



TOWN OF LEDYARD
CONNECTICUT
TOWN COUNCIL

Chairman Kevin J. Dombrowski

MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARING
LEDYARD TOWN COUNCIL
VIDEO CONFERENCE – REMOTE MEEETING PARTICIPATION

PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

6:30 PM, JUNE 22, 2022

- I. CALL TO ORDER – Chairman Dombrowski called to order the Public Hearing at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers regarding the Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Program: (1) ARC of Eastern Connecticut to replace windows at the Group Residence located at 1671 Center Groton Road, Ledyard estimated cost \$30,872; and (2) Habitat for Humanity Project for the full rehabilitation of a single-family split-level home at 42 Laurel Leaf Drive in Gales Ferry.

Chairman Dombrowski welcomed all to tonight’s Hybrid Public Hearing. He stated for the members of the Public who were participating via video conference that remote meeting information was available on the Agenda that was posted on the Town’s Website - ICompass Meeting Portal.

- I. PROCEDURE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING
II. 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

For Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) tax credits eligibility the Ledyard Town Council will conduct a Hybrid Format Public Hearing (In-Person & Video Conference) on Wednesday, June 22, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. to receive comment on the following proposed projects:

- (1) ARC of Eastern Connecticut to replace windows at the Group Residence located at 1671 Center Groton Road, Ledyard estimated cost \$30,872;
(2) Habitat for Humanity Project for the full rehabilitation of a single-family split-level home at 42 Laurel Leaf Drive in Gales Ferry.

Form NA-01 2022 Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Program Proposals are available in the Town Clerk’s Office.

Please join the Public Hearing in-person or remotely from your computer, tablet or smartphone as follows:

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

Please join the video conference meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone at:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86475272404?pwd=azB6TUprWDVTNTTh2Y1gxVmRkekN6dz09>
or by audio only dial: +1 646 558 8656 Meeting ID: 864 7527 2404: Passcode: 305672

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

Dated at Ledyard, Connecticut this 9th day of June, 2022.

For the Ledyard Town Council
s/s Kevin J. Dombrowski, Chairman

Please Publish on Monday, June 13, 2022

IV. PRESENTATION OF THE PROPOSED NAA PROJECTS:

Councilor Saums provided some background explaining that the State Department of Revenue Services in conjunction with large corporations developed a Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) which provides a tax credit to businesses that make donations to nonprofits for projects approved by their local governments. The NAA was not a grant program, it was a "corporation donation" initiative in which corporations could partner with non-profit organizations to sponsor or make donations toward an approved project for which they would receive a tax credit.

Councilor Saums went on to explain in accordance with CGS for non-profit organizations to be eligible for the NAA program the Town Council must hold a public hearing and approve the project. He stated that the entire project could be fully sponsored/funded by donations from corporations and business or a just a portion of the project could be sponsored by corporations and business. He stated endorsing the project would not commit any funding from the town, and he noted that this was not a grant program.

Councilor Saums stated the following non-profit organizations were seeking support from the Town of Ledyard to apply for the Neighborhood Assistance Act Program:

- (1) ARC of Eastern Connecticut to replace windows on a group home \$30,872: located at 1871 Center Groton
- (2) Habitat of Humanity \$20,000 full rehabilitation of a single-family split-level home at 42 Laurel Leaf Drive in Gales Ferry.

Councilor Saums stated ARC of Eastern Connecticut Penny Newberry and Habitat for Humanity Sarah Lufler were present this evening to present their projects for which they were seeking the support of the Neighborhood Assistance Act Program. He deferred to the non-profit organization Representatives to provide an overview of their project requests.

Ms. Penny Newberry thanked the Town Council for considering their request this evening to support an initiative for Neighborhood Assistance Act Program. She began by stating that ARC of Eastern Connecticut merged with ARC of Quinebaug Valley in 2019 and was now ARC of Eastern Connecticut. She noted that they were a 501(c) non-profit organization and were seeking support for a project in the amount of \$30,872.00 to replace the windows at their group residence located at 1871 Center Groton Road, Ledyard. She stated this home provided round the clock support to six clients with intellectual and developmental disabilities, some who have limited mobility and/or were older and medically fragile. She stated replacing the old drafty windows with energy efficient windows would keep the home warmer for the individuals who live in the home. She stated each year ARC of Eastern Connecticut works to accomplish a project to improve the facilities for their clients, noting that some could take several years to complete.

Ms. Sarah Lufler thanked the Town Council Committee for considering Habitat for Humanity's request this evening to support an initiative to be eligible for the Neighborhood Assistance Act Program. She stated Habitat of Humanity of Eastern Connecticut works in partnership with families to provide support throughout the home ownership process. She provided some background stating that Habitat for Humanity received a single-family split-level home at 42 Laurel Leaf Drive in Gales Ferry as a donation, noting that it would require a full rehabilitation to be habitable. She noted the home was approximately 1,000 square feet and had three bedrooms and 1.5 bathrooms. She explained that the home would be rehabbed primarily through donated materials, and funding, with both volunteer and contractor labor, under the supervision of a professional Construction Supervisor. She stated the rehabilitation work would include siding,

roofing, windows, sheet rock insulation, kitchen, bath, flooring, and Energy Star appliances. She stated Habitat for Humanity was interested in applying for the NAA Program to support the full rehabilitation of the single-family split-level home at 42 Laurel Leaf Drive in Gales Ferry. She stated that Habitat for Humanity planned to begin the project in June, 2022 and expect to complete it before June, 2023. She noted the home on Laurel Leaf Drive was a great place to raise a family.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Andra Ingalls, 5 Bolduc Drive, Ledyard, Town Councilor, questioned whether either Organization has had an interested corporate sponsor come forward to assist them with their projects.

Ms. Newbury explained that there were only a few C-Corporations; and therefore, it was difficult to find one. She stated some businesses do not know their status; and she noted most C-Corporations were public utilities. She stated that *The Arc of Eastern Connecticut* was hoping that Eversource would come forward this year to help them with their window replacement project for 1871 Center Groton Road, Ledyard; and that she planned to reach out to them later this week. She stated once the Municipality approved the non-profit organization to participate in the NAA program that a list of projects would be published on the DRS Website for C-Corporations to review and select projects to support.

Ms. Sarah Lufler stated *Habitat for Humanity* has a history of businesses that support their efforts. However, she stated that they did not have any businesses identified at this time to assist with the full rehabilitation of the home on Laurel Leaf Drive, in Gales Ferry.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further public comment, Chairman Dombrowski adjourned the public hearing at 6:39 p.m.

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

I, Kevin J. Dombrowski, 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 June 22, 2022.

Attest: _____
Kevin J. Dombrowski, Chairman