



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Agricultural Commission Meeting Minutes

Chairman
Bruce Garstka

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, March 18, 2025

6:00 PM

Town Hall Annex-Hybrid Format

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Garstka called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present Alternate Member Steve Martic
Farming Community Bruce Garstka
Farming Community Russell Holmberg
Farming Community Michael E. Marelli

Excused Community-at-Large Representative Katie Yuhas

Absent Farming Community William Thorne

Late Farming Community Allyson Angelini

Steve Martic was appointed as a voting member.

III. CITIZENS COMMENTS

None present.

IV. COMMENTS OF COMMISSION MEMBERS

1. Comments of Commission Members.

Mr. Marelli said that at the last Town Council meeting Naomi Rodriguez, Town Council Chairperson mention the Commission's April joint meeting and told the Councilors that she would like them to attend the meeting.

Chairman Garstka said he thinks the joint meeting is more relaxed and not intimidating like a Council meeting is, which he feels is important. He added that he hopes to have a good response.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

V. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Informational Items.

None.

VI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1. Motion to APPROVE Regular Meeting Minutes from February 18, 2025, as written.

Ms. Angelini was not present for this vote.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Bruce Garstka

SECONDER: Michael E. Marelli

AYE 4 Martic Garstka Holmberg Marelli

EXCUSED 1 Yuhas

ABSENT 1 Thorne

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

- 1. Correspondence.

None this month.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Any other Old Business to come before the Commission.

Chairman Garstka said he spoke with a few farmers in the past week to let them know that the Commission is still around. He also let the farmers know that the major drive of the Commission is to remind people that it's the farms that make Ledyard, not economic development. Chairman Garstka said once the land is gone, it's gone. He believes that the rural characteristics drive people to Ledyard. Chairman Garstka added that as time goes by more farmers will likely be approached by developers. Especially with growth at Electric Boat and the development of Great Wolf Lodge.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Any other New Business to come before the Commission.

Chairman Garstka said the biggest thing is to push attendance for the joint meeting next month. Chairman Garstka added that he will ask Naomi Rodriguez, Town Council Chairperson again to remind the Town Council to get in touch with their Committee members.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to ADJOURN the Regular meeting at 6:05 p.m.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Bruce Garstka

SECONDER: Michael E. Marelli

AYE 5 Angelini Martic Garstka Holmberg Marelli

EXCUSED 1 Yuhas

ABSENT 1 Thorne

DISCLAIMER: Although we try to be timely and accurate these are not official records of the Town.