council was that if they had any questions that they please call any of us, including himself, and Ms. Maher as the Town Council’s staff, or any of the Department Heads at the Town Hall. He asked if they had questions to please communicate with people first; and not use the FOIA Request as their first stop, noting that a FOIA Requests should be used as their last stop. He stated Ledyard has received many FOIA Requests, as all towns do, and that Town Hall Staff fulfills the requests instantly. He went on to explain when residents ask for information that staff does not typically ask them fill out FOIA Request Forms noting they just give them the information. He asked that the Town Council keep this in mind going forward, stating that it was important that they work together, because this was how the town moves forward in a positive direction. He stated that he liked Councilor St. Vil’s comments, and that he appreciated everyone working together for the betterment of the town.

Questions to the Mayor

Chairman Rodriguez asked Mayor Allyn to repeat the numbers of the House Bills being considered in this Legislative Session. Mayor Allyn noted the following House Bills:

- HB #5113 – Illegal Street Takeover
- HB #5172 – Publication of Legal Notices in the Newspaper
- Senate Bill #356 – Increase in the Mashantucket Pequot Fund
- Early Voting – No Funding – Mayor Allyn stated the Early Voting did not have a Bill Number associated with it.

- Car Tax Sunset Bill – Mayor Allyn stated he did not have the House Bill number because it failed to come out of Committee. However, he stated there was still a Mil Rate Car Tax Cap, explaining that the State would continue to provide municipalities the delta between their local Mil Rate and the State’s Mil Rate Cap. He noted that the State was flushed with money, stating that their Rainy Day Fund was maxed-out \$3.3 Billion. He also noted that the State has paid down \$7 Billion on their Pension Fund Liability.

Councilor Garcia-Irizarry questioned should the Car Tax Sunset Bill be considered again next year and it does pass, how would the town make up the loss in revenue that they would no longer be receiving from the car taxes? Mayor Allyn stated collectively Connecticut’s Municipalities receive about \$1Billion from car taxes. Therefore, they asked the State the same question, which was: *Where would the money come from to make up that loss in collectable revenues.* He stated that Municipalities would need to increase their real estate property taxes. He stated the Car Tax Sunset Bill was helpful for renters; however, he stated for property owners or homeowners the Car Tax Sunset Bill was not good news. He explained the State’s biggest issue was how do they replace a billion dollars a year and not increase taxes.

Councilor Buhle addressed the replacement of the Sandy Hollow Road Guiderails, stating that they needed to be replaced for a long time. She suggested they have a Ribbon Cutting and that Councilor Saccone should be the one to cut the Ribbon. Mayor Allyn stated they replaced 7,100 linear feet of Guiderails in two and half weeks.

Chairman Rodriguez stated that she has already been receiving positive remarks from residents about the new Sandy Hollow Road Guiderails, noting that the residents were happy.

Councilor Garcia-Irizarry suggested they include something in the Events Quarterly Magazine about the Sandy Hollow Road Guiderails. Mayor Allyn stated Ledyard did very well with the use of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding, noting that the Town Council did an awesome job in putting together a list of things that would mean a lot to the town for many years, noting that a number of capital project “needs” and other non-operational expenses were addressed. He stated other towns did not take the same approach as Ledyard, noting that many used their ARPA funding for operational costs and now they were left with budgetary issues.

XII. OLD BUSINESS – None.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Finance Committee

1. MOTION to adopt a proposed Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget in the amount of \$67,430,573 comprised of:

- General Government: \$29,060,750
- Board of Education: \$38,369,823.

Moved by Councilor Buhle, seconded by Councilor Saccone

Discussion: Councilor Ryan stated that it has always been his opinion that we need to take a consolidated, Ledyard-centric approach to address the real needs of our community, balanced against what the community can afford. He stated their community, who were also our taxpayers, fund 70% of the town’s revenue; and while inflation was often cited as a reason for increased budget demands, we cannot forget that these very same taxpayers were facing the same inflation in other areas of their lives, and many were without the benefit of mandated contractual salary increases. He stated residents were being forced to choose priorities and make hard decisions in how their finite resources were spent – and the town and school district should be expected to do the same.

Councilor Ryan continued by stating that it was against this backdrop that they should consider the town budgets put before them. He stated that he would again reiterate some high level data points and observations for public awareness as follows:

- The Town's general government budget, which included Capital investments and health care costs for both the town and schools, represents a 1.5% increase over the current year's (fy 23/24) expenditures.
- The adopted Board of Education budget represented a 6.85% increase over the current year's (fy 23/24) expenditures; much like every other municipality, the education budget was the largest driver of overall town expenses - nearly 70% in Ledyard's case.
- The proposed budgets would represent a .65 Mill increase in our Mill Rate, or roughly another \$162 a year for a single family home assessed at \$250,000.
- For Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Ledyard currently had the 3rd highest Mill Rate in New London County, behind only Norwich and New London.¹ However, that would change in Fiscal Year 2024/2025; as we would now be the 2nd highest, with New London's Fiscal Year 2025 mill rate dropping to 27.5 due to their recent revaluation.
- Ledyard's total Grand List Value was in the bottom half in the same referenced region, even when taking into account 4.5% growth from last year. The town simply does not have the taxable Commercial or Industrial Real Property that would help bring in the much needed revenue. Focused development was needed in these areas in order to reduce the tax burden on homeowners.

Councilor Ryan stated that he continued to believe the General Government Budget, at a 1.5% increase, represented the leanest the operational budget could be, with savings taken in many places that helped to offset contractual increases in wages and other areas.

Councilor Ryan went on to state with regard to the proposed Board of Education operations budget, after careful consideration and discussion with key stakeholders within the Town, Board of Education, and School Administration, that he still believed that there was an opportunity to obtain some efficiencies *without affecting current student facing services*, which included the Interventionists Coordinator. To that end, at the March 25, 2024 Special Finance Committee's Meeting, before the budget went to April 15, 2024 Public Hearing, that he moved to revise the top line of the Education Budget figure to \$38,170,595 for a 6.3% increase over the current year's (fy 23/24) budget.

Councilor Ryan stated while his Motion was not seconded at that meeting, that he presented the same motion at the Finance Committee's April 17, 2024 meeting, and was able explain that his proposed amended budget figure, which included funding for many of the desired improvements and additional positions – such as the Interventionist Coordinator, that the Board of Education requested. He noted that while less than the Board of Education's adopted increase of 6.85%, that his proposed increase of 6.3% was still greater than the baseline budget increase of 5.98% that was originally proposed by the Superintendent of Schools to the Board of Education. He stated that the Superintendent's proposed budget was further evidence that his proposed increase of 6.3% would have indeed covered basic needs for the District, as well as some value-added additions.

Councilor Ryan stated that unfortunately, his motion failed; and he went on to comment that he was taken aback by a concern that was presented by another Councilor that, should they cut the proposed school budget at all, that there was no guarantee that the Board of Education would fund certain items that the Town Council deemed valuable – in other words, student facing services, which was what he deemed valuable. He stated to him that this was akin to saying that we do not trust the Board of Education to do the right thing with a reduced figure, should the Town Council present them with that. He stated that while he personally did not believe that to be the case, the specter of that occurring was most certainly not a reason for the Town Council to be held hostage; noting that accountability was a wonderful thing.

Councilor Ryan continued by stating that since some have made a point of comparing Ledyard's spending to other school districts, specifically Montville and Stonington, that he wanted to note that his proposed increase of 6.3% was significantly greater than budget the increases being proposed for those very same districts, with both at 4.5% over the current (fy 24/25) year, noting that Stonington recently reduced their budget. He stated in fact, *Ledyard has enjoyed a greater cumulative percentage increase than either of those school districts over the last three budget cycles*. He noted the education budget cumulative increases were as follows: 12.7% for Montville, 14% for Stonington and 15.5% for Ledyard².

Councilor Ryan went on to state that some may dismiss his proposed budget figure as being a negligible reduction compared to the current 6.85% increase, with the inference being that it was not worth considering. However, he stated that he had the following two rebuttals to that sentiment: The First being that it dismisses the optics of the situation, as he personally could not say that they challenged and scrutinized the School Budget the same way they challenged the General Government Budget. The Second being that the argument cuts both ways; another words; if it was truly believed that his amended figure was a negligible decrease, then why would it *not* be acceptable?

Councilor Ryan stated that there was no doubt that they were in interesting and challenging economic times and, that he believed as a town, they should further prioritize expenses to reflect the financial reality our taxpayers were facing; and also start to implement some of the recommendations from the *Committee to Review the Budget Process Final Report* to ensure that they were making the most out of every dollar sacrificed by the taxpayer. He noted the following websites as the sources for the data he presented this evening:

¹<https://data.ct.gov/Local-Government/Mill-Rates-for-FY-2014-2025/emyx-j53e>

²Metric developed from data obtained from <https://public-edsight.ct.gov/>

³<https://www.ledyardct.org/DocumentCenter/View/5544/FOIA-Policies—Procedures>

⁴<https://portal.ct.gov/foi/misc/online-filing-complaints>

Councilor Saccone stated that he wanted to thank residents such as Mr. Irwin and Mr. Cherry who watch over the Town Council; specifically, the finances, to make sure their tax dollars were being spent where they should be spent. He stated that they were going to have disagreements, noting that the Finance Committee had disagreements during their budget discussions. He also noted that they have disagreements with their spouses, but that they work through them. He stated he believed the proposed Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget came out in-favor of their children. He stated that he was also a taxpayer in town and that he believed that it was a fair budget. He stated he understood residents comments regarding the increases in taxes noting that his first tax bill was \$1,800 in 1988. However, he stated that he was in-favor of the proposed Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget noting that it was in the best interest of the town to move forward.

Councilor Paul noted that he agreed with Councilor Ryan's point. He stated as he mentioned earlier this evening (Councilor Comments) that his concerns were regarding the importance to conduct their due diligence. He stated when they were looking at a 6.85% budget increase that everything needed to be scrutinized, because they were accountable to everybody.

Councilor Buhle stated as a follow-up to Councilor Garcia-Irizarry's response (VI. Councilor Comments) to Mr. Irwin's question regarding how the additional \$315,750 was going to be used in the Board of Education's proposed Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget, that she wanted to provide further information as follows:

- \$125,000 Clinical Supervision
- \$85,999 Interventionists
- \$35,000 Substitute Teachers to cover for additional teacher absences
- \$14,500 Substitute Teachers wage increase (\$100.00 to \$125.00 per day)
- **TOTAL: \$255,750 (*Student Facing Services*)**
- \$60,000 Human Resources/ Finance positions
- Total BOE Budget Adjustments \$315,750 or an increase of 0.88%

Councilor Buhle went on to explain that other than the \$60,000 for Human Resources/Finance Positions; that \$225,750 of the additional funding, over the Superintendent of School's proposed 5.98% Budget increase was for *Student Facing Services*. She stated if the funding was scaled back, as Councilor Ryan suggested, that her concern was not that she did not think that the Board of Education would make the right decisions, noting that there was no right decision. She stated there was not \$200,000 of *Non-Student Facing Services* to cut. She stated after attending multiple Board of Education Meetings and watching them scrutinize each line, noting that the Superintendent of School's proposed 5.98% Budget increase was almost entirely to provide for the status quo based on inflation and contractual increases. She stated the 5.98% increase would not include the Interventionists, Clinical Supervisor, or the additional Substitute Teachers to

cover during teachers absences. She stated when they do not have adequate funding to pay for substitute teachers to cover teacher absences, that the paraprofessionals oversee the class; or teachers do not take the time they need if they were sick; or to take care of a family member, because they know that there would not be a substitute teacher to cover for that day.

Councilor Buhle continued by stating that the Finance Committee diligently worked to make sure the General Government Budget was fair and reasonable; and that she believed the Board of Education did the same. She stated although she appreciated the effort to push the Board of Education to make sure they were getting the best for the taxpayers money, that she did not believe the Board of Education was being overzealous; or irresponsible. She stated as she stated at previous meetings (Town Council 3/27/2024) the reduction that Councilor Ryan proposed would equate to .15 mils, which would be a savings of \$31 per year for her and for other residents who live in a home in similar size. She stated that she would gladly pay an additional \$31.00 per year to make sure her son and other children have a substitute teacher in their classrooms, and they were not spending the day in the cafeteria with sixty kids.

Councilor Buhle concluded her remarks by noting as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, once said, "*Budgets are moral documents.*" She stated when we write a budget for our town government, we are making statements of our values and priorities. She stated with the proposed Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget that she believed that they were showing that our children and students were worth the investment.

Councilor Garcia-Irizarry noted Councilor Ryan's comments that some area towns have reduced their education budgets for the upcoming year. She stated that Groton reduced their education budget because they had used the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding to hire and pay for teachers and personnel. Therefore, she noted some school districts such as Groton and others were planning to lay-off sixty or more teachers/personnel. However, she stated Ledyard's School District did not use their ARPA Funding for those types of expenses. She stated that she agreed that they had to scrutinize all expenses, noting that she reviewed all of the Munis Budget printouts, noting that it took her some time to figure out what all the budget lines meant, noting that she wished the Munis Reports were easier to read. She stated that she knew that they all cared about Ledyard's students, and although she also wished they could go with the lower education budget, that she did not know where they could make cuts. She stated there were a lot of things such as teacher positions that the Board of Education needed but did not include in their budget request for next year. She stated Ledyard has done a wonderful job with the taxpayers money, noting they try not to spend money on things that was not necessary.

Councilor Ryan stated that he wanted to clarify some things, noting that he agreed with Councilor Garcia-Irizarry, in that there were a lot of things in the Education Budget that were not funded. However, he noted that there were also a lot of things that went unfunded on the General Government' side of the Budget as well, stating that they had to make some tough decisions on what their priorities were. He stated even with carrying the Board of Education's expenses for health care, and Capital Projects, that they were able to keep the General Government's proposed Fiscal Year Budget to a 1.5% increase.

Councilor Ryan went on to state, therefore, he thought that there was room in the Education Budget for some additional adjustments. He stated when he proposed the 6.3% increase for the Education Budget, he did not just look at the additions that were over the Superintendent of Schools proposed budget increase of 5.98%. He explained because he believed in Zero Based Budgeting that he began from the ground-up looking at every single budget line. He stated if he saw a healthy increase over the current year's (fy 23/24) budget that he flagged it and discussed it with the stakeholders which he mentioned earlier this evening. He stated he did not look at whole lines as to cut or to include, noting as an example the Substitute Teachers line. He stated that he agreed that Ledyard does not pay their substitute teachers enough. Therefore, he stated that he called area school districts as well as private schools, to ask what they paid their substitute teachers, noting the average was \$120.00 per day for comparable school districts. He stated he then reduced Ledyard's substitute teachers pay from the proposed \$125.00 per day to \$120.00 per day. He stated by

making some adjustments, a little here and a little there, was how he arrived at the proposed increase of 6.3% for the education budget. He stated this was the type of scrutiny that he was talking about, when he stated that they needed to demonstrate that they had done that. He stated that he cared about the children, noting that he has two kids who do not attend Ledyard Public Schools, stating that he would love them to attend Ledyard's Public Schools.

Councilor Ryan continued by explaining that the Town Council must consider Ledyard's children, just like the Board of Education does. However, he stated the difference between the Board of Education's responsibilities and the Town Council's responsibilities was that the Town Council has to consider the impact to the residents (families and children), but also the same people who were our taxpayers. He stated they have to work to find a balance and to choose priorities, noting that they all have opinions on what those priorities should be; and that was okay. He went on to explain when he stated that his proposed increase of 6.3% for the education budget was a negatable reduction, what he was saying was that it was a small change. However, he stated the *optics* would show that the Town Council was not just passing a proposed Board of Education that they did not really take a good look at; or did not ask tough questions.

Councilor Bulhle responded to the comment that *the optics was that the Town Council did not take a good look at the Board of Education's proposed Budget*, noting that she thoroughly reviewed the Education Budget, stating that she understood that they may have found \$35,000 to cut here, or \$50,000 to cut there. However, she stated that she did not think that the Board of Education would make irresponsible choices if the Town Council forced them into that situation. She continued to state that it was not fair to state that the Board of Education was not burdened with the knowledge of what their budget does, noting that she watched them carefully choose what they were and were not going to fund, working off the budget framework that the Superintendent submitted to them, that started with a 5.98% budget increase. She also commented that it was not fair to state that because she wholeheartedly supported the education budget that she did not look at the budget, or that she did not scrutinize it with the same level of intensity, noting that she did, and that she supported the education budget from the start.

Councilor St. Vil thanked the Finance Committee for all the work they did on the proposed Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget. He stated he was a degreed Engineer noting that he spent more than half his career managing budgets in the tens to hundreds of millions of dollars, noting that he was familiar with the process and work that goes into scrutinizing a budget. Therefore, he stated he would like to affirm that this Committee has scrutinized the proposed Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget, noting that he has been part of those discussions where they went line by line and questioned whether something was a need or a desire; and that this was also applicable to the Board of Education Budget. He stated what they had to leverage was the expertise of the folks who were responsible for owning and executing the budget; those being the Board of Education, the School Superintendent, and that they also have to leverage that with the Town Council's experience of fiscal responsibility. He stated that he had no doubt that the proposed Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget, as presented this evening, represented the bare minimum that was necessary for the town to be successful going forward, not only for the town infrastructure but also for their schools.

Councilor Garcia-Irizarry stated that she agreed with Councilor Ryan in that there were always efficiencies, noting as an example they could always save money by using less office supplies, etc. She suggested Town Councilors attend the Board of Education's Meetings to ask all the questions that were presented during the budget process, as well as during the year to understand the aspect of all the things the Schools had to address. She stated that sometimes they may think that things were a certain way, commenting that they were really not aware. She stated as the Town Council Liaison to the Board of Education that she attended all of their meetings and that she still had questions regarding the many things they have to address. She stated when the Town Council invited the Board of Education to present their proposed Budget at their February 28, 2024 meeting that it was difficult to gain an understanding of all that was involved during a short presentation. Therefore, she commented on the difficulty of trying to tell the Board of Education what they need and what they did not need, because they do not know the whole picture.

Councilor Garcia-Irizarry concluded by stating that she understands that they were faced with tough times, and that they were all working to do the best that they could. She stated in reviewing the Education Budget that she believed everything in their budget was needed. She stated hopefully the Auditor would be able to conduct a more thorough review to the Board of Education’s financial records next year, as the Town Council discussed at their April 10, 2024 meeting.

VOTE: 6 – 2 Approved and so declared (Paul, Ryan not in favor)

RESULT:	APPROVED 6 - 2
MOVER:	Jessica Buhle, Town Councilor
SECONDER	Tony Saccone , Town Councilor
AYES:	Brunelle, Buhle, Garcia-Irizarry, Rodriguez, Saccone, St. Vil
NAYE:	Paul, Ryan
EXCUSED:	Dombrowski

- MOTION to appropriate \$12,872.00 to Account #21020101-57300 (Police New Equipment); and authorize the expenditure of up-to \$12,872.00 to purchase equipment to support the *High Risk Rural Road Speed Enforcement Program*

Moved by Councilor Ryan, seconded by Councilor Buhle

Discussion: Police Chief John Rich, attending remotely via Zoom, provided some background stating at their January 24, 2024 meeting the Town Council authorized the Mayor to submit the 2024 High Risk Rural Road Speed Enforcement Program Grant for the Police Department. He stated the Grant Program was aimed at reducing the amount of speed related fatalities and injuries on Connecticut's High Risk Rural Roads. He stated the town was notified that Ledyard’s Grant Application was approved explaining that the *High Risk Rural Road Speed Enforcement Funding* was a 100% reimbursable Grant Program to support personnel costs for speed enforcement and to purchase equipment such as speed measuring devices. Therefore, he stated the Police Department was requesting the appropriation of funds to pay for speed measuring equipment as reflected in the two quotes provided as follows:

- Stalker Radar Equipment \$6,500 (two units)
- Source Well Solar Radar Signs \$6,372 (two signs)

Chief Rich concluded by stating that after the equipment was purchased they would submit the invoices to the State and would receive 100% reimbursement for the expenses related to the *High Risk Rural Road Speed Enforcement Program*.

VOTE: 8 – 0 Approved and so declared

RESULT:	APPROVED 8 - 0
MOVER:	Tim Ryan, Town Councilor
SECONDER	Jessica Buhle, Town Councilor
AYES:	Brunelle, Buhle, Garcia-Irizarry, Paul, Rodriguez, Ryan, Saccone, St. Vil
EXCUSED:	Dombrowski

- MOTION to authorize overspending Account #10110101-5310 (Legal Fee) thru June 30, 2024. Funding to be transferred to Account #10110101-5310 (Legal Fee) at year end.

Moved by Councilor Buhle, seconded by Councilor Ryan

Discussion: Mayor Allyn, III, stated that currently there were some Indian issues that were at the forefront, noting that this would be the subject as an Executive Session later in May, 2024. He went on to explain that Attorney Langhammer was the town’s tax attorney, noting that next year all of the legal fees would be budgeted separately.

VOTE: 8 – 0 Approved and so declared

RESULT:	APPROVED 8 - 0
MOVER:	Jessica Buhle, Town Councilor
SECONDER	Tim Ryan, Town Councilor
AYES:	Brunelle, Buhle, Garcia-Irizarry, Paul, Rodriguez, Ryan, Saccone, St. Vil
EXCUSED:	Dombrowski

General Items

- 4. MOTION to adopt a “Fair Housing Resolution - Town of Ledyard” as contained in the draft dated April 15, 2024.

DRAFT: 4/15/2024

Res:004-2024/Apr 24

**FAIR HOUSING RESOLUTION
TOWN OF LEDYARD**

WHEREAS, All persons are afforded a right to full and equal housing opportunities in the neighborhood of their choice; and

WHEREAS, Federal Fair Housing laws require that all individuals, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, veteran status, or national origin, be given equal access to all housing-related opportunities, including rental and homeownership opportunities, and be allowed to make free choices regarding housing location; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut fair housing laws require that all individuals, regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, veteran status, learning disability, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression be given equal access to all housing-related opportunities, including rental and home ownership opportunities, and be allowed to make free choices regarding housing location; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Ledyard is committed to upholding these laws, and realizes that these laws must be supplemented by an Affirmative Statement publicly endorsing the right of all people to full and equal housing opportunities in the neighborhood of their choice.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Town of Ledyard hereby endorses a Fair Housing Policy to ensure equal opportunity for all persons to rent, purchase, obtain financing and enjoy all other housing-related services of their choice on a non-discriminatory basis as provided by state and federal law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the chief executive officer of the Town of Ledyard or his/her designated representative is responsible for responding to and assisting any person who alleges to be the victim of an illegal discriminatory housing practice in the Town of Ledyard and for advising such person of the right to file a complaint with the State of Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) or the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) or to seek assistance from the CT Fair Housing Center, legal services, or other fair housing organizations to protect his or her right to equal housing opportunities.

Adopted by the Ledyard Town Council on April 24, 2024

S. Naomi Rodriguez, Chairman

I Patricia A. Riley, Town Clerk of the Town of Ledyard, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted at a meeting of the Town Council held on April 24, 2024, and that such resolution has not been modified, rescinded, or revoked, and is at present in full force and effect:

IN WITNESS WHEREOF: The undersigned has affixed his signature and corporate seal on this _____ day of _____ 2024.

(Town Seal)

Patricia A. Riley, Town Clerk

Moved by Councilor Buhle, seconded by Councilor Ryan

Discussion: Mayor Allyn, III, stated that the draft Resolution was a “housekeeping” type of item that the Town Council was required to adopt each year. He explained for the Town to be eligible to apply for and receive certain Grant Funds such as the Small Cities CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) from the Department of Housing to support fair housing; that the town was required to annually adopt a "Fair Housing Resolution" to be in compliance with state regulations. He stated the draft Resolution was the same as previous years, noting that each municipality who was a current or former recipient of Small Cities CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funding was required to re-adopt a “Fair Housing Resolution”.

Mayor Allyn went on to note as an example that the last CDBG Grant that Ledyard received was for the renovation work that was done for the Kings Corner Manor Senior Citizens Housing Facility.

Mayor Allyn stated to be eligible for these grant monies the town was required to do a number of things which, in addition to the adoption of the Resolution, also included the following:

- Displaying posters regarding Fair Housing at the Libraries, Town Hall and Senior Citizens Center.
- Mayor's Office issuing a letter to state that the Town supported Fair Housing Opportunities.
- Send letters to Real Estate Offices in the Town of Ledyard speaking about the importance of Fair Housing.

VOTE: 8 – 0 Approved and so declared

RESULT:	APPROVED 8 - 0
MOVER:	Jessica Buhle, Town Councilor
SECONDER	Tim Ryan, Town Councilor
AYES:	Brunelle, Buhle, Garcia-Irizarry, Paul, Rodriguez, Ryan, Saccone, St. Vil
EXCUSED:	Dombrowski

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Buhle moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Paul
VOTE: 8 - 0 Approved and so declared. The meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Transcribed by Roxanne M. Maher
Administrative Assistant to the Town Council

I, S. Naomi Rodriguez, Chairman of the Ledyard Town Council,
hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and
correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Town Council
Meeting held on April 24, 2024.

S. Naomi Rodriguez, Chairman



**TOWN OF LEDYARD
CONNECTICUT
TOWN COUNCIL**

Chairman S. Naomi Rodriguez

**MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARING
LEDYARD TOWN COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - ANNEX BUILDING
HYBRID FORMAT**

DRAFT

PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

6:15 PM; MAY 8, 2024

I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chairman Rodriguez called to order the Public Hearing at 6:15 p.m. regarding the acceptance of the conveyance/transfer of parcel and easement areas for no compensation, as depicted on plan entitled “*Proposed Boundary Line Adjustments In the Area of Route 12 and Thamesview Pentway, Gales Ferry Connecticut*”; and approved in the Boundary Line Adjustment Application No. ZP#5946.

II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

III. **PROCEDURE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING**

Chairman Rodriguez welcomed all to the Hybrid Meeting. She stated for the members of the Town Council and the Public who were participating via video conference that the remote meeting information was available on the Agenda that was posted on the Town’s Website – Granicus-Legistar Meeting Portal.

Chairman Rodriguez asked those attending remotely to put their name and address in the “Chat” and that they would be called upon during the Public Comment portion of tonight’s meeting.

IV. **CALL OF THE PUBLIC HEARING**

The following call of the Public Hearing was read by Town Council Administrative Assistant Roxanne M. Maher:

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF LEDYARD
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

In accordance with CGS 07-163e the Ledyard Town Council will conduct a Hybrid Format (In-Person and Video Conference) Public Hearing on Wednesday, May 8, 2024, at 6:15 p.m. to receive comment on the following:

For the Town of Ledyard to accept the conveyance/transfer of the following parcel and easement areas for no compensation as depicted on plan entitled “*Proposed Boundary Line Adjustments In the Area of Route 12 and Thamesview Pentway, Gales Ferry Connecticut*” prepared by CLA Engineers, and as approved by the Director of Planning in the Boundary Line Adjustment Application No. ZP#5946:

- (1) The .04 acres shown as “Parcel C” on above-referenced map, a portion of Thamesview Pentway to be conveyed to the Town from Mr. Noah Cardinal.
- (2) The 259.08 square feet area shown as “Easement Area D” to be conveyed from Mr. Daniel W. Stanavage (1764 Route 12) to the Town for the purpose of snow removal/snow stacking.
- (3) The 685.67 square feet area shown as “Easement Area E” on above-referenced map, to be conveyed to the Town from Mr. Noah Cardinal (2 Thamesview Pentway) for the purpose of snow removal/snow stacking.

Please join the Public Hearing in-person or remotely as follows:

In-person attendance will be at the
Council Chambers, Town Hall Annex Building
741 Colonel Ledyard Highway, Ledyard, Connecticut

Join the video conference meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone at:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81299386824?pwd=HdVtW0pd8OH6WXKE7wZpm6bF3klF6b.1>
 or by audio only dial: +1 646 558 8656 Meeting ID: 812 9938 6824; Passcode: 309495

At this hearing interested persons may appear and be heard and written communications will be accepted at towncouncil@ledyardct.org.

A vote regarding the conveyance/transfer of these properties will be held at a Special Town Meeting scheduled for May 8, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

Dated at Ledyard, Connecticut this 25th day of April, 2024.

For the Ledyard Town Council
 s/s S. Naomi Rodriguez, Chairman

PLEASE PUBLISH: April 25, 2024 & April 29, 2024

V. PRESENTATIONS

Chairman Rodriguez invited Public Works Director/Town Engineer Steve Masalin to present the proposal regarding the conveyance of the property that was being considered this evening.

Public Works Director/Town Engineer Steve Masalin, provided some background stating the proposed conveyance of property/easements presented this evening was the culmination of a few years of effort to benefit both the town and Mr. Stanavage and Mr. Cardinal relative to a parcel along Route 12 where there were some non-conforming pre-existing building issues. He stated the proposal was carefully crafted to eliminate those issues and to provide the area necessary to replace buildings in a conforming way.

The map below showed the property and easements to be conveyed/transfered as follows:

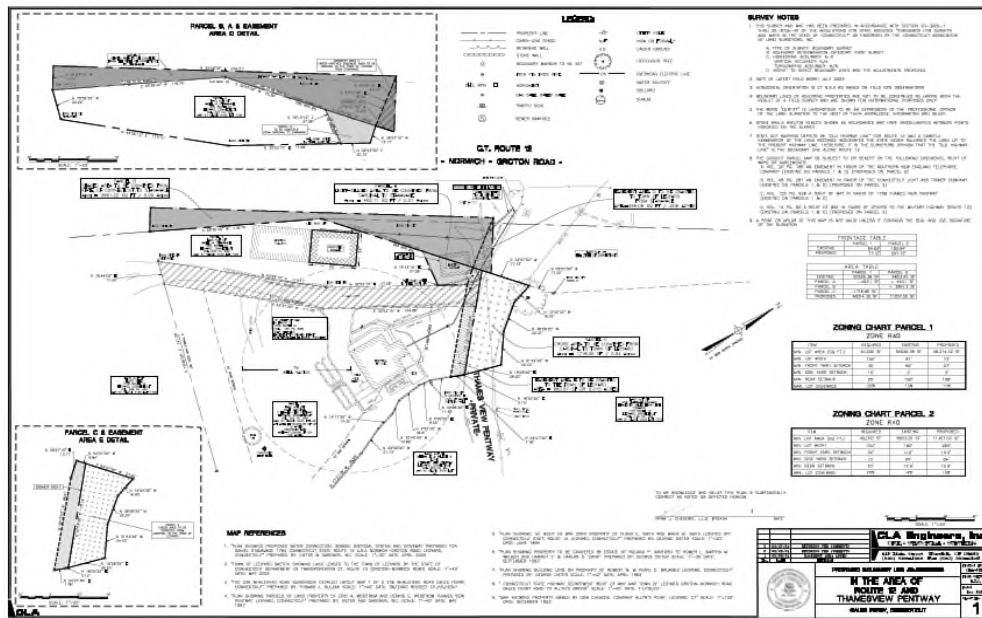
- (1) The .04 acre shown as “Parcel C” on referenced map (see below), was a portion of Thamesview Pentway owned by Mr. Noah Cardinal that would be conveyed to the Town.

This area was a portion of 2 Thamesview Pentway. In accordance with Ordinance: # 300-028 “Town of Ledyard Private Easements And Rights-Of-Way Ordinance” the town has been currently maintaining this area of Thamesview Pentway; therefore, taking ownership of this area would not incur any additional costs to the town.

- (2) The 259.08 square feet area shown as “Easement Area D” owned by Mr. Daniel W. Stanavage (1764 Route 12) would be conveyed to the Town for the purpose of snow removal/snow stacking.

This area was located over a portion of 1764 Route 12, Gales Ferry, and would be used by the Town for the purpose of snow removal/snow stacking.

- (3) The 685.67 square foot area shown as “Easement Area E” on the referenced map, owned by Mr. Noah Cardinal (2 Thamesview Pentway) would be conveyed to the Town for the purpose of snow removal/snow stacking



Mr. Masalin explained that there were a number of components involved which included a lot line adjustment transaction between the State of Connecticut and Mr. Stanavage as the abutting property owner. He noted the lot line adjustment provided a superfluous right-of-way boundary along Route 12, upon which an existing garage at the bottom of Thamesview Pentway belonged to Mr. Stanavage. In addition, he stated that there were some personal-private interests in terms of realigning the property boundaries to account for some overlapping boundary lines between Mr. Stanavage and his neighbor Mr. Noah Cardinal.

Mr. Masalin stated the easements were required to maintain the conformity of those two parcels (existing parcel 2 Thamesview Pentway for Mr. Cardinal and parcel 1764 Route 12 for Mr. Stanavage). However, he explained the reason that the easements were given to the town was to provide an area along the edge of Thamesview Pentway for snow removal. He stated because the property boundary lines currently run up to the roadway there was no area to place the snow during plowing. He went on to explain that the pre-existing easements off of Thamesview Pentway that served the lots along Route 12 to the south (1754, 1756, 1758 Route 12) were retained, noting that these lots were referenced on the Plan itself. Therefore, he stated that there would be no changes to access these lots, explaining that the easements would allow the town to acquire a very small section of property over which the entrance of Thamesview Pentway runs. In addition, it would also contribute to the conformity of both 1764 Route 12 (Mr. Stanavage) and 2 Thamesview Pentway (Mr. Cardinal), where frontage would be attained through this transaction.

Mr. Masalin provided additional context stating that currently Thamesview Pentway was one of seven Pentways in town. He stated although the town typically owned no land on the Pentways, the town had some *Grandfathered Liability* regarding public access rights to maintain the Pentways at some level of a town road. He stated in 2018 the town established Ordinance: #300-028 "*Town of Ledyard Private Easements And Rights-of-Way Ordinance*" to address the town's obligation and management of the Pentways regarding what the town would do on behalf of the residents who lived off of Pentways and limits upon the individuals who live on the Pentways.

Mr. Masalin continued by stating that the easement areas being addressed in the proposed conveyance/transfer involved a very small area at the bottom of Thamesview Pentway, which was the entry point to the Pentway, as he mentioned earlier this evening. He stated accepting these easements would give the town some ownership of a part of a Pentway; however, he stated that it would not change the town's obligations in terms of what they do there. He stated last summer (2023) the Town in conjunction with a contractor reconstructed the entire Pentway, including the drainage, noting that the Pentway was now as good as any town road. He stated the town was happy to work with the parties who were seeking to improve the conformity of their lots, noting that it has been in motion for quite a while. He stated the conveyance of these easements would not change anything on the part of the town; or for anyone else who was outside the immediate boundaries of the Plan.

Mayor Allyn, III, stated as Public Works Director/Town Engineer Steve Masalin touched on during his presentation this evening, that the only gain for the Town was to acquire space to put the snow when they snowplow, which the town currently does not have on the lower portion of Thamesview Pentway, stating that it would be beneficial for the town to have snow shelf space during winter snow events.

Chairman Rodriguez noted a letter dated April 15, 2024 in which former Planning Director Juliet Hodge reported that the Planning & Zoning Commission conducted an 8-24 Review at their April 11, 2024 meeting and unanimously endorsed the proposed Property Boundary Line Adjustments and the conveyance of the parcel and easements.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS (please limit to three minutes)

Mr. Ryan Allen, 1754 Route 12, Gales Ferry, stated his property was adjacent to the property being addressed this evening. He stated although he may be wrong, that he felt that he had a claim to the property identified as 1764 Route 12. He explained in December 2021 the Estate of Harriett Sonk (1754 Route 12) went up for sale. He stated that he toured the property and in conducting a Deed Search he noticed that it was a Quit Claim Deed, noting that they did not have to disclose much information in a Quit Claim Deed. He stated in reading the deed he discovered that there was an extra parcel which was described in the Multiple Listing Service (MLS). He stated the extra parcel contained 1756 and 1764 Route 12 as being one tract and being all together. He stated that he thought this may have been done when the Sanford's conveyed the property to the Sonk's on October 3, 1961; noting that new zoning laws went into effect on October 13, 1963. Therefore, he stated the parcels 1756 and 1764 was one parcel that was connected by the private driveway.

Mr. Allen went on to explain that he made a Purchase Sales Agreement for and that he went to the Real Estate Closing with the Closing Attorney. He stated the Deed was presented and he made it clear that he was not going to sign at the closing, unless the Deed was conveyed as it was written, noting that he had emails regarding the matter. He stated everyone agreed, the Seller's Attorney's agreed, and the property was conveyed to him. However, he stated a few hours later that day he received a phone call saying that there was a mistake, they did not intend to convey that property, and that the Seller's Attorney would be doing a Corrected Deed. He stated when the Corrected Deed was performed, the tract of land 1764 Route 12 that he had agreed to purchase was removed from the Deed, and that this was recorded in Land Records. Therefore, he stated he did not understand how this could happen, and how that could go forward. He stated that he would be looking at his options regarding 1764 Route 12 going forward. He concluded by stating that he would answer questions.

Mayor Allyn, III, stated that he was not a legal expert, he was not an attorney, and he was not a professional title searcher. However, he stated that he looked at Mr. Allen's Corrected Deed for 1764 Route 12, Gales Ferry, and he stated it looked like what was identified as Parcel 3-Tract 2; which he believed to be referencing the 0.17 acres of 1756 Route 12; however, he stated that he may be wrong. Mr. Allen stated that he believed Mayor Allyn's understanding was wrong. He stated the Deed for 1764 Route 12, as it stands right now, referenced the Administrative Deed from October 3, 1961, noting that it was not even referencing the Quit Claim Deed from 2013, which was different, stating that the parcel was described as one-tract of land being all the same. He stated the current Deed was referencing the Administrative Deed and not the Quit Claim Deed.

Mr. Allen continued by stating that the town may be interested in the easement to plow the snow because of the heavy trucks that would be coming out of the Cashman development, that would need space to turn. He stated as it was alluded to this event that there was no place to put the heavy snow, which would cause problems at the intersection with trucks trying to turn left to go up the state road. He stated that he believed that this was a concern that the town has been addressing for a while. He stated trees were removed from the private driveway that it damaged the road, noting that there was a giant pothole he drives through every day because of what was done during this process.

Chairman Rodriguez stated that there was no relation between Mayor Allyn, and Mr. Ryan Allen noting that the names were spelled differently.

Chairman Rodriguez requested clarification from Mr. Allen questioning whether he was referring to the 259.08 square foot area shown as "Easement Area D" on the Plan. Mr. Allen stated that he was talking about the Deed all together regarding his property (1764 Route 12, Gales Ferry) and how it was conveyed; and how the Deed was corrected to take that property away. He stated that he felt that he still had a right to that property. He stated for personal reasons he has not acted. Mayor Allyn questioned the date that Mr. Allen purchased the property. Mr. Allen stated the Real Estate Closing was on January 26, 2022; however, he stated that he had the Purchase -Sales Agreement from December, 2021. He stated in between that time, that part of that parcel was sold to Mr. Daniel Stanavage, commenting that he did not know how someone could out purchase a Purchase-Sales Agreement that was in-place. He stated that it would be like having a Purchase-Sales Agreement for your house and then halfway through the transaction, your neighbor buys your

backyard. He stated that he did not know how that would work. He stated he had the emails in which he was very clear in stating that he was not going to sign at closing unless the property was conveyed “As-is”. He stated at the closing they told him that it was conveying “As-is” but in the end it did not convey “As-is”. He stated because it was a Quit Claim Deed they did not have to tell him anything, noting that he could have been taking on a property that had a lot of problems. Therefore, he stated it was not in the best interest of the Seller to disclose what they were; or were not selling.

Chairman Rodriguez noted that based on Mr. Allen’s comments that she would like clarification regarding the following:

- (1). The easement area on Thamesview Pentway would be used for Cashman’s snow removal.

Mayor Allyn, stated that was not the intent of the easement, noting that when the Town goes up Thamesview Pentway to plow snow they have nowhere to go, stating that further up the Pentway before the dogleg to the right that there was a retaining wall that was right up to the road. Councilor Dombrowski stated the town was only plowing Thamesview Pentway, noting that Route 12 was a State road and was plowed by the State. He stated the easements to the town on Thamesview Pentway had nothing to do with the Cashman Property.

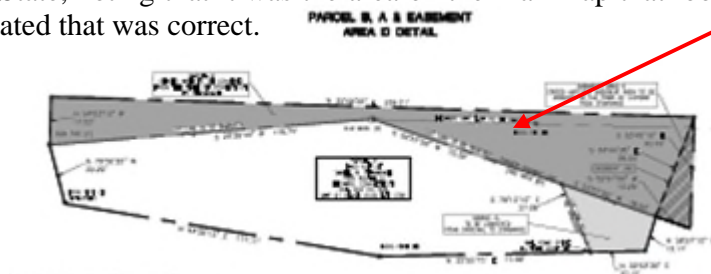
Mayor Allyn suggested that Mr. Allen speak to a Land Use Attorney if he believed that he had a claim, noting that those present this evening were not attorneys and they could not fix the problem that Mr. Allen may have. Mr. Allen stated that he recognized that; however, he stated he wanted the town to be aware of his concern if they were conveying the property.

Councilor Brunelle stated that she may not be correct; however, it was her understanding that the look back period for property title-ownership was 40- years, noting that Mr. Allen’s property title goes back 60-years; therefore, he should mention this to his Attorney.

- (1) 1764 Route 12, Gales Ferry – Chairman Rodriguez stated the GIS System listed Mr. Stanavage as the property owner. She questioned who was the owner of the 1764 Route 12, Gales Ferry.

Mr. Daniel Stanavage, 33 Chapman Lane, Mystic, owner of 1764 Route 12, Gales Ferry, stated that Mr. Allen was part of a listing of a separate house, noting that the garage was never listed because it had so many infringements and problems, which was the reason they have been working through all these steps through the Planning & Zoning Office. He explained the State owned across the front of the property, and a corner of the garage. He stated the property was never disclosed to Mr. Allen as being for sale, it was never listed as being for sale, noting that Mr. Allen was digging for straws because his Attorney made a mistake. He stated that Mr. Allen’s issue was with the Attorney who made the mistake, not him. Mr. Stanavage stated that he paid for the property and owned it before Mr. Allen closed on his property. He stated that Mr. Allen knew that he bought a house on a hill that was far away from 1764 Route 12. He stated because there was a mistake in the Deed when they transferred the property, which he had no part of; that Mr. Allen was fishing and was trying to get something for nothing. He stated the land was sold prior to Mr. Allen closing on his property, noting that the land was never listed, it never appeared in the Multiple Listing Services (MLS), stating that it never showed up anywhere. He stated the Attorney made a mistake on the Deed, and that Mr. Allen was trying to take advantage of that, noting that the issue was between Mr. Allen and his Attorney. He stated this issue had nothing to do with him, nothing to do with Mr. Noah Cardinal; and nothing to do with the transactions presented this evening. He stated that he wanted to clarify the statements that were made; and that he would answer questions.

Chairman Rodriguez stated that Mr. Stanavage bought the property located in front of the garage from the State, noting that it was the area on the Plan map that looked like a bow tie. Mr. Stanavage stated that was correct.



Chairman Rodriguez went on to note by Mr. Stanavage purchasing the property in front of the garage from the State that the non-conforming parcel has become a conforming parcel. Mr. Stanavage stated that was correct; and he explained that Mr. Cardinal, who was also present this evening, was also making his property conforming; plus the Town would be getting a snow belt and the right-of-way. Chairman Rodriguez stated that she previously served on the Planning & Zoning Commission, noting that she was familiar with reading the maps, noting that Ledyard had a number of non-conforming lots and therefore, she understands the purpose of these property transactions. Mr. Stanavage stated that area was a messy corner, explaining at one time a road came through, then the road was moved, noting that the State was cooperating because they also wanted to fix that corner as well.

Chairman Rodriguez asked if Mayor Allyn, had anything to add. Mayor Allyn stated he saw the maps when they came in; and that he knew that the south-westerly corner of the garage was actually on state land. He noted the bowtie on the map was the land that Mr. Stanavage would acquire making it a conforming lot.

Councilor Dombrowski questioned the date Mr. Stanavage purchased the property. Mr. Stanavage stated that he did not have that with him this evening. However, he stated that he purchased the property before Mr. Allen purchased his property. Councilor Dombrowski stated according to the Record of Sale on the Geographic Information System (GIS) Mr. Stanavage purchased the property in 2013. Mr. Stanavage stated that Mr. Allen bought a listing of a house on a hill noting that there was no garage shown, there was nothing in the picture, and nothing listed, noting that there was a mistake by the Attorney. He stated that Mr. Allen's grief was with the Attorney and that he needed to sue the Attorney.

Chairman Rodriguez thanked Mr. Stanavage for his comments.

Ms. Joanne Kelley, 12 Thamesview Pentway, Gales Ferry, stated that she has lived on the Thamesview Pentway for 45-years. She stated when she bought her home the Pentway was a dirt road and she was told that the road belonged to all the homeowners, noting that it was private, and equally owned by all of them. However, she stated somehow the Pentway now belonged to #7 Thamesview Pentway, which was a house that was recently built, noting that she does not know how that happened. She stated in attending a Planning & Zoning Commission meeting for another topic that she recently learned about the transactions that were being presented this evening. She stated in all the years she has lived on Thamesview Pentway they have never had a problem with the snow falling back into the road after it was plowed. She stated that it seemed strange that the Town would now have a right-of-way coming off Route 12, however, the rest of the road going up the hill and around the corner, which was where she lived, would still be privately owned. She stated that she did not know if this would impact people relative to real estate transactions. She stated this was very confusing noting that the map references the property that abuts her property, which was Item #4 on the Map, under Map References. She stated the property behind her house was surveyed in May, 1997, which was when they put their driveway in. She noted that she was recently doing spring clean-up around her property by the driveway she mentioned and noticed that someone had tied a new orange survey ribbon to her lilac bush, and the rebar marker disappeared. Therefore, she stated that she would like to know whether anything has been done as far as surveying up the street. She stated she was concerned about where the rebar marker may have gone, she also noted a mistake on the Plan Map under Survey Notes "*8C Volume Page and Right-of-Way in-favor of 1758 Thamesview Pentway*" She stated there was no such address. Mr. Ryan stated that *1758 Thamesview Pentway* his address, noting during the 1980's they changed his address to *1764 Route 12, Gales Ferry*. Ms. Kelley stated that she assumed it was a harmless mistake, noting that it did not mean anything. She stated she watched the Planning & Zoning Commission's April 11, 2024 meeting video today, noting at the end of the meeting former Planner Juliet Hodge commented: "*I know it looks crazy, hard to explain, not sure how it came to be, we are basically cleaning up a mess....Its adjacent to commercial property and it could be changed to commercial zoning to benefit of the person who owned the garage* (Mr. Stanavage). Ms. Kelley stated that this statement may explain some benefit that was going on here, that they were not being made aware of. Therefore, she stated that she wanted full transparency about what was going on with the property because she was concerned about her property rebar marker missing and the new surveyor ribbon tied to her lilac bush, stating that was not her property boundary line.

Chairman Rodriguez asked if Public Works Director/Town Engineer Steve Masalin, could respond to Ms. Kelley's concerns.

Public Works Director/Town Engineer Steve Masalin address Ms. Kelley's concerns as follows:

- **Ownership of the Thamesview Pentway** – Mr. Masalin stated that he would be happy to turn everything over to those who owned the road. Ms. Kelley stated the town should take ownership of the whole road, noting that they did a beautiful job on the Pentway. Mr. Masalin noted that earlier this evening he explained the purpose of Ordinance: #300-028 “Town of Ledyard Private Easements And Rights-of-Way Ordinance” that was adopted in 2018; to protect both parties interest, noting that both the town's obligations were defined and the obligations of those who lived on the Pentways were defined.
- **Construction of additional homes on the Pentway** – Mr. Masalin stated that building new homes was under the Planning & Zoning's jurisdiction. He stated homes have been built all the way up Thamesview Pentway, noting that probably every lot would have a home built on it. He stated #7 Thamesview Pentway, as Ms. Kelley mentioned, was the owner of record for most of the Pentway, explaining that somehow their parcel was a building lot with a tail going in two different directions, that occupied most of the Pentway. He stated at the top of the Pentway that Lots #9 & #11 would be built on shortly, explaining that Planning & Zoning controls that process.
- **Maintenance of Pentways** – Mr. Masalin stated the town would continue to maintain Thamesview Pentway along with the other six Pentways in town, equally for all those who live on the road. He stated Ordinance: #300-028 “Town of Ledyard Private Easements And Rights-of-Way Ordinance” addressed snowplowing and the need for a snow shelf. He stated the per the Ordinance the town claimed 10-feet on either side of the road; explaining that the easements that were being addressed this evening would formalize that in a way that was more defined. Therefore, he stated as Mayor Allyn, III, mentioned, the easements were for normal snowplowing. He stated although the area has not had a large snowstorm in a few years that with higher snowfall amounts that they would need more room on a narrow road such as Thamesview Pentway. He stated the snow would not be coming from anywhere else except the road.

Chairman Rodriguez again asked for anyone attending remotely, to please put their name and address in the “Chat”; and they would be called upon to speak.

Mr. Eric Treaster, 10 Huntington Way, Ledyard, questioned the following:

- (1) **Tax Implications** – Mr. Treaster asked whether the town would gain or lose any tax revenue. Mayor Allyn, III, stated the easement area that would be conveyed to the town was 0.0006 of an acre. Therefore, he stated the tax implication was less than negligible.
- (2) **Title Search**- Mr. Treaster questioned whether the town conducted a Title Search to make sure the title was clear. Mr. Stanavage stated CLA Engineers, who was the same Engineering Firm the Town uses, conducted the Title Search before the Plan was drafted. He stated that a Title Search was done for both the Town's Plan and his Plan.

Mr. Ryan Allen, 1764 Route 12, Gales Ferry, addressed Mr. Stanavage's comment that the property was not listed, noting that the property was listed on the Multiple Listing Service (MLS) and that it described an extra parcel with the property. He stated the only extra parcel was that parcel, noting that it just happened to be that parcel was 1756 & 1764 Route 12. He stated although it was listed on the MLS that it was hard to see it, noting that because it was a Quit Claim Deed that they did not have to disclose that. He stated the only additional parcel besides 1754 was that parcel that was adjacent to his house which had both 1756 & 1764, stating that it was two tracts of land not one.

Mr. Daniel Stanavage, 33 Chapman Lane, Mystic, owner of 1764 Route 12, Gales Ferry, stated that he wanted to provide clarification regarding Mr. Allen's comments. He stated that Mr. Allen had two lots on the hill, the one that his house was on and the one that was next to it. He suggested Mr. Allen look at the Map and he noted that he would see that there were two lots. He stated Mr. Allen's house and the lot next to it was listed; stating that it had nothing to do with his garage, and nothing to do with anything at the bottom of the hill. He stated the Listing stated a house with an additional parcel and that was

exactly what Mr. Allen had. He stated he was very familiar with Mr. Allen's property, noting that he was going to buy that property, which had a house with an additional lot next to it.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Rodriguez noted that no one was signed up in the Zoom "Chat". She stated hearing no further public comment, that the Public Hearing was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Chairman Rodriguez stated that they would move to the Special Town Meeting that was scheduled to follow tonight's Public Hearing, at which residents would have the opportunity to vote on the proposed conveyance of easements to the town.

Transcribed by Roxanne M. Maher
Administrative Assistant to the Town Council

I, S. Naomi Rodriguez, Chairman of the Ledyard Town Council, hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Public Hearing held on May 8, 2024.

Attest: _____
S. Naomi Rodriguez, Chairman



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard
Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

File #: 24-0409

Agenda Date: 5/22/2024

Agenda #:

AGENDA ITEM
CORRESPONDENCE

Subject:

Communications List - May 22, 2024

Correspondence List:

(type text here)

COMMUNICATIONS LISTING FOR MAY 22, 2024

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE

1. Appointment Application Ribe dated 4/25/2025 re: Planning & Zoning Commission
2. Ms. Hellekson-Maher email thread dated 4/25/2025 re: Public Hearing Video
3. WPCA Action Ltr dated 4/25/2024 re: Action Ltr – WPCA Mtg 4/23/2024
4. Mr. Irwin-Garcia-Irizarry email thread dated 4/25/2024 re: Proposed Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget Increase
5. Mr. Treaster email dated 4/25/2024 re: Multi-Family Dwellings – Zoning Regulations
6. Ms. Graham ltr dated 5/01/2024 re: Fisheries
7. Ms. Graham ltr dated 5/01/2024 re: Termination Planning Director
8. Mr. Allen-Rodriguez email thread dated 5/6/2024 re: Sp. Town Meeting 5/8/2024- Thamesview Pentway Easements
9. Mayor ltr dated 4/25/2025 re: Planning Director Hodge Employment Status
10. Mayor email dated 5/6/2024 re: Director of Planning & Land Use Burdick
11. Mayor ltr dated 5/6/2024 re: Out of State May 12 – 17, 2024
12. Congressman Courtney Office e-mail dated 5/17/2024 re: Ledyard's *COPS Law Enforcement Technology and Equipment Grant* for Dispatch CAD Equipment submitted to Appropriations Committee

OUT GOING CORRESPONDENCE

1. Admin Asst ltr to Mayor dated 4/25/2024 re: Action ltr. Town Council Regular Meeting of April 24, 2024.
2. Admin Asst ltr to Town Clerk dated 4/25/2024 re: Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget & Annual Town Meeting
3. Admin Asst email dated 5/21/2024 re: Annual Town Meeting Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget Video
4. Admin Asst ltr dated 5/22/2024 to Parks, Recreation & Senior Citizens Commission re: Request reappointment Endorsement
5. Admin Asst ltr dated 5/22/2024 to Board of Assessment Appeals re: Request reappointment Endorsement
6. Admin Asst ltr dated 5/22/2024 to RTC re: Request RTC Reappointment Endorsement
7. Board of Assessment Appeals

NOTICE OF AGENDAS

1. Permanent Municipal Building Cmt Agenda 5/6/2024
2. Housing Authority Agenda 5/6/2024
3. Ledyard Beautification Cmt Agenda 5/7/2024
4. Economic Development Commission Agenda 5/7/2024 - Cancelled
5. Inland Wetland & Water Courses Commission Agenda 5/7/2024 Cancelled
6. Farmers Market Committee Agenda 5/1/2024 – Cancelled
7. Farmers Market Committee Sp. Agenda 5/15/2024
8. Planning & Zoning Commission Agenda 5/09/2024
9. Conservation Commission Agenda 5/14/2024
10. Retirement Board Agenda 5/21/2024 - Cancelled
11. Parks, Recreation & Senior Citizens Agenda 5/21/2024
12. Agricultural Commission Agenda 5/21/2024 Cancelled

13. Historic District Commission Agenda 5/20/2024
14. Library Commission Agenda 5/20//2024
15. Zoning Board of Appeals Agenda 5/15/2024 – Cancelled
16. LUPPW Cmt Agenda 5/6/2024
17. Finance Cmt Agenda 5/1/2024- Cancelled
18. Finance Cmt Agenda 5/15/2024
19. Community Relations Cmt Agenda 5/15/2024 - Cancelled
20. Admin Cmt Agenda 5/8/2024
21. Town Council Agenda 5/8/2024- Cancelled
22. Public Hearing Agenda 5/8/2024
23. Sp. Town Meeting 5/8/2024
24. Town Council Agenda 5/22/2024

MINUTES

1. Permanent Municipal Building Cmt Minutes 4/1/2024
2. Housing Authority Minutes 4/1/2024
3. Ledyard Beautification Cmt Minutes 3/5/2024
4. Farmers Market Committee Minutes 4/3/2024
5. Planning & Zoning Commission Minutes 4/11/2024
6. Conservation Commission Minutes 4/9/2024
7. Finance Cmt Minutes 4/17/2024
8. LUPPW Cmt Minutes 4/1/2024
9. Admin Cmt Minutes 3/13/2024
10. Parks, Recreation & Senior Citizens Minutes 4/16/2024
11. Historic District Commission Minutes 4/15/2024
12. Water Pollution Control Authority Minutes 4/23/2024
13. Library Commission Minutes 4/15/2024
14. Community Relations Cmt Minutes 4/17/2024
15. Town Council Minutes 4/24/2024
16. Public Hearing Minutes 4/24/2024

REFERRALS

None.

Application Form**Profile**

Beth _____ E _____ Ribe _____
 First Name Middle Initial Last Name

beth_ribe@live.com _____
 Email Address

129 Rose Hill Rd _____
 Home Address Suite or Apt

Ledyard _____ CT _____ 06339 _____
 City State Postal Code

Home: (860) 449-4502 _____ Home: (860) 449-4502 _____
 Primary Phone Alternate Phone

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Planning & Zoning Commission: Submitted

Education & Experiences

Please tell us about yourself and why you want to serve.

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

I enjoy serving on the IWWC which I've had the pleasure to serve on for the past several years, and hope to continue to serve. I particularly enjoy participating to insure the visions of the development, sustainability and the legacy of this town and its members.

Community Involvement

Currently serve on the IWWC. I am a Board Member and Fundraiser Coordinator the Ledyard Soccer Club. Most recently was on the Committee to Review the Budget Process.

Educational Background

DeVry Univ - Business Admin/Project Mgt 2009 Cony High School 1990 - Augusta ME

Rexel/Capitol Light _____ PROJ MGR _____
 Employer Job Title

[Beth_E_Ribe_2024.docx](#) _____
 Upload a Resume

Party Affiliation

Party Affiliation *

Independent

Disclaimer & FOIA Information

Your attendance and active participation is important for the Committee to conduct its business. Any member of a Committee/Commission/Board who is absent from three (3) consecutive regular meetings and any intervening duly called special meetings shall be considered to have resigned from the Committee and the vacancy shall be filled, except that the Committee may vote to waive attendance requirements in each case where illness or other extenuating circumstances make it impossible for a member to meet the attendance requirements. It shall be the responsibility of the Chairman of the Committee to notify the Town Council or Mayor's office when a member has not properly performed his/her duties.

Please Agree with the Following Statement

If selected as a board member, I understand that information on this application is subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and may be disclosed to anyone requesting this information.

I Agree

Signature (type full name below)

Beth E Ribe

Roxanne Maher

From: Whit Irwin <whitirwin6@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2024 6:32 AM
To: Carmen Garcia Irizarry
Cc: Town Council Group
Subject: Re: 240423 Ltr to the TC

Some people who received this message don't often get email from whitirwin6@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Thank you Councilor. I appreciate the information. I shall review it at my earliest opportunity.

Respectfully,

Whit Irwin
Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 24, 2024, at 22:35, Carmen Garcia Irizarry <CGIri@ledyardct.org> wrote:

Hi Mr. Irwin,

Thank you for coming to the Town Council meeting tonight and speaking. Here are the links to the spreadsheet that I was talking about at the meeting and also the superintendent's presentation. Please let me know if you have any questions.

FY25 Budget -
adjustments
made by BOE
02.06.2024.pdf
drive.google.com

[<drive_2020q4_32dp.png>](#)

https://drive.google.com/file/d/11C71Ky6BvpriiSooLjN2h6Kz1i_Ko6r9/view

Thanks,
Carmen N. Garcia-Irizarry
Sent from my iPad

On Apr 24, 2024, at 10:03 AM, Naomi Rodriguez <NaomiR@ledyardct.org> wrote:

Good Morning Mr. Irwin,

I have received and read your letter in its entirety. Thank you for your letter, the Town Council appreciates input from Ledyard residents. I am grateful

and most appreciative of you taking the time to attend the budget public hearing and appreciate your input and perspective.
Thank you again.

Respectfully,

Naomi Rodriguez, Chairman
Ledyard Town Council

From: Whit Irwin <whitirwin6@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 10:26 AM
To: Town Council Group <TownCouncil@ledyardct.org>
Subject: 240423 Ltr to the TC

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from whitirwin6@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Councilors -

I was disappointed and shocked at the Town Hall Budget Meeting last week: disappointed that your additions to the Mayor's budget proposal were not more clearly explained to the townspeople, and shocked at the Chair's public dismissive treatment of a fellow Councilor during the Hearing.

The question lingers still, what was so compelling as to raise taxes further than the Mayor's proposal? The town deserves to know if they are going to approve a \$67M budget in which the Council continues to hike overall budget expenditures by another 0.5% on what is already a 4% increase.

Whit Irwin
Sent from my iPhone

Roxanne Maher

From: Carmen Garcia Irizarry
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 10:35 PM
To: Whit Irwin
Cc: Town Council Group; Roxanne Maher
Subject: Re: 240423 Ltr to the TC

Hi Mr. Irwin,

Thank you for coming to the Town Council meeting tonight and speaking. Here are the links to the spreadsheet that I was talking about at the meeting and also the superintendent's presentation. Please let me know if you have any questions.

FY25 Budget - adjustments made by
BOE 02.06.2024.pdf
drive.google.com



https://drive.google.com/file/d/11C71Ky6BvpriiSooLjN2h6Kz1i_Ko6r9/view

Thanks,
Carmen N. Garcia-Irizarry
Sent from my iPad

On Apr 24, 2024, at 10:03 AM, Naomi Rodriguez <NaomiR@ledyardct.org> wrote:

Good Morning Mr. Irwin,

I have received and read your letter in its entirety. Thank you for your letter, the Town Council appreciates input from Ledyard residents. I am grateful and most appreciative of you taking the time to attend the budget public hearing and appreciate your input and perspective.

Thank you again.

Respectfully,

Naomi Rodriguez, Chairman
Ledyard Town Council

From: Whit Irwin <whitirwin6@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 10:26 AM
To: Town Council Group <TownCouncil@ledyardct.org>
Subject: 240423 Ltr to the TC

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from whitirwin6@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Councilors -

I was disappointed and shocked at the Town Hall Budget Meeting last week: disappointed that your additions to the Mayor's budget proposal were not more clearly explained to the townspeople, and shocked at the Chair's public dismissive treatment of a fellow Councilor during the Hearing.

The question lingers still, what was so compelling as to raise taxes further than the Mayor's proposal? The town deserves to know if they are going to approve a \$67M budget in which the Council continues to hike overall budget expenditures by another 0.5% on what is already a 4% increase.

Whit Irwin
Sent from my iPhone

Roxanne Maher

From: Roxanne Maher
Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2024 9:30 AM
To: whellekson.dtc@gmail.com
Cc: Town Council Group; Roxanne Maher
Subject: Monday's Meeting- Zoom Recording - April 15, 2024 Public Hearing

Good Morning Ms. Hellekson:

I saw your Zoom chat last evening during the Town Council's meeting, noting that you had not received my April 17, 2024, so I was just getting ready to forward the email it to you, when I saw your message below.

Please do not hesitate to contact me If you have any questions; or I can be of any assistance in the future.

Roxanne

From: Wendy Hellekson <whellekson.dtc@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 8:08 PM
To: Roxanne Maher <council@ledyardct.org>
Subject: Re: Monday's Meeting- Zoom Recording - April 15, 2024 Public Hearing

Roxanne,

I owe you an apology and I certainly was admonished by the entire DTC. I sent the letter without thinking or and I can say that I am sorry and that is all I can say. I was wrong to suggest the tape was edited. You are so valued by everyone, on both sides. I hear what people say and they are so grateful for all that you do for Ledyard. You really are so important to the function of this town.

I hope that this night finds you well and you try a little Starbucks.

Wendy Hellekson

On Wed, Apr 17, 2024 at 12:04 PM Roxanne Maher <council@ledyardct.org> wrote:

Good Morning Ms. Hellekson:

Thank you for your email regarding your concerns about the audio for the April 15, 2024 Public Hearing Video on the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget.

As the Administrative Assistant who supports the Town Council, I am the person who uploads the videos to the Meeting Portal.

The Videos are not edited, and are uploaded and published on the Meeting Portal as they are recorded by the Zoom System.

The video on Zoom Site was 57.40 minutes and the video on the town's meeting portal is 57.40 minutes.

It's my understanding that the Zoom default settings are designed to suppress background noise, cancel out loud noises, and a lot of people talking at one time, to provide for an audible video.

You are welcome to stop by the Town Council and Watch the Video provided by the Zoom System.

Please feel free to contact me if I can be of any further assistance.

Thank you,
Roxanne

Roxanne M. Maher

Administrative Assistant to
the Ledyard Town Council
(860) 464-3203
council@ledyardct.org

Town Hall Hours:
Monday – Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.
CLOSED FRIDAYS

-----Original Message-----

From: Wendy <whelleks@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 7:24 AM

To: Town Council Group <TownCouncil@ledyardct.org>

Cc: April Brunelle <ABru@ledyardct.org>; Jessica Buhle <Jbuh@ledyardct.org>; Carmen Garcia Irizarry <CGIri@ledyardct.org>; Kevin J. Dombrowski <KJDom@ledyardct.org>; Gary Paul <gpaul@ledyardct.org>; Tony Saccone <tsac@ledyardct.org>; Gary St. Vil <GSVil@ledyardct.org>; Naomi Rodriguez <NaomiR@ledyardct.org>; Timothy Ryan <tryan@ledyardct.org>

Subject: Monday's Meeting

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from whelleks@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Town Council Members,

After reviewing the video from Monday night's budget meeting, in which I was attendance, there seems to be three minutes of the meeting missing. Those three minutes of the meeting are specifically when counsel member Ryan became upset and made very angry and hostile comments toward another

member.

I was wondering why that was done and what remedy there is for it? It is very important for the functions of government to be completely transparent the good the bad and the ugly. The citizens trust that video recordings of meetings are full and accurate. I am of course now wondering how many other videos have been edited and what other things have been removed in order to create a sense of unity and decorum when there is none?

I'm going to ask the council provider remedy for this and put up the entirety of the minutes from this Monday meeting. The government cannot function properly if the citizens that are supposed to be to be part of that endeavor are not given information regarding things that happen. I would like a response as remedies the Town Counsel and the Town Clerk will be taking in order for this not to happen again. It is incumbent upon the town to report meetings in their entirety without bias.

Please let me know how this will be remedied,

Wendy Hellekson
14L Lakeside Drive

Sent from my iPad



TOWN OF LEDYARD
CONNECTICUT
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

Chairman Ed Lynch

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339-1551
(860) 464-3220
E-Mail Address:
wpcaledyard@ledyardct.org

April 25, 2024

Mayor Fred B. Allyn, III
741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Dear Mayor Allyn:

At its Regular Meeting held on April 23, 2024, the WPCA took the following actions. Please feel free to contact Chairman Lynch should you have any questions regarding this meeting.

- Approved a recommendation for the Town Council approval of a five percent water rate increase effective July 1, 2024, as recommended and contained in the water and sewer rate table attached to the WPCA legal notice dated April 11, 2024, in accordance with Ordinance #400-001 "An Ordinance Establishing a Water Pollution Control Authority".

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Hostetler
Town Hall Assistant

cc: Mayor
Director of Finance
Treasurer/Assistant Director of Finance
Town Council

Roxanne Maher

From: Roxanne Maher
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2024 2:24 PM
To: Town Council Group
Cc: Eric; Roxanne Maher
Subject: FW: A Policy Question for the Town Council Regarding the Development of Ledyard Center and Gales Ferry
Attachments: West of Super 8 Motel #4.JPG; West of Super 8 Motel #3.JPG; West of Super 8 Motel #2.JPG; West of Super 8 Motel #1.JPG; Howard St - New London #2.JPG; Howard St - New London #1.JPG

Tracking:	Recipient	Read
	Town Council Group	
	Eric	
	Roxanne Maher	
	Jessica Buhle	Read: 4/29/2024 2:49 PM
	Naomi Rodriguez	Read: 4/29/2024 2:56 PM
	Gary Paul	Read: 4/29/2024 3:28 PM
	Timothy Ryan	Read: 4/29/2024 4:58 PM
	Carmen Garcia Irizarry	Read: 4/29/2024 6:34 PM
	Tony Saccone	Read: 4/29/2024 7:38 PM
	April Brunelle	Read: 4/30/2024 7:48 AM

Roxanne M. Maher



*Administrative Assistant to
the Ledyard Town Council
(860) 464-3203
council@ledyardct.org*

Town Hall Hours:
Monday – Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.
CLOSED FRIDAYS

From: Eric <bsaofnl-eric@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2024 1:24 PM

To: Roxanne Maher <council@ledyardct.org>

Subject: A Policy Question for the Town Council Regarding the Development of Ledyard Center and Gales Ferry

Roxanne - Please forward this email and its attachments to Chairman Rodriquez and Members of the Council.

It is intended to be added to the council's "correspondence" file.

Thanks,

Eric

Chairman Rodriquez,
Members of the Ledyard Town Council

Like many residents, I favor retaining Ledyard's ambiance and character, which make it unique. However, I fear the town is at risk of losing some of that ambiance and character, especially in Ledyard Center.

The zoning regulations that allow multifamily buildings in Ledyard Center and Gales Ferry were suggested two to three years ago by a land developer and subsequently adopted by the Planning and Zoning Commission. The regulations permit six-story (65') multifamily buildings in Ledyard Center and Gales Ferry [or 3.5 stories (45') in residential districts], where density is established by the health code, primarily by the availability of public water and sewer.

The regulations do not specify a minimum size of a dwelling unit, which could be as tiny as 150' or less, which is allowed by the building code. For practical purposes, if water and sewer are available, the existing regulations impose no limits on the number of units permitted in an apartment complex.

(The prior regulations limited multifamily developments in Ledyard Center and Gales Ferry to three stories (35'), with density limited to one unit per 7,500' of lot area. They also required a minimum of 550' for one-bedroom and 750' for two-bedroom units.)

If water and sewer are available, the regulations currently allow multi-hundred-unit apartment complexes, similar to the new complexes on Howard Street in New London and the new development under construction off of Pleasant Valley Road South near Rt. 12 in Groton, just west of the Super 8 motel. (See attached photos.)

Ledyard Center will soon have a public sewer system, which means that if not amended, the developer who proposed the existing regulations, or any other developer, will be able to construct one or more massive apartment complexes that, in my opinion, will be detrimental to the "character" of our town.

But I could be wrong. The majority of residents may believe that large apartment complexes are "the future" and should be encouraged in the name of providing "affordable housing" and additional tax revenue.

Perhaps the Council could address this question by adding the following *non-binding* "Sense of the Public" question to the November 5 ballot.

Alternatively, the question could be added to the town's website as part of a "*Resident Satisfaction Survey*," similar to the typical survey questions from merchants seeking feedback on how well they treat their clients and customers. For example:

Regarding the density, size, and height of new multifamily developments in Ledyard Center and Gales Ferry, please choose one of the following:

A. Should the Planning and Zoning Commission retain its regulations allowing the density of multifamily developments to be primarily determined by height (65' or six stories), available water, and available sewer capacity?

OR:

B. Should the Planning and Zoning Commission amend its regulations to limit the density of multifamily developments by imposing a limit on the (a) number of bedrooms per acre, (b) number of dwelling units per building, (c) minimum size of dwelling units, and (d) height of the structure (35' or three stories)?

Perhaps the Council could discuss this as an agenda item.

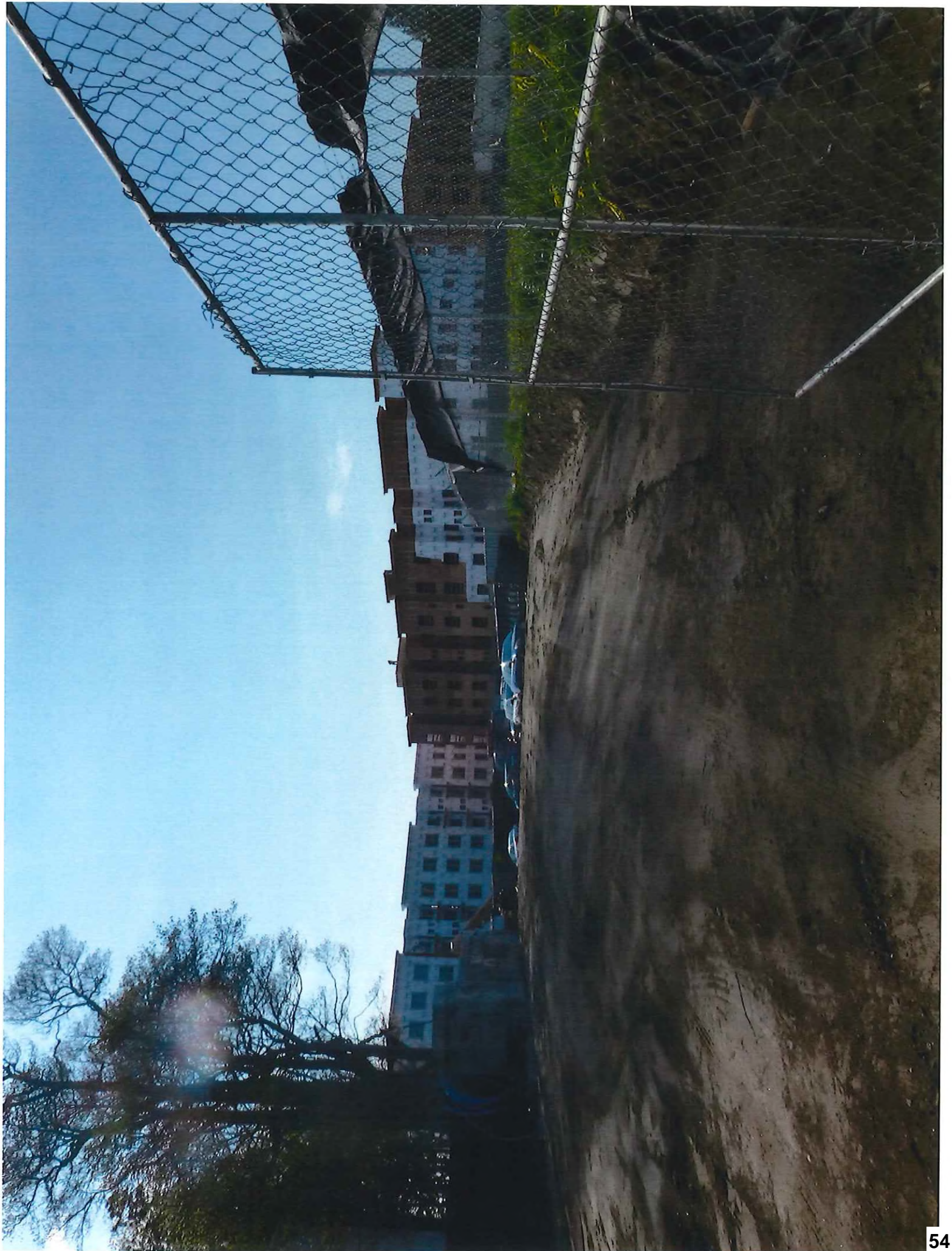
Having the above question on the ballot or the town's website would do no harm and would be helpful in providing guidance to the Planning and Zoning Commission in guiding the development of our town.

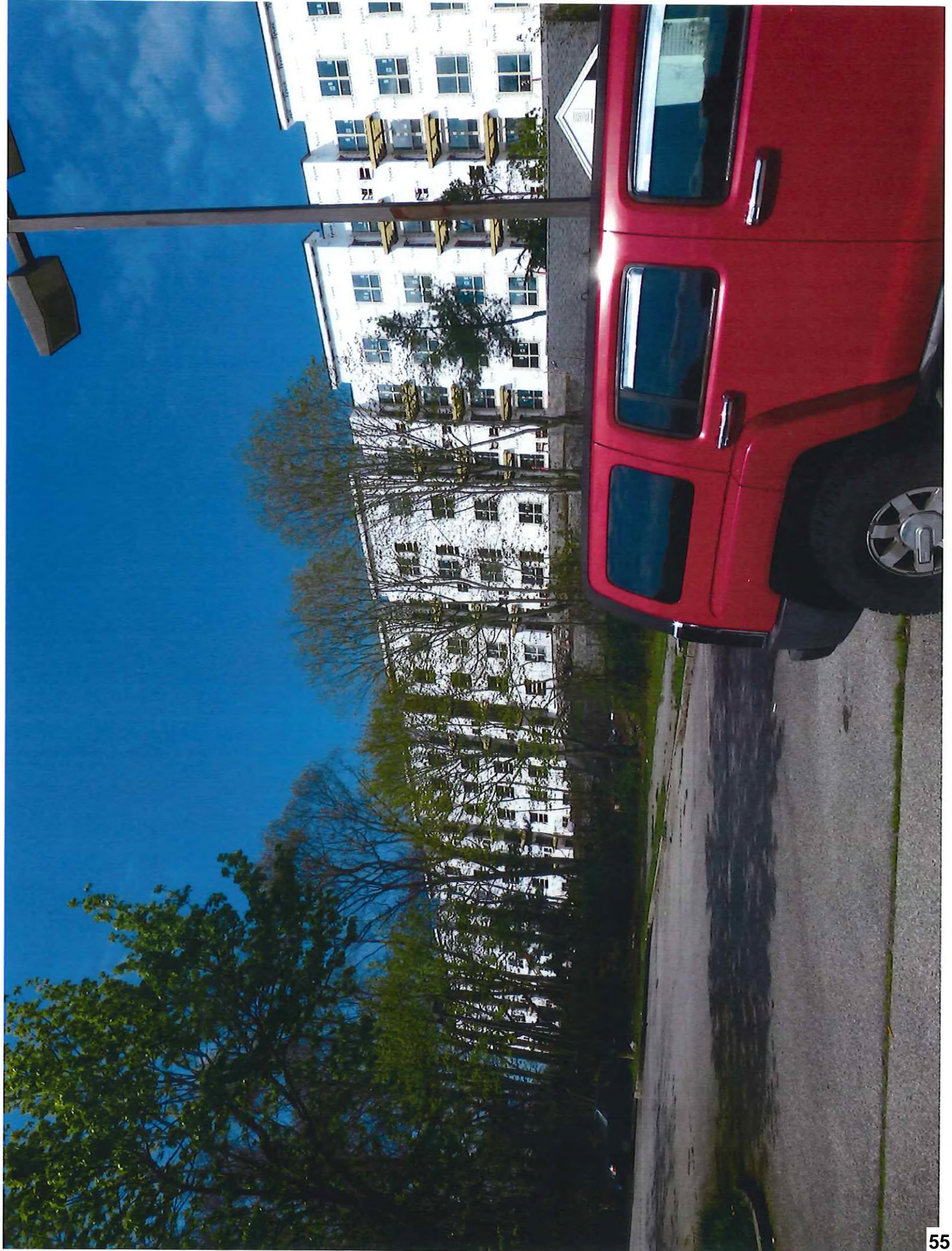
Please let me know your thoughts and if I can help.

Respectfully,

Eric Treaster















Lantern Hill Valley Association, Inc

% Betsy Graham, Secretary
72A Long Pond Rd S, Ledyard, CT 06339
860-608-5620; TheLHVA@gmail.com

24 April 2024

Ms. Cate O'Keefe, PhD, Executive Director,
New England Fishery Management Council,
50 Water Street, Mill #2,
Newburyport, MA 01950;
email to: comments@nefmc.org.

“Atlantic Herring Amendment 10 Scoping Comments.”

After much time, expense and effort to clean up our rivers and streams, remove dams, and build fishways, it seems counterintuitive to allow the decimation of the potential spawning population before they can avail themselves of these benefits.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert G. Graham'.

Robert G. Graham
Treasurer, Lantern Hill Valley Association
72A Long Pond Rd S
Ledyard, CT 06339

May 1, 2024

Mayor Fred Allyn III,

Naomi Rodriguez, Chairman of Ledyard Town Council

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway

Ledyard, CT 06339

Dear Mayor Allyn, Chairman Naomi Rodriguez, and members of the Ledyard Town Council,

We were surprised and deeply concerned when we learned of Ms. Hodge's sudden departure. Her abrupt firing without a replacement has left our town without a knowledgeable and courageous advocate who would prioritize the welfare of Ledyard's citizens over the interests of developers. The loss of Ms. Hodge's guidance could lead to a decline in protecting our inland wetlands and watercourses.

The lack of a suitable replacement immediately in place is a pressing issue. The new town planner must be someone who can effectively shoulder the position's responsibilities and demonstrate the same expertise and commitment as Ms. Hodge. Without a new hire, Ledyard's development progress risks stagnation and dangerous exposure to environmentally harmful practices.

As we understand it, a town planner's primary role is to guide development that benefits the town's residents and businesses while preserving the surrounding area. Ms. Hodge, in her capacity as a town planner, fearlessly confronted developers and lawyers representing large corporations, a quality that may have made her unpopular with the town's financial advisors. She was a staunch advocate for her role in governing the development of Ledyard, ensuring residents had pleasant spaces for their homes, recreation, and work.

Ms. Hodge had high expectations for herself and her staff's work ethic. She pushed for improvement in record keeping and strove to enhance the efficiency of the legal system to deal effectively with clear violations. She advocated better protection and concern for resources, particularly wetlands and waterbodies, as they are irreplaceable once lost to development or impairment. Ms. Hodge was dedicated to working and guiding our various town commissions, which monthly reviewed and made decisions on proposed projects being presented to the town.

Ms. Hodge also actively participated in the Alliance for the Mystic River Watershed, representing the interests of the Town of Ledyard. Here, she learned about innovative climate resiliency building and development techniques that could significantly benefit our town.

Without a Town Planner advocating for our town's welfare, our town is vulnerable and at risk. Our town is already dealing with developers who aim to maximize their profits and exploit the situation by purchasing less expensive wetlands and watershed lands for high-density development. These developers are not concerned about the consequences of their actions, which could lead to increased flooding of properties, well contaminations, and septic failures with groundwater/aquifer contaminations. Unfortunately, these events will burden the residents and town citizens, as the developers bear no responsibility, and the town will have to provide sewers and community wells to manage sewage and clean water.

Ledyard is currently threatened by proposed developments that could have severe consequences for the environment and the well-being of some of its residents. These developments may also adversely impact our neighboring communities.

Mayor Allyn, we strongly urge you to work with the Ledyard Town Council to hire a replacement with a proven track record in guiding environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient development. This is not just a beneficial move but a necessary one for the welfare of all Ledyard residents.

We appreciate your consideration of our concerns and hope you will promptly find a replacement with similar guiding principles. We eagerly look forward to hearing about a new town planner.

With regards,



Bob and Betsy Graham

72A Long Pond Rd S

Ledyard, CT 06339

860-608-5620

Cc: Naomi Rodriguez, Chairman; naomir@ledyardct.org

April Brunelle; abru@ledyardct.org

Jessica Buhle; jbuh@ledyardct.org

Carmen Garcia-Irizarry; cgiri@ledyardct.org

Kevin Dombrowski; kjdom@ledyardct.org

Gary Paul; gpaul@ledyardct.org

Tony Saccone; tsac@ledyardct.org

Gary St. Vil; gsvil@ledyardct.org

Timothy Ryan; tryan@ledyardct.org

Roxanne Maher

From: Naomi Rodriguez
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2024 9:17 AM
To: Ryan; Town Council Group
Subject: Re: NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING - MAY 8, 2024

Good Morning Mr. Allen,

I am in receipt of your letter and the Town Council looks forward to your comments at the upcoming May 8th Public Hearing.

Respectfully,

Naomi Rodriguez, Chairman
Ledyard Town Council

From: Ryan <ryn519@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 5, 2024 10:42 AM
To: Town Council Group <TownCouncil@ledyardct.org>
Subject: NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING - MAY 8, 2024

Some people who received this message don't often get email from ryn519@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello, my name is Ryan Allen. I live at 1754 route 12 in Gales Ferry. I will be in attendance for this meeting and would like to discuss the tract of land known as 1764 route 12.



TOWN OF LEDYARD CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Fred B. Allyn III
Mayor

Kristen Chapman
Executive Assistant

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339-1551
PH (860) 464-3222
FAX (860) 464-1126

Date: May 6, 2024

To: Naomi Rodriguez, Ledyard Town Council Chairman
Chief John Rich
Chief Dispatcher, Paula Smith

Subject: Mayor out of State

This memo is to notify you that I will be out of the state beginning on the evening of Sunday, May 12, 2024 and returning to CT the morning of Friday May 17, 2024.

In accordance with the Town of Ledyard Charter, Chapter III, Section 2 the Town Council Chairman shall be the Acting Mayor. Contact Chairman Rodriguez at (860) 910-9918 or Naomir@Ledyardct.org

I will have cellular and email communications during this time.

Sincerely,

Fred B. Allyn III
Mayor



TOWN OF LEDYARD CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Fred B. Allyn III
Mayor

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339-1551
(860) 464-3222
FAX (860) 464-1126

Kristen Chapman
Executive Assistant to the Mayor

April 25, 2024

Juliet Hodge
622 Pendleton Hill Rd.
Voluntown, CT 06384

Dear Juliet:

This letter is to confirm that your employment with the Town of Ledyard is terminated effective April 25, 2024.

Your appointment is being ended and this notice provided, in accordance with Chapter VI, Section 6 and Chapter V, Section 3 of the Town Charter. You may view a copy of the Town Charter on the Town's web site at: www.ledyardct.org.

Four weeks of severance pay is being offered in exchange for signing and returning the attached release of claims to my office no later than May 16, 2024. If you choose not to sign the attached release of claims, please inform me of this decision in writing.

Your final paycheck for hours worked will be paid on the first regularly scheduled payday following your last day of work.

Your health insurance benefits will continue through June 30, 2024. Your rights to continue coverage under COBRA will be provided to you by mail from our plan administrator.

At this time, please prepare to return any Town issued equipment including but not limited to keys, cell phone, and laptop no later than April 29, 2024.

We appreciate your contributions to the Town and wish you well in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Frederic B. Allyn, III
Mayor

CC: Human Resources

Roxanne Maher

From: Fred Allyn, III
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2024 4:11 PM
To: Town Council Group
Cc: Roxanne Maher
Subject: New Director of Land Use and Planning

Good afternoon all,

I wanted to make you aware that we have a new Director of Land Use and Planning. Liz Burdick, who served in this role in Ledyard some years ago has returned. Liz is highly competent and has hit the ground running once again.

Her intent is to attend the 5/22 Town Council meeting to have a formal introduction to all Councilors.

Best,

Fred

Fred B. Allyn III



Mayor, Town of Ledyard, CT
741 Colonel Ledyard Hwy.
Ledyard, CT 06339
Tel (860) 464-3221
www.ledyardct.org

NOTICE* Effective June 11, 2018
Town Hall hours are 7:30AM-4:45PM Mon-Thurs
CLOSED FRIDAYS

Roxanne Maher

From: Roxanne Maher
Sent: Monday, May 20, 2024 6:50 AM
To: Town Council Group
Cc: Roxanne Maher
Subject: FW: FY2025 Community Project Funding for Ledyard Police and Fire Department

Roxanne M. Maher



*Administrative Assistant to
the Ledyard Town Council
(860) 464-3203
council@ledyardct.org*

Town Hall Hours:
Monday – Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.
CLOSED FRIDAYS

From: Naomi Rodriguez <NaomiR@ledyardct.org>
Sent: Monday, May 20, 2024 4:09 AM
To: Roxanne Maher <council@ledyardct.org>
Subject: Fw: FY2025 Community Project Funding for Ledyard Police and Fire Department

Hi Roxanne,

Please forward to Town Council members.

Thank you,

Naomi

From: John Rich <chief.rich@ledyardct.org>
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2024 8:42 PM
To: Meghan O’Sullivan Ruvinsky <Meghan.Ruvinsky@mail.house.gov>
Cc: Jessica Buhle <jbuh@ledyardct.org>; Fred Allyn, III <mayor@ledyardct.org>; Naomi Rodriguez <NaomiR@ledyardct.org>
Subject: Re: FY2025 Community Project Funding for Ledyard Police and Fire Department

Thank you Meghan!

That's GREAT news! Please keep us posted.

Chief John Rich

Sent from my iPhone

On May 17, 2024, at 3:51 PM, Meghan O'Sullivan Ruvinsky
<Meghan.Ruvinsky@mail.house.gov> wrote:

You don't often get email from meghan.ruvinsky@mail.house.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Chief Rich,

Thank you for your excellent application to Congressman Courtney's office for \$229,000 to the Town of Ledyard for *Ledyard Police and Fire Department Dispatch System Replacement*.

Rep. Courtney received dozens of applications, and yours stood out due to its community impact, the quality of the application, and community support. We are happy to inform you that Congressman Courtney selected your project for submission to the Appropriations Committee. Your project will now be vetted and considered by the Appropriations Committee for inclusion in final Fiscal Year 2025 appropriations legislation.

Importantly, the submission of this project by Congressman Courtney to the Appropriations Committee **does NOT** guarantee funding. First, the Appropriations Committee is carefully considering each project. Additionally, Congress must pass legislation that would include this project and the President must sign the bill into law before you can begin the process of acquiring funds. Lastly, each federal agency with jurisdiction over the project will have their own set of requirements that you must follow if Congress provides the funding for this project. Those agency requirements must be met before you could potentially receive the award.

Throughout all of these steps, we will keep you posted on the progress of your project. Please do not hesitate to contact our office should you have any questions moving forward. Congratulations on the first step in this important process!

Sincerely,

Meghan

Meghan O'Sullivan Ruvinsky
Legislative Director
Congressman Joe Courtney (CT-02)
2449 Rayburn House Office Building
O: 202-225-2076 | C: 202-309-2938

Roxanne Maher

From: Roxanne Maher
Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 12:37 PM
To: Town Council Group; Fred Allyn, III
Cc: Roxanne Maher; Justin Dube; Patricia A. Riley
Subject: Annual Town Meeting - Fiscal Year 2024/2025 - May 20, 2024 Recording

Hello Councilors:

I wanted to let you know there was a technical issue with the recording for last night's Annual Town Meeting regarding Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget.

Unfortunately, we do not have a Video.

However, we do have the Audio; which has been uploaded to the Meeting Portal.

I have noted on the Meeting Portal that **Only the Audio** was available to make All aware.

The link to the Meeting Audio is below:

https://ledyardct.granicus.com/player/clip/935?view_id=1&redirect=true

Please do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions.

Thank you,
Roxanne

Roxanne M. Maher



*Administrative Assistant to
the Ledyard Town Council
(860) 464-3203
council@ledyardct.org*

Town Hall Hours:

Monday - Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

CLOSED FRIDAYS



TOWN OF LEDYARD CONNECTICUT TOWN COUNCIL

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339-1551
(860) 464-3203
E-Mail Address:
council@ledyardct.org

Chairman S. Naomi Rodriguez

May 22, 2024

Mr. Kenneth J. DiRico, Chairman
Parks, Recreation & Senior Citizens Commission
8 Melanie Lane
Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06335

Dear Mr. DiRico:

A Member of the Parks, Recreation & Senior Citizens Commission is due for re-appointment as listed below. The Administration Committee of the Town Council would like your recommendations.

Please complete the shaded areas of each Commission members block and kindly return to the Town Council Office at council@ledyardct.org.

Parks, Recreation & Senior Citizens Commission					3 Year Term
Member's Name	Party Affiliation	Term Expiration	Commission Recommendation	Town Committee Endorsement	Attendance
Ms. Loretta Kent 1363 Baldwin Hill Road Gales Ferry, CT 06335	D	6/28/2024	Y N	Y N	{ } Excellent { } Good { } Fair { } Poor

Committee Comments:

Your assistance is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your attention regarding this request.

Sincerely,
Roxanne M. Maher

Roxanne M. Maher
Administrative Assistant



TOWN OF LEDYARD CONNECTICUT

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339-1551
(860) 464-3200

Chairman S. Naomi Rodriguez

May 22, 2024

Ms. Sharon Pealer, Chairman
Republican Town Committee
48 Highlands Drive
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Dear Ms. Pealer:

A member of the Board of Assessment Appeals is due for re-appointment as listed below. The Administration Committee of the Town Council would like your recommendations.

Please complete the shaded areas of each Commission members block and kindly return to the Town Council Office at council@ledyardct.org

Board of Assessment Appeals

Member's Name	Party Affiliation	Term Expiration	Commission Recommendation	Town Committee Endorsement	4 Year Term Attendance
David Nelson (Alternate) 25 Hyde Park Gales Ferry, CT 06335	R	8/26/2024	Y N	Y N	{ }Excellent { } Good { } Fair { } Poor

Committee Comments:

Your assistance is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your attention regarding this request.

Sincerely,
Roxanne M. Maher

Roxanne M. Maher
Administrative Assistant



TOWN OF LEDYARD CONNECTICUT

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339-1551
(860) 464-3200

Chairman S. Naomi Rodriguez

May 22, 2024

Mr. Roger Coddling, Chairman
Board of Assessment Appeals
13 Helmlock Circle
Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06335

Dear Mr. Coddling:

A member of the Board of Assessment Appeals is due for re-appointment as listed below. The Administration Committee of the Town Council would like your recommendations.

Please complete the shaded areas of each Commission members block and kindly return to the Town Council Office at council@ledyardct.org

Board of Assessment Appeals

Member's Name	Party Affiliation	Term Expiration	Commission Recommendation	Town Committee Endorsement	4 Year Term
					Attendance
David Nelson (Alternate) 25 Hyde Park Gales Ferry, CT 06335	R	8/26/2024	Y N	Y N	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor

Committee Comments:

Your assistance is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your attention regarding this request.

Sincerely,
Roxanne M. Maher

Roxanne M. Maher
Administrative Assistant



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard
Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

File #: 23-1861

Agenda Date: 5/8/2024

Agenda #: 1.

REPORT
ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Report:
Administration Committee

Meeting Action Detail:

Town Council Meeting 07/26/2023

File #: [23-1861](#) Version: 1

Type: Report

Title: Administration Committee Report

Minute Note:



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard
Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

File #: 23-1862

Agenda Date: 5/8/2024

Agenda #: 2.

REPORT
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Report:

Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

Meeting Action Detail:



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard
Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

File #: 23-1863

Agenda Date: 5/8/2024

Agenda #: 3.

REPORT
FINANCE COMMITTEE

Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Report:
Finance Committee

Meeting Action Detail:

Town Council Meeting 07/29/2023:

File #: [23-1864](#) Version: 1

Type: Report

Title: Finance Committee Report

Minute Note:



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard
Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

File #: 23-1864

Agenda Date: 5/8/2024

Agenda #: 4.

REPORT
LAND USE/PLANNING/PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Report:
Land Use/Planning/Public Works Committee

Meeting Action Detail:

Town Council Meeting 07/26/2023:

File #: [23-1864](#) Version: 1
Type: Report
Title: Land Use/Planning/Public Works Committee Report
Minute Note:



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard
Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

File #: 23-1882

Agenda Date: 5/8/2024

Agenda #: XII.

REPORT

REPORT OF THE MAYOR:

REPORT OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Report Fiscal Year 2023/2024:

Meeting Action Detail:

Town Council Meeting 07/26/2023:

File #: [23-1882](#) Version: 1

Type: Report

Title: Mayor's Report

Minute Note:

Mayor's Report

3-27-24

- **Two structure fires in one week: House fire on Inchcliffe, followed by Mystic Paper Beast / Dragon's Egg Studio on Shewville Road. Thank you to Ledyard/GF Fire Co's as well as the regional assistance of the tanker brigade.**
- **Blight update: Christy Hill residence in compliance. Col. Led. Property is proceeding in Court**
- **School project reimbursement package submitted to DAS for funding and final audit.**
- **Boding preparation underway to borrow up to \$10MM for roofs, school funding (if State doesn't pay soon, these obligation come due again).**
- **Congrats to SGT Matt Andrade, newly promoted at Ledyard PD.**
- **Early voting began yesterday (Presidential primary) 4 days, incl. Saturday. Very light turnout on day 1 (22 voters)**
- **Attended LOTCIP Funding opportunities meeting yesterday.**
- **Had a conference call with CCM re: several proposed bills and possible impacts.**
- **SeCTer BoD meeting today. RISE Grant- \$10k-\$25k equip, int. fit out, BOOST Loans up to \$500K, 4.5% interest. Port Authority Marina grants up to \$5MM. Ledyard businesses only have two loans with SeCTer right now. Great opportunity!**



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard
Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

File #: 24-0361

Agenda Date: 5/22/2024

Agenda #: 1.

APPOINTMENT

Motion/Request:

MOTION to appoint Mr. Peter Diette (U) 15 Hyde Park Drive, Gales Ferry to the Library Commission to complete a two (2) year term ending November 7, 2024 filling a vacancy left by Ms. Gantz.

Background:

Mr. Diette is currently enrolled in the Master of Library and Information Science Program at Louisiana State University; 2013 - Master of Arts, Teaching, Sacred Heart University; 1996 - Master of Business Administration, Finance, University of Maryland; 1985 - Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, University of Vermont.

Mr. Dietter is employed as a Library Media Specialist for Groton Public Schools (See attached application and resume)

Mr. Diette has been a active member of the Community as a volunteer on the Ledyard Soccer Club, Ledyard High School Music Program and Music Boosters.

Administrative Notes:

Ms. Gantz resigned from the Library Commission after seventeen years of service to the town (see attached letter dated 4/1/2024)

Currently the Library Commission has one vacancy (see attached roster)

Nominating Committee Recommendation:

N/A

Minority Representation - CGS 9-167a:

In accordance with Chapter IV; Section 8 of the Town Charter “Except as otherwise provided for in this Charter, the Town Council may appoint members to fill vacancies in other offices, boards, and commissions established by this Charter and by ordinance as vacancies may occur, and appointing members to such offices, boards, and commissions as may be created in the future. Such appointments shall be made by the Town Council for such terms and upon such conditions as provided in the respective ordinance”.

Chapter IV, Section 9: “In making appointments and removals, the Town Council shall act by the affirmative votes of at least a majority of all its members.

All members of boards, commissions, and committees contained in this Charter, or subsequently created under this Charter, except members of the Building Code Board of Appeals, the Fire Marshal, and the Deputy Fire Marshal(s), shall be electors of the Town at the time of their appointment and during their terms of office.”

Connecticut General Statutes

Sec. 9-167a. Minority representation. (a) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the maximum number of members of any board, commission, legislative body, committee or similar body of the state or any political subdivision thereof, whether elective or appointive, who may be members of the same political party, shall be as specified in the following table:

Total Membership	Maximum from One Party
3	2
4	3
5	4
6	4
7	5
8	5
9	6
More than 9 Two-thirds of total membership	

(2) The provisions of this section shall not apply (A) to any such board, commission, committee or body whose members are elected wholly or partially on the basis of a geographical division of the state or political subdivision, (B) to a legislative body of a municipality (i) having a town meeting as its legislative body or (ii) for which the charter or a special act, on January 1, 1987, provided otherwise or (C) to the city council of an unconsolidated city within a town and the town council of such town if the town has a town council and a representative town meeting, the town charter provides for some form of minority representation in the election of members of the representative town meeting, and the city has a city council and a body having the attributes of a town meeting or (D) to the board of directors and other officers of any district, as defined in section 7-324, having annual receipts from all sources not in excess of two hundred fifty Thousand dollars.

(b) Prior to any election for or appointment to any such body, the municipal clerk, in cases of elections, and the appointing authority, in cases of appointments, shall determine the maximum number of members of any political party who may be elected or appointed to such body at such election or appointment. Such maximum number shall be determined for each political party in the following manner: From the number of members of one political party who are members of such body at the time of the election or appointment, subtract the number of members of such political party whose terms expire prior to the commencement of the terms for which such election or appointment is being held or made and subtract the balance thus arrived at from the appropriate number specified in column II of subsection (a) of this section.

Application Form**Profile**

Peter _____ W _____ Diette _____
 First Name Middle Initial Last Name

peter@peterdiette.com _____
 Email Address

15 Hyde Park Drive _____ Suite or Apt _____
 Home Address

Gales Ferry _____ CT _____ 06335 _____
 City State Postal Code

Mobile: (860) 287-3130 _____
 Primary Phone Alternate Phone

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Library Commission: Submitted

Education & Experiences

Please tell us about yourself and why you want to serve.

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

As a town resident, I believe it is important to stay informed and active in support of town services and to volunteer to help keep important services in place for the community at large. The Library Commission is of particular interest to me as I am actively involved in literacy instruction as a Library Media Specialist with Groton Public Schools. Libraries provide access to books, information, and programming that empower our citizens to be both informed and engaged in society. My professional goal is to develop a greater understanding of the management of public libraries while contributing my experience and depth of knowledge to the Library Commission. In addition to my work as a teacher and Library Media Specialist, my enrollment in the School of Information Studies at Louisiana State University and part-time position as a Library Assistant with the Stonington Free Library will help inform my efforts on behalf of the Library Commission.

Community Involvement

I have been an active volunteer and supporter for many years of the Ledyard Soccer Club and the Ledyard High School Music Program with the Music Boosters.

Educational Background

2026 (Anticipated/Currently Enrolled) - Master of Library and Information Science, Louisiana State University; 2013 - Master of Arts, Teaching, Sacred Heart University; 1996 - Master of Business Administration, Finance, University of Maryland; 1985 - Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, University of Vermont

Groton Public Schools

Employer

Library Media Specialist

Job Title

[Diette Resume JAN 2024.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

Party Affiliation

Party Affiliation *

Unaffiliated

Disclaimer & FOIA Information

Your attendance and active participation is important for the Committee to conduct its business. Any member of a Committee/Commission/Board who is absent from three (3) consecutive regular meetings and any intervening duly called special meetings shall be considered to have resigned from the Committee and the vacancy shall be filled, except that the Committee may vote to waive attendance requirements in each case where illness or other extenuating circumstances make it impossible for a member to meet the attendance requirements. It shall be the responsibility of the Chairman of the Committee to notify the Town Council or Mayor's office when a member has not properly performed his/her duties.

Please Agree with the Following Statement

If selected as a board member, I understand that information on this application is subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and may be disclosed to anyone requesting this information.

I Agree

Signature (type full name below)

Peter W. Diette

PETER W. DIETTE

860.287.3130

15 Hyde Park Drive, Gales Ferry, CT 06335

peter@peterdiette.com

EDUCATION	Master of Library & Information Science <i>Louisiana State University</i>	Baton Rouge, LA	<i>Anticipated</i> 2026
	ARCLMS Cross-Endorsement Program <i>ACES – Area Cooperative Educational Services</i>	Hamden, CT	6/18
	Master of Arts, Teaching <i>Sacred Heart University</i> 2013 Outstanding Field Placement Award, <i>Isabelle Farrington College of Education</i>	Fairfield, CT	5/13
	Master of Business Administration, Finance <i>University of Maryland, Smith School of Business</i>	College Park, MD	8/96
	Bachelor of Arts, Political Science <i>University of Vermont</i>	Burlington, VT	5/89
	CERTIFICATION	State of Connecticut <i>Provisional Educator (013: Elementary, K-6)</i>	Expires
State of Connecticut <i>Library Media Specialist (062: K-12)</i>		Expires	6/24
LIBRARY & TEACHING EXPERIENCE	Library Assistant <i>Stonington Free Library</i>	Stonington, CT	10/23 – present
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver customer service to patrons of all ages. • Introduce patrons to all library services, collections, and technology. • Provide reference services and reader’s advisory. • Manage circulation desk tasks and support youth services department. 		
	Library Media Specialist <i>Groton Public Schools</i>	Groton, CT	8/18 – present
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teach Library Media classes and support literacy development for all K-5 students. • Manage and curate library print and digital collections for staff and student patronage. • Develop and support play and ingenuity magnet theme through training, instruction, and implementation of <i>Life is Good</i> strategies. • Integrate technology into classroom instruction and assessment. • Provide ongoing technology support to staff as an Instructional Tech (stipend position). • Oversee technology resources for classrooms, students, and families. • Develop MakerSpace and enrichment opportunities in support of inquiry-based learning. • Create and broadcast daily Morning News program with students via video to share daily announcements and information and support community development. • Foster pathways of communication with parents and families through use of diverse resources, including ClassDojo, Instagram, and school websites. • Collaborate with district Library Media Team to ensure the use of best practices and the sharing of common resources. • Serve on multiple committees at the school and district levels. 		
	Grade 5 Teacher <i>Nathan Hale Arts Magnet School</i>	New London, CT	8/13 – 7/18
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Led inclusive classroom with 28 students. • Coordinated instruction with grade-level team, specialists, and administration. • Established varied pathways of communication to foster parental involvement. • Championed student needs to ensure appropriate access to district resources. • Differentiated instruction to meet individualized needs of students. • Garnered appropriate data to support learning goals and develop necessary interventions. 		

- Implemented Reading Workshop model with leveled guided reading instruction.
- Curated comprehensive classroom library to promote improved literacy.
- Implemented Writers Workshop utilizing the Lucy Calkins model.
- Integrated technology into classroom instruction and assessment.
- Served on Marketing Committee to build awareness of school and magnet programming throughout community.
- Designed varied marketing materials including logos, style guide, and print advertising.
- Acted as school web master and lead daily social media efforts, including Facebook.

TEACHING
EXPERIENCE
(CONTINUED)

Long-term Substitute Teacher <i>Juliet W. Long Elementary School</i>	Ledyard, CT	5/13 – 6/13
Permanent Building Substitute Teacher <i>Ledyard Public Schools</i>	Ledyard, CT	2/13 – 6/13
Substitute Teacher <i>Horace W. Porter School</i>	Columbia, CT	11/12 – 2/13
Student Teacher <i>Thomas W. Mahan Elementary School</i>	Norwich, CT	8/12 – 11/12
Graduate Teacher Intern <i>Horace W. Porter School</i>	Columbia, CT	8/11 - 6/12
Substitute Teacher <i>Ledyard Public Schools</i>	Ledyard, CT	9/10 - 6/11
Substitute Teacher <i>Waterford Public Schools</i>	Waterford, CT	9/10 - 6/11

AWARDS,
CONFERENCES,
AND TRAINING

2026 Elementary Nutmeg Selection Committee <i>Nutmeg Book Awards</i>	Connecticut	12/23
• Comprised of Children’s Librarians and School Library Media Specialists.		
Life is Good Playmakers <i>Playmaker 101, 202, and 303 Training</i>	Mystic, CT	8/21
• SEL training in the healing power of optimism.		
Fund for Teachers Fellowship <i>Common Ground International</i>	Costa Rica	7/18
• Grant funding of three-week Spanish language immersion program and cultural exchange.		
• Development of multicultural enrichment program for school community.		
Google Certified Educator – Level 1 <i>Google for Education</i>	Google Training Center	8/17
• Online certification course demonstrating an ability to implement G Suite for Education into teaching practice to enhance learning.		
Lincoln Center Education <i>Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts</i>	New York, NY	7/17
• Week long inquiry-based workshop on Aesthetic Education Immersion.		
HOTS Summer Institute <i>Higher Order Thinking Schools</i>	Hartford, CT	7/17
• Annual weeklong Summer Institute focusing on arts education and arts integration.		
Writers Workshop Summer Institute <i>Teachers College, Columbia University</i>	New London, CT	7/16
• Instruction on implementing authentic Writers Workshop model into curriculum.		
HOTS Summer Institute <i>Higher Order Thinking Schools</i>	Hartford, CT	7/15
• Annual week long Summer Institute focusing on arts education and arts integration.		

	Magnet Schools of America Conference <i>Magnet Schools of America</i>	Raleigh, NC	4/15
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual conference focusing on best practices in curriculum and instruction, technology integration, school leadership, and magnet school design. 		
	Confratute Summer Conference <i>University of Connecticut</i>	Storrs, CT	7/14
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual conference hosted by the Renzulli Center for Creativity, Gifted Education, and Talent Development, promoting best practices in delivering enrichment-based differentiated teaching. 		
ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE	Administrative Manager <i>William Raveis Real Estate, Inc.</i>	East Lyme, CT	2/08 - 7/10
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversaw sales and training within high volume real estate firm. 		
	Administrative Manager <i>William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty</i>	Stonington, CT	1/07 - 2/08
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managed operations of luxury real estate office, including support and training. 		
	Realtor® , <i>William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty</i>	Stonington, CT	7/06 - 2/08
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designed and executed detailed business plan to introduce brand to target market. 		
	Realtor® , <i>RE/MAX Realty Group</i>	Gales Ferry, CT	4/04 - 7/06
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educated and serviced diverse clientele in the process of purchasing and selling real estate. 		
	Owner , <i>Pd Financial Services</i>	Gales Ferry, CT	10/96 - 7/05
	Branch Manager , <i>InterSecurities, Inc.</i>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Owned and managed privately held financial planning firm serving 650 individual clients. • Taught financial education and money management courses through Connecticut College and adult education programs in Ledyard, East Lyme and Colchester. 		
	Manager , <i>Red Hot & Blue Restaurant</i>	Laurel, MD	3/90 - 9/96
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Led daily operations of full service restaurant, including staffing and public relations. while exercising high degree of diplomacy to resolve problems. 		
INTERESTS	Reading, Technology, History, Kayaking, Soccer, Art + Design		

LIBRARY COMMISSION

	Name	Term Expiration
U	Bolduc, John (Chairman) 14 Monticello Drive Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06335	11/07/2025
D	Grenger, Ellin M. 15 Bittersweet Drive Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06335	11/ 07/ 2025
D	Candler, Barbara 3 Goulart Road Ledyard, Connecticut 06339	11/ 07/2025
U	Cronin, Brian 12 Erin's Way Ledyard, Connecticut 06339	11/ 07/ 2025
D	Hightower, Ralph 1-0 Lakeside Drive Ledyard, Connecticut 06335	11/ 07/ 2024
U	Racich, Rolf 18 Brewster Drive Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06335	11/ 07/ 2024
D	Nash, Rebecca 8 Osprey Drive Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06335	11/ 07/ 2024
U	Vacant (Ganz, Carol)	11/ 07/ 2024
D	Rumery, Elizabeth (Vice-Chairman) 22 Bluff Road Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06335	11/ 07/ 2025

Town Council Appointment

2 Year Term

9 Members

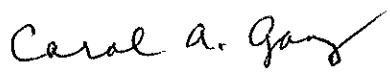
March 30, 2024
Ledyard, Connecticut

Dear Members of Ledyard Town Council:

Please accept my resignation from the Ledyard Library Commission effective April 1, 2024. After about seventeen years of serving on the Commission, various committees and several years as Treasurer, I feel it is now time to step away and prioritize my health and some other obligations. I was appointed in April 2007 to fill a vacancy. It has been my pleasure to serve the town in this way for all these years.

I have very much enjoyed working with the other Commissioners, and have made some lasting friendships, as well as receiving the satisfaction of helping provide the citizens of Ledyard with our excellent library system.

Sincerely,



Carol A. Ganz

Cc: John Bolduc, Library Commission Chair
Mayor Fred Allyn



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard
Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

File #: 24-0362

Agenda Date: 5/22/2024

Agenda #: 2.

APPOINTMENT

Motion/Request:

MOTION to appoint Ms. Beth Ribe (U) 129 Rose Hill Road, Ledyard to the Planning & Zoning Commission as an alternate member, to complete a three (3) year term ending December 31, 2026 filling a vacancy left by Ms. Cobb.

Background:

Ms. Ribe has a degree in Business Admin/Project Mgt from Devry University, Illinois 2009; Graduate from Cony High School 1990 - Augusta, Maine.

Ms. Ribe is employed as a Project Manager at Rexel/Capitol Light.

Ms. Ribe is an active member of the community, she is currently serving on the Inland Wetland and Water Courses Commission, and is serving as a Board Member of the Ledyard Soccer Club and is their Fundraiser Coordinator. She also served on the Committee to Review the Budget Process. (see attached Appointment Application).

Administrative Notes:

The Planning & Zoning Commission currently has two Alternate Member vacancies. (see attached roster).

Nominating Committee Recommendation:

N/A

Minority Representation - CGS 9-167a:

In accordance with Chapter IV; Section 8 of the Town Charter “Except as otherwise provided for in this Charter, the Town Council may appoint members to fill vacancies in other offices, boards, and commissions established by this Charter and by ordinance as vacancies may occur, and appointing members to such offices, boards, and commissions as may be created in the future. Such appointments shall be made by the Town Council for such terms and upon such conditions as provided in the respective ordinance”.

Chapter IV, Section 9: “In making appointments and removals, the Town Council shall act by the affirmative votes of at least a majority of all its members.

All members of boards, commissions, and committees contained in this Charter, or subsequently created under this Charter, except members of the Building Code Board of Appeals, the Fire Marshal, and the Deputy Fire

Marshal(s), shall be electors of the Town at the time of their appointment and during their terms of office.”

Connecticut General Statutes

Sec. 9-167a. Minority representation. (a) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the maximum number of members of any board, commission, legislative body, committee or similar body of the state or any political subdivision thereof, whether elective or appointive, who may be members of the same political party, shall be as specified in the following table:

Total Membership	Maximum from One Party
3	2
4	3
5	4
6	4
7	5
8	5
9	6
More than 9 Two-thirds of total membership	

(2) The provisions of this section shall not apply (A) to any such board, commission, committee or body whose members are elected wholly or partially on the basis of a geographical division of the state or political subdivision, (B) to a legislative body of a municipality (i) having a town meeting as its legislative body or (ii) for which the charter or a special act, on January 1, 1987, provided otherwise or (C) to the city council of an unconsolidated city within a town and the town council of such town if the town has a town council and a representative town meeting, the town charter provides for some form of minority representation in the election of members of the representative town meeting, and the city has a city council and a body having the attributes of a town meeting or (D) to the board of directors and other officers of any district, as defined in section 7-324, having annual receipts from all sources not in excess of two hundred fifty Thousand dollars.

(b) Prior to any election for or appointment to any such body, the municipal clerk, in cases of elections, and the appointing authority, in cases of appointments, shall determine the maximum number of members of any political party who may be elected or appointed to such body at such election or appointment. Such maximum number shall be determined for each political party in the following manner: From the number of members of one political party who are members of such body at the time of the election or appointment, subtract the number of members of such political party whose terms expire prior to the commencement of the terms for which such election or appointment is being held or made and subtract the balance thus arrived at from the appropriate number specified in column II of subsection (a) of this section.

Application Form**Profile**

Beth _____ E _____ Ribe _____
 First Name Middle Initial Last Name

beth_ribe@live.com _____
 Email Address

129 Rose Hill Rd _____
 Home Address Suite or Apt

Ledyard _____ CT _____ 06339 _____
 City State Postal Code

Home: (860) 449-4502 _____ Home: (860) 449-4502 _____
 Primary Phone Alternate Phone

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Planning & Zoning Commission: Submitted

Education & Experiences

Please tell us about yourself and why you want to serve.

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

I enjoy serving on the IWWC which I've had the pleasure to serve on for the past several years, and hope to continue to serve. I particularly enjoy participating to insure the visions of the development, sustainability and the legacy of this town and its members.

Community Involvement

Currently serve on the IWWC. I am a Board Member and Fundraiser Coordinator the Ledyard Soccer Club. Most recently was on the Committee to Review the Budget Process.

Educational Background

DeVry Univ - Business Admin/Project Mgt 2009 Cony High School 1990 - Augusta ME

Rexel/Capitol Light _____ PROJ MGR _____
 Employer Job Title

[Beth_E_Ribe_2024.docx](#) _____
 Upload a Resume

Party Affiliation

Party Affiliation *

Independent

Disclaimer & FOIA Information

Your attendance and active participation is important for the Committee to conduct its business. Any member of a Committee/Commission/Board who is absent from three (3) consecutive regular meetings and any intervening duly called special meetings shall be considered to have resigned from the Committee and the vacancy shall be filled, except that the Committee may vote to waive attendance requirements in each case where illness or other extenuating circumstances make it impossible for a member to meet the attendance requirements. It shall be the responsibility of the Chairman of the Committee to notify the Town Council or Mayor's office when a member has not properly performed his/her duties.

Please Agree with the Following Statement

If selected as a board member, I understand that information on this application is subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and may be disclosed to anyone requesting this information.

I Agree

Signature (type full name below)

Beth E Ribe

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

	Name	Term Expiration
D	Cobb, Jessica 7 Whippoorwill Drive Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06335	10/31/2026
D	Wood Marcelle (Marty) 11 South Glenwoods Road Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06335	10/31/2024
D	Capon, J.A. Tony (Chairman) 37 Silas Dean Road Ledyard, Connecticut 06339	12/31/2024
U	Craig, Howard 64 Stoddards View Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06335	10/31/2025
R	Whitescarver, Paul 6 Stoddards View Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06335	12/ 31/ 2026

ALTERNATES

R	Miello, Matthew 12 Cardinal Lane Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06335	10/31/2026
D	Vacant (Cobb)	12/31/2026
D	Vacant (St. Vil Gary – J. Baudro)	12/31/2025

Town Council Appointment

3 Year Term

5 Reg. Members
3 Alt. Members

Zoning Citation Officer

Eric Treaster
10 Huntington Way
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339
Email: bsaofnl-eric@yahoo.com

Blight Enforcement Officer

Eric Treaster



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard
Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

File #: 24-0363

Agenda Date: 5/22/2024

Agenda #: 3.

APPOINTMENT

Motion/Request:

MOTION to appoint Ms. Lauren Hawes (U) 8 Warbler Way, Gales Ferry, to the Ledyard Beautification Committee, to complete a three (3) year term ending October 26, 2026 filling a vacancy left by Ms. Vincent.

Background:

Ms. Hawes is a Guilford High School Graduate Class of 2005, she has an Associates of Sciences from Full Sail University in Show Production and Touring Certified Personal Trainer Corrective Exercise Specialist Youth Exercise Specialist USA Weightlifting Level 1 Coach Team USA (Olympics) Coaching Kids Certifications (all ages and divisions) STAR Customer Service Training Former employee of US Navy's MWR Fitness Department at Subbase New London.

Ms. Hawes is an active member of the community serving as a member of the Ledyard Soccer Club; U10 Assistant Coach Ledyard Youth Basketball League; Head Coach Supporting Parks & Recreation events as Ann McBride Real Estate, Inc. Community Liaison for Ann McBride Real Estate, Inc. Every school party and event; Private investigation of resources to help Parks & Recreation acquire monetary/land donations for more facility space. (Please see attached Appointment Application)

Administrative Notes:

Ms. Hawes first choice was to serve on the Parks, Recreation, & Senior Citizens Commission. But because there were no vacancies at the time of her application she noted that she would also be interested in serving on the Ledyard Beautification Committee. However, she asked that the Appointment Application remain active and that she be considered for the next available vacancy on the Parks, Recreation, & Senior Citizens Commission.

Currently the Ledyard Beautification Committee has three vacancies. (Please see attached roster)

Nominating Committee Recommendation:

N/A

Minority Representation - CGS 9-167a:

In accordance with Chapter IV; Section 8 of the Town Charter "Except as otherwise provided for in this Charter, the Town Council may appoint members to fill vacancies in other offices, boards, and commissions established by this Charter and by ordinance as vacancies may occur, and appointing members to such offices, boards, and commissions as may be created in the future. Such appointments shall be made by the Town Council for such terms and upon such conditions as provided in the respective ordinance".

Chapter IV, Section 9: "In making appointments and removals, the Town Council shall act by the affirmative

votes of at least a majority of all its members.

All members of boards, commissions, and committees contained in this Charter, or subsequently created under this Charter, except members of the Building Code Board of Appeals, the Fire Marshal, and the Deputy Fire Marshal(s), shall be electors of the Town at the time of their appointment and during their terms of office.”

Connecticut General Statutes

Sec. 9-167a. Minority representation. (a) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the maximum number of members of any board, commission, legislative body, committee or similar body of the state or any political subdivision thereof, whether elective or appointive, who may be members of the same political party, shall be as specified in the following table:

Total Membership	Maximum from One Party
3	2
4	3
5	4
6	4
7	5
8	5
9	6
More than 9 Two-thirds of total membership	

(2) The provisions of this section shall not apply (A) to any such board, commission, committee or body whose members are elected wholly or partially on the basis of a geographical division of the state or political subdivision, (B) to a legislative body of a municipality (i) having a town meeting as its legislative body or (ii) for which the charter or a special act, on January 1, 1987, provided otherwise or (C) to the city council of an unconsolidated city within a town and the town council of such town if the town has a town council and a representative town meeting, the town charter provides for some form of minority representation in the election of members of the representative town meeting, and the city has a city council and a body having the attributes of a town meeting or (D) to the board of directors and other officers of any district, as defined in section 7-324, having annual receipts from all sources not in excess of two hundred fifty Thousand dollars.

(b) Prior to any election for or appointment to any such body, the municipal clerk, in cases of elections, and the appointing authority, in cases of appointments, shall determine the maximum number of members of any political party who may be elected or appointed to such body at such election or appointment. Such maximum number shall be determined for each political party in the following manner: From the number of members of one political party who are members of such body at the time of the election or appointment, subtract the number of members of such political party whose terms expire prior to the commencement of the terms for which such election or appointment is being held or made and subtract the balance thus arrived at from the appropriate number specified in column II of subsection (a) of this section.

Application Form

Profile

Lauren	B	Hawes
<small>First Name</small>	<small>Middle Initial</small>	<small>Last Name</small>

hawes.lauren@gmail.com
Email Address

8 Warbler Way	
<small>Home Address</small>	<small>Suite or Apt</small>

Gales Ferry	CT	06335
<small>City</small>	<small>State</small>	<small>Postal Code</small>

Mobile: (959) 242-3971	
<small>Primary Phone</small>	<small>Alternate Phone</small>

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Ledyard Beautification Committee: Not Submitted
Parks, Recreation & Senior Citizens Commission: Submitted

Education & Experiences

Please tell us about yourself and why you want to serve.

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

Ledyard has been an amazing place to live, work, and raise my son. We have a fantastic team of representatives to help aim our town toward its most important investments, and we need community members to support these and other initiatives to help our community thrive. There are so many opportunities for growth and development that take the strength of the community as a whole- from volunteers sprucing up some gardens to keep our town looking as impressive as it feels, to rallying support and ideas for programs like Parks and Recreation. In order for Ledyard to continue to be the best place to thrive and grow, we need to work together to support the recreational needs of our entire population. Ledyard's Parks and Recreation & Senior Center Commission will benefit from diverse advisors who have knowledge and experience in all aspects of our community and all the moving parts involved with park maintenance, recreational programs for youth and adult populations, and senior programming. I would be honored for my knowledge and experiences to benefit the recreational opportunities Ledyard has to offer its citizens and the local community. The recreational agenda has been pushed off the table in many communities in the wake of COVID-19. Unfortunately, Ledyard is one of them. Lack of recreational opportunities is leading to both physical and mental health crises across the nation. Entities such as the World Health Organization and the US Military have been citing low activity levels as a mounting National Emergency for over a decade. Schools cite a lack of opportunities for lessons through sports on subjects such as teamwork, focus, and communication for attention and behavioral issues among school children. Doctors cite low activity levels among aging populations as a "killer." Towns that were known for their sports prowess are going bankrupt because the sports programs are not bringing money into the communities anymore. Fortunately, many organizations have seen this need and are offering grants and other funds to assist communities like ours in making sure we can take care of our citizens. Not only that, many local businesses and people see there is a need and don't know how they can help. As a U10 soccer and basketball coach, I know these kids are capable of so much, yet they're losing games and getting in fights due to not having practice space and coaching time. As a Personal Trainer, I can't stress enough how important it is that everyone in our community is given every possible opportunity to keep moving in any way they love. As a Corrective Exercise Specialist working with the elderly population, it scares me that our community members know their survival depends on their continued athleticism, but they don't have the opportunities to do what they love. As an employee of a local business, I wonder what positive financial implications a tremendous recreational program would bring to our area. As an entrepreneur, I wonder what I can do to help - whether it's re-strategizing fundraising efforts or simply having the right conversations with the right people. As a mom, I worry when parents say they'll be enrolling their children in programs in other towns due to the lack of space and programming Ledyard offers. As a member of our community, I see others criticizing our lack of initiative toward youth and community recreation programming. Our community deserves better, and I'd like to help.

Community Involvement

Ledyard Soccer Club U10 Assistant Coach Ledyard Youth Basketball League Head Coach Supporting Parks & Recreation events as Ann McBride Real Estate, Inc. Community Liaison for Ann McBride Real Estate, Inc. Every school party and event ever Private investigation of resources to help Parks & Recreation acquire monetary/land donations for more facility space

Educational Background

Guilford High School class of 2005 Associates of Sciences from Full Sail University in Show Production and Touring Certified Personal Trainer Corrective Exercise Specialist Youth Exercise Specialist USA Weightlifting Level 1 Coach Team USA (Olympics) Coaching Kids Certifications (all ages and divisions) STAR Customer Service Training Former employee of US Navy's MWR Fitness Department at Subbase New London

Ann McBride Real Estate, Inc
Employer

Office Administrator
Job Title

Party Affiliation

Party Affiliation *

Unaffiliated

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Your attendance and active participation is important for the Committee to conduct its business. Any member of a Committee/Commission/Board who is absent from three (3) consecutive regular meetings and any intervening duly called special meetings shall be considered to have resigned from the Committee and the vacancy shall be filled, except that the Committee may vote to waive attendance requirements in each case where illness or other extenuating circumstances make it impossible for a member to meet the attendance requirements. It shall be the responsibility of the Chairman of the Committee to notify the Town Council or Mayor's office when a member has not properly performed his/her duties.

Please Agree with the Following Statement

If selected as a board member, I understand that information on this application is subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and may be disclosed to anyone requesting this information.

I Agree

Signature (type full name below)

Lauren Brunjes Hawes

LEDYARD BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

	Name	Term Expiration
D	Bingham, Jennifer 26 West Drive Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06335	10/26/2026
R	Christiansen, Carol 29 Quakertown Road Ledyard, Connecticut 06339	10/26/2025
R	Brousseau, Julie 1649 Route 12 Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06335	10/26/2025
R	Martic, Sarah 59R Long Cove Road Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06335	10/26/2026
U	Eastbourne, Jennifer 4 Glenwoods Court Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06335	10/26/2024
D	Vacant (Vincent, Sheila did not want to be reappointed)	10/26/2026
D	Schneider, Carol Ann 101 Inchcliffe Drive Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06335	10/26/2025
D	Vacant (Holdsworth, Jennifer)	10/26/2024
D	Kohrs, Kathrine 65 Pheasant Run Drive Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06335	10/26/2024

Appointed by Town Council

3 Year Term

9 Members



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard
Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

File #: 24-0364

Agenda Date: 5/22/2024

Agenda #: 4.

APPOINTMENT

Motion/Request:

MOTION to make the following appointment adjustments to the Cemetery Committee:

- Appoint Ms. Martha Reynolds (R) 1684 Center Groton Road, as a Regular Member, to complete a three (3) year term ending April 26, 2026 filling a vacancy left by Ms. Sheila Godino.
- Appoint Mr. Vincent Godino (D) 1906 Center Groton Road, Ledyard, as an Alternate Member, to complete a three (3) year term ending April 26, 2025 filling a vacancy left by Ms. Reynolds.

Background:

The Cemetery Committee has requested these two Members be changed from Alternate Member to Regular Member (Reynolds) and Regular Member to Alternate Member (V. Godino). (see attached email request dated 4/23/2024)

Administrative Notes:

Mrs. Sheila Godino resigned from Cemetery Committee leaving a Regular Member position vacant.

The Commission has requested Ms. Reynolds be appointed to fill Mrs. Godino’s vacancy.(see attached roster).

Nominating Committee Recommendation:

N/A

Minority Representation - CGS 9-167a:

In accordance with Chapter IV; Section 8 of the Town Charter “Except as otherwise provided for in this Charter, the Town Council may appoint members to fill vacancies in other offices, boards, and commissions established by this Charter and by ordinance as vacancies may occur, and appointing members to such offices, boards, and commissions as may be created in the future. Such appointments shall be made by the Town Council for such terms and upon such conditions as provided in the respective ordinance”.

Chapter IV, Section 9: “In making appointments and removals, the Town Council shall act by the affirmative votes of at least a majority of all its members.

All members of boards, commissions, and committees contained in this Charter, or subsequently created under this Charter, except members of the Building Code Board of Appeals, the Fire Marshal, and the Deputy Fire Marshal(s), shall be electors of the Town at the time of their appointment and during their terms of office.”

Connecticut General Statutes

Sec. 9-167a. Minority representation. (a) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the maximum number of members of any board, commission, legislative body, committee or similar body of the state or any political subdivision thereof, whether elective or appointive, who may be members of the same political party, shall be as specified in the following table:

Total Membership	Maximum from One Party
3	2
4	3
5	4
6	4
7	5
8	5
9	6
More than 9 Two-thirds of total membership	

(2) The provisions of this section shall not apply (A) to any such board, commission, committee or body whose members are elected wholly or partially on the basis of a geographical division of the state or political subdivision, (B) to a legislative body of a municipality (i) having a town meeting as its legislative body or (ii) for which the charter or a special act, on January 1, 1987, provided otherwise or (C) to the city council of an unconsolidated city within a town and the town council of such town if the town has a town council and a representative town meeting, the town charter provides for some form of minority representation in the election of members of the representative town meeting, and the city has a city council and a body having the attributes of a town meeting or (D) to the board of directors and other officers of any district, as defined in section 7-324, having annual receipts from all sources not in excess of two hundred fifty Thousand dollars.

(b) Prior to any election for or appointment to any such body, the municipal clerk, in cases of elections, and the appointing authority, in cases of appointments, shall determine the maximum number of members of any political party who may be elected or appointed to such body at such election or appointment. Such maximum number shall be determined for each political party in the following manner: From the number of members of one political party who are members of such body at the time of the election or appointment, subtract the number of members of such political party whose terms expire prior to the commencement of the terms for which such election or appointment is being held or made and subtract the balance thus arrived at from the appropriate number specified in column II of subsection (a) of this section.

Roxanne Maher

From: William Vidal III <william.vidalii@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 7:11 PM
To: Roxanne Maher
Subject: Fwd: New Member

You don't often get email from william.vidalii@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good evening Roxanne,

I was informed Kristie Lundgren submitted her application for the committee. I agree with Mr. Godino below and recommend Mrs. Reynolds be appointed as a full member and appoint Mrs. Lundgren as an alternate. Thank you for your consideration with this matter. Please let me know if you need any further information from me.

Will Vidal

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sheila Godino** <sgodino@snet.net>
Date: Mon, Apr 22, 2024, 7:15 PM
Subject: New Member
To: William Vidalii <william.vidalii@gmail.com>

Hi Will,

I talked to Roxanne today and she informed me that Kristie had submitted her application and would be processed as a member of the Committee. Since we have a Regular member vacancy I suggest that we promote Martha from alternate to full member. Then Kristie come in as an Alternate filling Martha's old seat. If you agree could you e-mail Roxanne to request these changes. She needs this from the Committee to make it happen.

Thanks,

Vin

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

	Name		Term Expiration
U	Mr. Paul Krug 67 Pheasant Drive Gales Ferry, CT 06335	(Military Veteran)	4/26/2026
D	Vacant (Mrs. Sheila M. Godino)		4/26/2026
D	Mr. Vincent Godino 1906 Center Groton Road Ledyard, Connecticut 06339		4/26/2026
D	Mr. William Vidal, III 183 Spicer Hill Road Ledyard, Connecticut 06339	(Military Veteran)	4/26/2025
U	Staley, Jessica 497 Colonel Ledyard Highway Ledyard, Connecticut 06339	(Military Veteran)	4/26/2025

Alternate Members

R	Reynolds, Martha 1684 Center Groton Road Ledyard, Connecticut 06339		4/26/2025
R	Marshall, Kimlyn 987 R Long Cove Road Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06335		4/26/2025

Town Council Appointment 3 Year Term 5 Regular Members 2 Alternate Members
(2 Military Veterans Required)



File #: 24-0365

Agenda Date: 5/22/2024

Agenda #: 5.

APPOINTMENT

Motion/Request:

MOTION to appoint Ms. Kristie Gardiner-Lundgren (U) 70 Iron Street, Ledyard, to the Cemetery Committee, as a regular member, to complete a three (3) year term ending April 26, 2026 filling a vacancy left by Mr. Godino.

Background:

Ms. Gardiner-Lundgren enjoys working to maintain abandoned cemeteries. Her family has been an active participant in the Adopt a Cemetery Program through the Cemetery Committee and she was interested in volunteering more time and to take on more responsibility in caring for the town's cemeteries.

Ms. Gardiner-Lundgren is an Artist and is currently self-employed.

Administrative Notes:

(type text here)

Nominating Committee Recommendation:

(type text here)

Minority Representation - CGS 9-167a:

In accordance with Chapter IV; Section 8 of the Town Charter “Except as otherwise provided for in this Charter, the Town Council may appoint members to fill vacancies in other offices, boards, and commissions established by this Charter and by ordinance as vacancies may occur, and appointing members to such offices, boards, and commissions as may be created in the future. Such appointments shall be made by the Town Council for such terms and upon such conditions as provided in the respective ordinance”.

Chapter IV, Section 9: “In making appointments and removals, the Town Council shall act by the affirmative votes of at least a majority of all its members.

All members of boards, commissions, and committees contained in this Charter, or subsequently created under this Charter, except members of the Building Code Board of Appeals, the Fire Marshal, and the Deputy Fire Marshal(s), shall be electors of the Town at the time of their appointment and during their terms of office.”

Connecticut General Statutes

Sec. 9-167a. Minority representation. (a) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the maximum number of members of any board, commission, legislative body, committee or similar body of the state or any political subdivision thereof, whether elective or appointive, who may be members of the same political party, shall be as specified in the following table:

Total Membership	Maximum from One Party
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4	3
5	4
6	4
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8	5
9	6
More than 9 Two-thirds of total membership	

(2) The provisions of this section shall not apply (A) to any such board, commission, committee or body whose members are elected wholly or partially on the basis of a geographical division of the state or political subdivision, (B) to a legislative body of a municipality (i) having a town meeting as its legislative body or (ii) for which the charter or a special act, on January 1, 1987, provided otherwise or (C) to the city council of an unconsolidated city within a town and the town council of such town if the town has a town council and a representative town meeting, the town charter provides for some form of minority representation in the election of members of the representative town meeting, and the city has a city council and a body having the attributes of a town meeting or (D) to the board of directors and other officers of any district, as defined in section 7-324, having annual receipts from all sources not in excess of two hundred fifty Thousand dollars.

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Application Form**Profile**

Kristie _____ M _____ Gardiner-Lundgren _____
 First Name Middle Initial Last Name

kristielundgren@hotmail.com _____
 Email Address

70 Iron St _____ Suite or Apt _____
 Home Address

Ledyard _____ CT _____ 06339 _____
 City State Postal Code

Home: (360) 620-7192 _____
 Primary Phone Alternate Phone

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Cemetery Committee: Submitted

Education & Experiences

Please tell us about yourself and why you want to serve.

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

I enjoy the duties maintaining the abandoned cemeteries my family and I have already accepted for the committee. I would like to offer more time and assume more responsibility in caring for the town's cemeteries.

Community Involvement

Currently a volunteer maintaining cemeteries in Ledyard.

Educational Background

Self-employed _____ Artist _____
 Employer Job Title

Upload a Resume _____

Party Affiliation

Party Affiliation *

Unaffiliated

Disclaimer & FOIA Information

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Please Agree with the Following Statement

If selected as a board member, I understand that information on this application is subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and may be disclosed to anyone requesting this information.

I Agree

Signature (type full name below)

Kristie Gardiner-Lundgren

Roxanne Maher

From: William Vidal III <william.vidalii@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 7:11 PM
To: Roxanne Maher
Subject: Fwd: New Member

You don't often get email from william.vidalii@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good evening Roxanne,

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Thanks,

Vin



File #: 24-0382

Agenda Date: 5/22/2024

Agenda #: 6.

APPOINTMENT

Motion/Request:

MOTION to appoint Ms. Lauren Hawes (U) 8 Warbler Way, Gales Ferry, to the Parks, Recreation & Senior Citizens Commission, as an Alternate Member, to complete a three (3) year term ending June 28, 2027 filling a vacancy left by Mr. Gallagher.

Background:

Ms. Hawes is a Guilford High School Graduate Class of 2005, she has an Associates of Sciences from Full Sail University in Show Production and Touring Certified Personal Trainer Corrective Exercise Specialist; Youth Exercise Specialist USA Weightlifting Level 1; Coach Team USA (Olympics); Coaching Kids Certifications (all ages and divisions); STAR Customer Service Training Former employee of US Navy's MWR Fitness Department at Subbase New London.

Ms. Hawes is an active member of the community serving as a member of the Ledyard Soccer Club; U10 Assistant Coach Ledyard Youth Basketball League; Head Coach Supporting Parks & Recreation events as Ann McBride Real Estate, Inc. Community Liaison for Ann McBride Real Estate, Inc. Helps at every school party and event; Private investigation of resources to help Parks & Recreation to acquire monetary/land donations for more facility space. (Please see attached Appointment Application)

Administrative Notes:

Ms. Hawes first choice was to serve on the Parks, Recreation, & Senior Citizens Commission. Because there were no vacancies on the Commission at the time of her Appointment Application Ms. Hawes indicated that she would also be interested in serving on the Beautification Committee.

In recent reappointment requests Parks, Recreation & Senior Citizens Chairman indicated that Mr. Gallagher was not interested in continuing to serve when his term ends on June 28, 2024. (please see attached)

Nominating Committee Recommendation:

N/A

Minority Representation - CGS 9-167a:

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Application Form

Profile

Lauren	B	Hawes
First Name	Middle Initial	Last Name

hawes.lauren@gmail.com
 Email Address

8 Warbler Way	
Home Address	Suite or Apt

Gales Ferry	CT	06335
City	State	Postal Code

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Ann McBride Real Estate, Inc
Employer

Office Administrator
Job Title

Party Affiliation

Party Affiliation *

Unaffiliated

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I Agree

Signature (type full name below)

Lauren Brunjes Hawes



File #: 24-0393

Agenda Date: 5/22/2024

Agenda #: 7.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS REQUEST (FBR)

Motion/Request:

MOTION to approve a water rate increase of 5% to become effective on July 1, 2024 as recommended by the WPCA and contained in the water and sewer rate table presented at the WPCA April 23, 2024 Public Hearing; in accordance with Ordinance #400-001 “*An Ordinance Creating a Water Pollution Control Authority for the Town of Ledyard*”)

Background:

Groton Utilities notified the WPCA that they would be increasing the cost of water by 5% to commence on October 1, 2024.

The WPCA held a Public Hearing sometime in April, 2024 to present the 5% water rate increase to the Ratepayers; as it would be included in the upcoming Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Water Operations Budget. (see attached).

In accordance with Ordinance #400-001 “*An Ordinance Creating a Water Pollution Control Authority for the Town of Ledyard*”)

Section 5. Establishing Benefit Assessments and Setting Rates

The WPCA shall review and recommend rates for use and shall be responsible for holding a public hearing at which all the users of the water system and the owners of the property served or to be served and others interested shall have an opportunity to be heard concerning such proposed rate or charge. Notice of such hearing shall be given, at least ten days before the date set therefore, in a newspaper having a circulation in such Town of Ledyard. Such notice shall set forth a schedule of rates or charges, and a copy of the schedule of rates or charges established shall be kept on file in the office of the WPCA administrative staff and in the office of the town clerk of the Town of Ledyard, and shall be open to inspection by the public.

Upon completion of the process to establish user rates, as set forth in CGS Chapter 102, Section 7-239, the Town Council shall set just and equitable rates or charges of the water system that shall be sufficient for the payment of expense of operation, repair, replacement and maintenance and foreseeable capital expenses of such system. Benefit assessments; and connection fees shall be established by the WPCA and approved by the Town Council. (see attached Ordinance)

Department Comment/Recommendation:

(type text here)

Finance Director Comment/Recommendation:

(type text here)

Mayor Comment/Recommendation:

(type text here)

LEDYARD WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
 PROPOSED RATE INCREASE July 1, 2024

	Water	\$ Per 100	\$ per 100	Old	Old	New	New	NEW Sewer Rate Factor		New Minimum	New Maximum	Old Minimum	Old Maximum
	Usage	gallons –	gallons - New	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum			Sewer Rate	Sewer Rate	Sewer Rate	Sewer Rate
	per	Old Rates	Rates										
	month												
Service Rates - Single Family Metered Monthly Billing Residential													
Unmetered				\$ 64.64	\$ 64.64207	\$ 67.87	\$ 67.87200	1.38283		\$ 93.86	\$ 93.96	\$ 93.86	\$ 93.96
0	3333	down to 0.8967	down to 0.9236	\$ 30.78	\$ 30.78	\$ 32.32	\$ 32.32	1.38283		\$ 44.49	\$ 44.69	\$ 44.49	\$ 44.69
3333	6666	0.9801	1.0095	30.78	64.43	\$ 32.32	\$ 67.65	1.38283		\$ 44.70	\$ 93.55	\$ 44.70	\$ 93.55
6666	10,000	1.0699	1.102	64.43	101.16	\$ 67.65	\$ 106.22	1.38283		\$ 93.55	\$ 146.88	\$ 93.55	\$ 146.88
10000	13,333	1.2932	1.332	101.16	\$ 145.55	\$ 106.22	\$ 152.83	1.38283		\$ 146.88	\$ 211.33	\$ 146.88	\$ 211.33
13,333	16,333	1.5409	1.5871	\$ 145.55	198.45	\$ 152.83	\$ 208.37	1.38283		\$ 211.33	\$ 288.44	\$ 211.33	\$ 288.44
16,333	20,000	1.8485	1.904	198.45	\$ 261.91	\$ 208.37	\$ 275.01	1.38283		\$ 288.44	\$ 370.42	\$ 288.44	\$ 370.42
20,000	23,333	2.2184	2.285	\$ 261.91	\$ 338.07	\$ 275.01	\$ 354.97	1.38283		\$ 370.42	\$ 490.85	\$ 370.42	\$ 490.85
23,333		2.6628	2.7427	\$ 338.07		\$ 354.97		1.38283		\$ 490.85		\$ 490.85	
0	10,000			\$ 123.13	\$ 123.13	\$ 129.29	\$ 129.29	1.38283		\$ 178.78	\$ 178.78	\$ 178.78	\$ 178.78
10,000	20,000	1.6345	1.68354	\$ 123.13	\$ 291.48	\$ 129.29	\$ 306.05	1.38283		\$ 178.78	\$ 423.21	\$ 178.78	\$ 423.21
20,000	30,000	1.6345	1.68354	\$ 291.48	\$ 459.84	\$ 306.05	\$ 482.83	1.38283		\$ 423.21	\$ 667.65	\$ 423.21	\$ 667.65
30,000	40,000	1.6345	1.68354	446.4431	\$ 628.19	\$ 482.83	\$ 659.60	1.38283		\$ 667.65	\$ 912.09	\$ 667.65	\$ 912.09
40,000	50,000	1.6345	1.68354	\$ 628.19	\$ 796.55	\$ 659.60	\$ 836.38	1.38283		\$ 912.09	\$ 1,156.53	\$ 912.09	\$ 1,156.53
50,000	60,000	1.6345	1.68354	\$ 796.55	\$ 964.90	\$ 836.38	\$ 1,013.15	1.38283		\$ 1,156.53	\$ 1,400.97	\$ 1,156.53	\$ 1,400.97
60,000	70,000	1.6345	1.68354	\$ 964.90	\$ 1,133.25	\$ 1,013.15	\$ 1,189.91	1.38283		\$ 1,400.97	\$ 1,645.41	\$ 1,400.97	\$ 1,645.41
70,000		1.6345	1.68354	\$ 1,133.25		\$ 1,189.91		1.38283		\$ 1,645.41		\$ 1,645.41	



TOWN OF LEDYARD
CONNECTICUT
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

Chairman Ed Lynch

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339-1551
(860) 464-3220
E-Mail Address:
wpcaledyard@ledyardct.org

April 25, 2024

Mayor Fred B. Allyn, III
741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Dear Mayor Allyn:

At its Regular Meeting held on April 23, 2024, the WPCA took the following actions. Please feel free to contact Chairman Lynch should you have any questions regarding this meeting.

- Approved a recommendation for the Town Council approval of a five percent water rate increase effective July 1, 2024, as recommended and contained in the water and sewer rate table attached to the WPCA legal notice dated April 11, 2024, in accordance with Ordinance #400-001 "An Ordinance Establishing a Water Pollution Control Authority".

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Hostetler
Town Hall Assistant

cc: Mayor
Director of Finance
Treasurer/Assistant Director of Finance
Town Council

Roxanne Maher

From: water pollution control authority
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2024 9:30 AM
To: Ian Stammel; Stephen Banks; Christina Hostetler; Kevin J. Dombrowski; Matthew Bonin
Cc: Fred Allyn, III; Roxanne Maher
Subject: Water Budget Recommendation by the commissioners
Attachments: FY25 WPCA Water Budget Worksheet.xlsx

Ian:

Last night the commissioners recommended to the town council a 5% increase in the current water rate - effective on the fiscal year of 1 July 2024. The rate increase has two components - GU is raising their rates 5% on water purchased on the 1st of October, and the second component is that over the years we have had unbudgeted mandates from DPH and other entities that we have no contingency to handle. The commissioners would like to establish a contingency fund for such events (the budget has a line item for contingency that has always been 0) and if at the end of the year, any leftover contingency funds would be rolled over to the CNF fund which the commissioners view has been underfunded for some time.

The attached spread sheet shows where the increase dollars go - \$9659.10 additional funds for route 12 water purchase, \$9469.30 for route 117 water purchase and \$35,76.44 in new contingency funds. The resulting budget will then be \$1,517,183.62.

On a more positive note, the sewer budget has been approved as submitted with no changes.

I have attached the amended water budget for your review. Please let me know if you have any questions!

Ed Lynch, WPCA
Mobile 646-732-9224

AN ORDINANCE
CREATING A WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY FOR
THE TOWN OF LEDYARD

Be it ordained by the Ledyard Town Council that there is an Ordinance Creating a Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) for the Town of Ledyard.

Section 1. Authority

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 7-246(a) the Town Council hereby designates the Water Pollution Control Authority for the Town of Ledyard.

The WPCA shall have the authority to plan and direct the development, construction and operation of such community water and sewage supply, disposal and distribution facilities, and to recommend financing, as may be required to properly serve the water and sewer needs of the town.

When requested, and at least annually, no later than the end of the calendar year the WPCA shall make reports to the Town Council including Financial Reports and regarding the development, financing, construction and operation of such community water and sewage systems.

The WPCA shall also review and approve all plans and specifications for any community water supply (more than one service per well) within its exclusive service area or community sewage disposal systems proposed for construction within the Town of Ledyard.

Any such community water system shall be reviewed by the Ledyard Town Engineer, Building Official, Fire Marshal and Town Planner and shall include fire protection capabilities as specified by the WPCA. Existing systems requiring repair will only have to meet the standards in effect at the time such system was constructed and not need to be upgraded to the current standards.

Section 2. Membership

The WPCA shall consist of five (5) regular and three (3) alternate members who are electors of the town, each of whom shall serve for a term of three (3) years. Members shall commence to serve their terms immediately upon appointment and shall serve until their successor has qualified or they have been reappointed or removed by the Town Council.

Appointment of terms shall be established such that not more than half the appointed members terms shall expire in a calendar year; in accordance with Section 7-246a.

As the terms of the members expire, the Town Council will appoint a successor for each, each of whom shall serve a term of three (3) years. Any vacancy in the WPCA shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term by the Town Council.

Members shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the furtherance of business of the WPCA.

Annually, the WPCA shall elect from its members a Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary and shall establish Rules of Procedure.

Appointment and removal of any member of the Water Pollution Control Authority shall be as provided for in Chapter IV, Section 9, of the Town Charter.

Any member or alternate member may be removed from office by the Town Council for good cause. Good cause shall include, but is not limited to, unexcused absence from three (3) consecutive regular meetings and any intervening duly called special meeting.

Any member of the Water Pollution Control Authority who is absent from three (3) consecutive regular meetings and any intervening duly called special meetings shall be considered to have resigned from the Commission. The vacancy shall be filled as herein before provided. Additionally, the Water Pollution Control Authority may vote to waive the requirements of this section in each case where illness or other extenuating circumstances make it impossible for a member to meet the attendance requirements of this action.

It shall be the responsibility of the Chairman of the Water Pollution Control Authority to notify the Town Council when a member has not properly performed his duties.

Section 3. Appropriation of Town Funds for Capital Improvements

After approval by the Town Council, the WPCA shall have the authority to expend such appropriation of town funds for the investigation and preliminary study work, including contracting for services and materials.

Section 4. Billing, Accounting and Financial Records

The WPCA customer service/billing contractor is hereby designated as the collector of water and sewage connection and user fee charges pursuant to the Connecticut General Statutes

The WPCA shall maintain proper accounting and financial records. The WPCA shall provide, by the fourth Monday in March a budget of estimated revenues, expenditures and capital improvements for the ensuing fiscal year for inclusion as an appendix in the Town annual budget. The Town Council shall approve the water system budget. This shall be provided to the residents at the Annual Town Meeting on the budget.

The WPCA shall prepare and periodically update a Water Pollution Control Plan, including capital improvements, for the Town of Ledyard in the manner provided by Section 7-246(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes. Such periodic updating shall be accomplished not less frequently than every five years after the completion of the initial plan, and in addition to the filing requirements of said statute, the WPCA shall file a copy of said plan and any periodic update with the Town Clerk. The WPCA shall be guided by the Town Plan of Development.

Revenues and expenditures, of the WPCA may be supplemented through the General Fund if approved by the Town Council and the Town Meeting in accordance with the Town's normal budgeting process and the provisions of law as govern the same. . The WPCA shall reimburse the General Fund budget for all supplemental appropriations received from the General Fund during the subsequent fiscal year.

The WPCA, before making application for any state or federal funds, must obtain approval of the application from the Town Council.

All revenues from benefit assessments, connection fees, and user fee charges, and the proceeds of the sale of notes and bonds, shall be held and accounted separately from the other funds of the town. A separate account shall be kept by the Town of Ledyard of the funds derived from such water works system and of their disposition which account shall be audited annually by a competent auditor and a report of such audit shall be open to public inspection. The treasurer of the Town of Ledyard shall be the custodian of such funds and shall give bond to the satisfaction of the Ledyard Town Council for the faithful discharge of his duties. Such funds shall be kept separate from other funds of such municipality and shall be used for such water works systems and for no other purpose.

All benefit assessments charged for connection with or use of the sewerage system, whether pledged for payment of bonds or notes or otherwise, shall be kept separate from other funds of the municipalities and shall be used for the sewerage system, including the payment of debt incurred for the sewerage system and interest thereon, and for no other purpose.

It is intended that the WPCA shall be financially self-sufficient.

Section 5. Establishing Benefit Assessments and Setting Rates

The WPCA shall review and recommend rates for use and shall be responsible for holding a public hearing at which all the users of the water system and the owners of the property served or to be served and others interested shall have an opportunity to be heard concerning such proposed rate or charge. Notice of such hearing shall be given, at least ten days before the date set therefore, in a newspaper having a circulation in such Town of Ledyard. Such notice shall set forth a schedule of rates or charges, and a copy of the schedule of rates or charges established shall be kept on file in the office of the WPCA administrative staff and in the office of the town clerk of the Town of Ledyard, and shall be open to inspection by the public.

Upon completion of the process to establish user rates, as set forth in CGS Chapter 102, Section 7-239, the Town Council shall set just and equitable rates or charges of the water system that shall be sufficient for the payment of expense of operation, repair, replacement and maintenance and foreseeable capital expenses of such system. Benefit assessments; and connection fees shall be established by the WPCA and approved by the Town Council.

Sewer usage fees are established by the WPCA in accordance with the Connecticut General Statutes Chapter 103 Section 7-256.

Section 6. Federal, State and Regional Assistance

The WPCA shall solicit and obtain assistance from the appropriate Federal, State, and Regional agencies regarding the construction, funding and operation of a community water and/or sewer project or issues.

Section 7. Advisement Regarding Establishment of Ordinances, State Legislation and Other Procedural Matters

The WPCA shall advise the Town Council concerning requirements for or revision to Town Ordinances or other actions which may be required to enable the WPCA to more adequately serve the Town.

Section 8. Operation/Employees

The WPCA shall have all the rights powers, duties and obligations conferred and imposed by Chapters 102 and 103 of the Connecticut General Statutes , as amended, and by Special Act 284, of January 1959, Connecticut Legislature, entitled: "*An Act Authorizing the Town of Ledyard to Acquire and Operate a Water System.*" The WPCA shall have the authority to request to employ personnel, as may be required to carry out the purposes to this ordinance. WPCA employees shall abide by the Personnel Rules established by the Mayor and approved by the Town Council and those regulations established by the appropriate Collective Bargaining Unit. WPCA employees shall receive supervision from the Mayor on administrative matters and from the WPCA on matters of policy.

Section 9. Conflict with Other Laws or Regulations; Severability

If any section, or part of a section, of this Ordinance shall be held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such holding shall not be deemed to invalidate the remaining provisions hereof.

Section 10. Effective Date

In accordance with the Town Charter this ordinance shall become effective on the twenty-first (21st) day after such publication following its final passage.

Amended, Adopted and Renumbered by the Ledyard Town Council on: September 25, 2019

Linda C. Davis, Chairman

Approved / Disapproved on: _____

Fred B. Allyn, III, Mayor

Published on:

Effective Date:

Patricia A. Riley, Town Clerk

Revisions: Ordinance #9 “*Ordinance Creating a Water and Sewer Authority for the Town of Ledyard*” Adopted at Town Meeting September 21, 1964; Ordinance #9 “*Ordinance Amending An Ordinance Creating a Water and Sewer Authority for the Town of Ledyard*” Adopted August 23, 1972; Ordinance #9 “*Ordinance Amending An Ordinance Creating a Water and Sewer Authority for the Town of Ledyard*” Amended and Adopted August 23, 1972; Ordinance #9 “*Ordinance Amending An Ordinance Creating a Water and Sewer Authority for the Town of Ledyard*” Amended and Adopted April 11, 1979; Ordinance #74 “*Ordinance Amending An Ordinance Creating a Water and Sewer Authority for the Town of Ledyard*” Amended and Adopted April 14, 1999; Ordinance #105 “*Ordinance Amending An Ordinance Creating a Water and Sewer Authority for the Town of Ledyard*” Adopted June 25, 2014; Adopted May 26, 2010; Amended and Adopted March 28, 2012; Ordinance #134 “*Ordinance Amending An Ordinance Creating a Water and Sewer Authority for the Town of Ledyard*” Adopted: June 24, 2015; Effective: July 31, 2015.

History:

The Twenty-fourth Town Council (2017- 2019) Ordinance Update Initiative: Renumbered Ordinance #134 *Ordinance Amending An Ordinance Creating a Water and Sewer Authority for the Town of Ledyard* “ to Ordinance #400-001.

2019: Section 2 added language regarding member attendance relative to being considered resigned; Section 9 updated language to be consistent with town ordinances. Added Section 1 “Effective Date” to be consistent with Town Ordinance format.



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard
Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

File #: 24-0345

Agenda Date: 5/22/2024

Agenda #: 8.

TAX REFUND

Motion/Request:

MOTION to approve two tax refunds in the combined total amount of \$7,321.19 with each exceeding \$2,400.00 in accordance with tax collector departmental procedures.

- Kineo Properties LLC \$3,602.19
- Messier, Massad, Burdick & Associates \$3,719.00

Background:

In accordance with policies established for the Tax Collection Department, refunds to taxpayer exceeding \$2,400 are to be approved by the Town Council.

Finance Director Comment/Recommendation:

(type text here)

Mayor Comment/Recommendation:

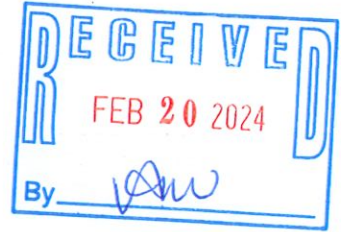
(type text here)

Application for Refund of Taxes Paid

Return to: Ledyard Tax Collector's Office
741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339

Amount of Refund
\$3,602.19

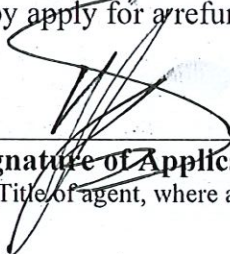
Date: February 20, 2024



<i>Kineo Properties LLC</i>
<i>74 Crosswinds Dr</i>
<i>Noank, CT 06340</i>
<i>860-705-9299</i>

PLEASE READ, SIGN, AND DATE BELOW:

I am entitled to this refund because I have made the payments from funds under my control, and no other party will be requesting this refund.
 I understand that false or deliberately misleading statements subject me to penalties for perjury and/or for obtaining money under false pretenses.
 I hereby apply for a refund of taxes paid in accordance with Conn. Gen Sate. 12/129.

✓ 

Signature of Applicant/Agent
 (Title of agent, where applicable)

Tax Collector's Signature

✓ _____
Date Signed

Date

Do Not Write Below This Box -- Office Use Only

Date of Payment: <i>2/2/2024</i>	Tax Type: <i>MV PP RE SMV</i>
Grand List Year: <i>2022</i>	Reason: <i>over payment</i>
Grand List Number: <i>163612</i>	Property Owner: <i>Kineo Properties</i>
Payment Type: <i>Check</i>	Property Location: <i>2 Colby Dr</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Received by mail/email</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Hand delivered in the office</i>

ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNING BODY

At a regular meeting of the Ledyard Town Council, held on the _____ day of _____, 2024, it was voted to refund property taxes amounting to \$ _____ to _____.

S. Naomi Rodriguez

Air # 24-0345
4/15/2024

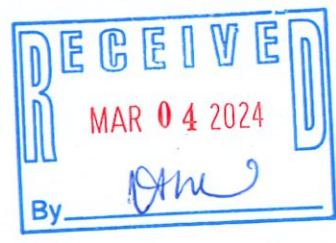
Application for Refund of Taxes Paid

Return to: Ledyard Tax Collector's Office
741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339

Amount of Refund
\$3,719.00

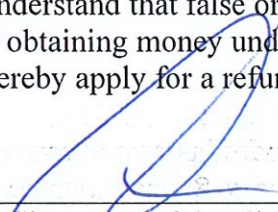
Date: February 22, 2024

<i>Messier, Massad, Burdick & Assoc</i>
<i>107 State St</i>
<i>New London, CT 06320</i>



PLEASE READ, SIGN, AND DATE BELOW:

I am entitled to this refund because I have made the payments from funds under my control, and no other party will be requesting this refund.
 I understand that false or deliberately misleading statements subject me to penalties for perjury and/or for obtaining money under false pretenses.
 I hereby apply for a refund of taxes paid in accordance with Conn. Gen Sate. 12/129.

✓ 

Signature of Applicant/Agent
 (Title of agent, where applicable)

Tax Collector's Signature

✓ *2/27/24*

Date Signed

Date

Do Not Write Below This Box -- Office Use Only

Date of Payment: <i>1/25/2024</i>	Tax Type: <i>MV PP RE SMV</i>
Grand List Year: <i>2022</i>	Reason: <i>Double payment</i>
Grand List Number: <i>73350</i>	Property Owner: <i>Ross Mcallister</i>
Payment Type: <i>Check</i>	Property Location: <i>68 Pheasant Run Dr</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Received by mail/email</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Hand delivered in the office</i>

ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNING BODY

At a regular meeting of the Ledyard Town Council, held on the _____ day of _____, 2024, it was voted to refund property taxes amounting to \$ _____ to _____.

S. Naomi Rodriguez



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard
Highway
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

File #: 24-0428

Agenda Date: 6/12/2024

Agenda #: 9.

AGENDA REQUEST
GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

Subject:

Discussion regarding the Town Council's 2024 Summer Meeting Schedule.

Background:

(type text here)

Department Comment/Recommendation:

(type text here)