

Roxanne Maher

From: Chris Jelden <chrisjelden@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 11, 2025 8:18 AM
To: Town Council Group
Cc: Boe; Fred Allyn, III
Subject: Final Budget Decision

Dear Town Council Members,

With the second referendum defeated, I urge you not to interpret the “no” vote as a call for deeper cuts. The budget has already been significantly reduced... cuts that, if left in place, will do real harm to our town and our schools. Further cuts are unfathomable at this point

You now have the authority and responsibility to adopt a final budget. Please consider reinstating key portions of the original proposal, especially funding for the Board of Education and necessary town functions, including department head raises. The push to reach a performative \$1.99 mill rate increase didn't yield voter support—what it did do was strip away essential resources. The no vote on this bare bones budget indicates an unwillingness to negotiate in fair terms based on the realities we are living in.

The voters have had their say. Now it's time to lead. Do what's right for Ledyard—not just for today, but for the future.

Thank you for your time and service,

Chris Jelden

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