

# REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

## Tuesday, December 9, 2025, 7:00 PM

### EAST LYME PLANNING COMMISSION

East Lyme, 108 Pennsylvania Avenue, East Lyme, Connecticut  
Upper Level Conference Room

**CHAIR:** Brian Bohmbach  
**VICE CHAIR:** Nick Menapace  
**SECRETARY:** Tim LaDucer

**PLANNING DIRECTOR:** Gary Goeschel II  
**RECORDING SECRETARY:**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Gordon called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

#### I. ROLL CALL + PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Godon took roll call and observed the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MOTION (#1):** N. Menapace moved to add Filling of the Alternat Vacancy to the Agenda as Item C. under New Business.

**SECOND:** B. Bohmbach

**VOTE:** Unanimous (6-0-0)

**MOTION (#2):** T. LaDucer moved to take up the Public Delegations ahead of the Election of Officers.

**SECOND:** T. Fitting

**VOTE:** Unanimous (6-0-0)

#### II. CALL FOR PUBLIC DELEGATIONS

Public Delegations is the time when members of the public are invited to speak to the Commission about certain matters. Items, referrals, or applications subject to a decision by the Commission, a public hearing, or in litigation may not be discussed. During delegations, the members of the Commission will not directly answer questions or make comment.

**D. McKenzie, 10 Woodland Drive, Niantic:** spoke in regard to the Alternate Vacancy and rumors regarding the placement of the next Chair. Mr. McKenzie stated that on October 24, 2025 he sent a letter to Planning Commissioner and State Representative Nick Menapace in regard to the chairmanship which suggesting if Representative Menapace were to become the Planning Commission Chair, while though legal would simply be a "Bad Look." Mr. McKenzi also stated Representative Menapace supported HB5002 (which was vetoed by the Governor) and HB8002, both in regard to promoting housing growth which, both Bills were unanimously opposed by the Republicans in both the House and the Senate citing concerns of a "top-down mandate" and a loss of local planning and zoning control. Mr. McKenzie stated he sees a conflict of interest which the Commission may need to revisit as he questioned whether Mr. Menapace's responsibilities would be to his Town and District or every other town in the State if he became Chairman or Vice Chairman (see Mr. McKenzie's letter attached).

**Talipa Domijan, 11 Hoskins Drive, Niantic:** Ms. Domijan indicated she was concerned about the same issues as Mr. McKenzie and HB8002. She indicated the contents of the Bill are unsettling. And she doesn't want the Town Zoning to be effected.

**Kieth Domijan, 11 Hoskins Drive, Niantic:** Mr. Domijan questions whether a State Representative

RECEIVED & FILED  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2025  
TOWN OF EAST LYME, CT  
KATHLEEN MCGOWAN  
TOWN CLERK

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should sit on Planning Commission as there should be a separation of power ensuring the public trust. Mr. Domijan pointed to a case in New Jersey known as the Henry Family case which resulted in the requiring a balance check on policy making. He further indicated he felt Commissioner Menapace had a conflict of interest if he served as Chair.

**Tomas Long, 34 Legendary Drive:** Mr. Long stated he thinks it seems like Mr. Menapace has a conflict of interest as he's pushing for State Policy and applying it on the local level. He further indicated that in his research on the Working Families Party; in order to be endorsed by the Working Families, the Party requires specific commitments to them which are a conflict of interest locally.

### III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman Gordon turned the meeting over to Cindy Collins, Ex-Officio to run the Election of Officers.

#### A. Chair

Ex-Officio C. Collins called for nominations for Chairman.

**MOTION (#3):** T. LaDucer moved to nominate Brian Bohmbach as Chairman.  
**SECONDED:** N. Menapace  
**DISCUSSION:** None  
**VOTE:** Unanimous (6-0-0)

Ex-Officio C. Collins made a second call for nominations. Hearing none, C. Collins made a third call for nominations for Chairman. Hearing none, she closed the nominations. With no other nomination for Chairman, Ex-Officio Collins called for a motion to elect Brian Bohmbach as Planning Commission Chair.

**MOTION (#4):** N. Menapace moved to elect B. Bohmbach as Planning Commission Chair.  
**SECOND:** R. Gordon  
**DISCUSSION:** None  
**VOTE:** Unanimous (6-0-0)

Ex-Officio C. Collins turned the meeting back over to Chairman Bohmbach to continue the Election of Officers

#### B. Vice Chair

Newly Elect Chairman Bohmbach called for Nominations for Vice Chair.

**MOTION (#5):** Nina Franco moved to nominate N. Menapace for Vice Chair.  
**SECOND:** Rich Gordon  
**DISCUSSION:** R. Gordon indicated that N. Menapace could recuse himself on any affordable applications.

Chairman Bohmbach made a second call for nomination for the position of Vice Chairman.

**MOTION (#6):** T. Fitting moved to nominate T. LaDucer for Vice Chair.  
**SECOND:** There was no Second on the Motion. Motion Fails.  
**DISCUSSION:** T. LaDucer submitted the following documents (attached) to the Commission and requested they read them as they pertain to Conflicts of Interest:

- Article VI - Duties, Obligations, Responsibilities, Privileges of Members and Alternates from the Commission's By-Laws, highlighting Section I – Conflicts of Interest.

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- Article from workingfamilies.org “Connecticut Working Families Party Endorses 84 candidates ahead of the November election” dated September 5, 2024.
- 2024 Connecticut Working Families Party Questionnaire

N. Menapace responded to the concerns indicating he genuinely cares about the Town and would like to serve on Planning and learn how to run the meeting. He stated he feels that the Commission can work together regardless of affiliation. However, he said he was disappointed as to how this has been used as a political rally.

T. LaDucer replied, indicating he was a concerned citizen and sees a clear violation of ethics. He again asked the Commission to review the materials he handed out.

B. Bohmbach, Chair stated that they are a bipartisan commission and doesn't see where there would be a problem necessarily. More specifically, he indicated the Commission is now more sensitive to the matter. Chairman Bohmbach suggested the Position of Vice Chair doesn't carry any further power than any other Commissioner.

T. LaDucer: indicated he is disappointed and feels the Commission is putting the Town at risk.

R. Gordon: Says he feels the same as Chairman Bohmbach. He indicated that in his time as Chair, he didn't feel he had any “sway” in how the Commission votes.

With no further discussion, Chairman Bohmbach made a third and final call for any nomination for the position of Vice Chair. Hearing none, Chairman Bohmbach call for a motion to close the Nominations for Vice Chairman.

**MOTION (#7):** R. Gordon moved to close nominations:  
**SECOND:** T. LaDucer  
**DISCUSSION:** None  
**VOTE:** Unanimous (6-0-0)

With only one nomination for Vice Chair, Chairman Bohmbach called for a motion to elect Nick Menapace as Vice Chairman of the East Lyme Planning Commission.

**MOTION (#7):** B. Bohmbach moved to elect Nick Menapace as Vice Chairman.  
**SECOND:** R. Gordon  
**DISCUSSION:** None  
**VOTE:** **In Favor:** R. Gordon, N. Franco, B. Bohmbach  
**Opposed:** T. Fitting, T. LaDucer  
**Abstained:** N. Menapace (3-2-1)

### C. Secretary

Chairman Bohmbach called for Nominations for Secretary:

**MOTION(#8):** R. Gordon moved to nominate T. LaDucer for the position of Planning Commission Secretary.  
**SECOND:** B. Bohmbach  
**DISCUSSION:** None  
**VOTE:** Unanimous (6-0-0)

Chairman Bohmbach made a second call for nomination. Hearing none, Chairman Bohmbach made a third and final call for any nominations for the position of Secretary. There were no further nominations. Chairman B. Bohmbach closed the nominations and called for a vote to elect Commissioner LaDucer to the position of Secretary.

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**MOTION (#9):** B. Bohmbach moved to elect T. Laducer as Planning Commission Secretary  
**SECOND:** N. Menapace  
**DISCUSSION:** None  
**VOTE:** Unanimous (6-0-0)

### IV. REPORTS

- A. Communications:** None at this time.
- B. Zoning Liaison:** T. Laducer attended the 12/4/25 Zoning Meeting. He indicated the Zoning Commission voted in favor of a Waiver of ownership of an unobstructed access way for the purposes of a re-subdivision of land on Upper Walnut Hill Road which subdivision application is currently pending before the Planning Commission. Mr. Laducer indicated Ann Thurlow suggested the Zoning Commission consider a text amendment on rentals. He further indicated the Commission will hold a public hearing on the proposed Flanders Road AT&T cellular tower.
- C. Ex - Officio:** Selectwoman Cind Collins reported the Board of Selectmen have closed the public hearing on the proposed Ordinance authorizing the use of Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Devices and are currently in deliberations.
- D. Planning Director:** Gary A. Goeschel II, reported he attended a meeting hosted by the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SECCOG) on the recently enacted housing Bill HB8002 and its impact on the region and the local municipalities. Goeschel indicated the SECCOG volunteered to make presentations to the municipalities to help explain the Bill and educate Board of Selectmen and Land Use Commissions.
- E. Subcommittees:** None
- F. Chairman:** Being newly elected, Chairman Bohmbach had nothing to report.

### V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### A. Meeting Minutes of: November 10, 2025 Meeting Minutes

N. Menapace indicated as Sue Spang is now the First Selectman of Salem and has since resigned her position as the Commission's Recording secretary. As such, her name should be removed from the Minutes identifying her as the Recording Secretary.

**MOTION (#11):** N. Menapace moved to approve the minutes of November 10, 2025 as amended.  
**SECOND:** R. Gordon  
**DISCUSSION:** None  
**VOTE:** Unanimous (6-0-0)

### VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Catbird Lane Resubdivision, Heritage Phase 3; Kristen Clarke, P.E., Applicant; Hathaway Farm LLC, Owner;** Application for a Resubdivision of approximately 4.1 acres, and Waiver Request from Section 4-2-3(I) Stormwater Management Plan, of land located at Catbird Lane, Tax

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Assessor's Map #36, Lot #31, East Lyme, CT, Zoned RU-40 (*Date of Receipt 9/9/2025, Public Hearing Schedule for 11/10/2025; 35-days for Public Hearing 12/14/2025; 35-day Extension from meeting to 1/13/2026*)

Attorney Gerghy submitted a request for an extension of time to January 13, 2026, to continue the public hearing. Upon accepting the request for the extension of time to conduct the public hearing, the Planning Commission tabled any discussion. The public hearing remains open and continued to the Commission's next regularly scheduled meeting of January 13, 2026.

### VII. SUBDIVISIONS / RE-SUBDIVISIONS

A. **Catbird Lane Resubdivision, Heritage Phase 3; Kristen Clarke, P.E., Applicant; Hathaway Farm LLC, Owner;** Application for a Resubdivision of approximately 4.1 acres, and Waiver Request from Section 4-2-3(I) Stormwater Management Plan, of land located at Catbird Lane, Tax Assessor's Map #36, Lot #31, East Lyme, CT, Zoned RU-40 (*Date of Receipt 9/9/2025, Public Hearing Schedule for 11/10/2025; 35-days for Public Hearing 12/14/2025; 35-day Extension from meeting to 1/13/2026*)

As the Public Hearing remains open, discussion was tabled and no action was taken.

### VIII. ZONING REFERRALS [Connecticut General Statute (CGS) 8-3a] –

A. **Application of Parkers Place, LLC, for a proposed General Statutes 8-30g Zone Change, site plan, and Coastal Area Management Review,** for a multi-family affordable residential housing development on property located on the Westerly side of Park Place, East Lyme, Connecticut, Tax Assessor's Map #11.1, Lot #11 (Public Hearing Scheduled for 1/9/2026)

G. Goeschel, Town Planner, indicated they just received the referral and needs to review the plans. As the public hearing is scheduled for January 22, 2026, G. Goeschel said he would review the proposal and provide comments to the Commission for discussion at their next meeting on January 13, 2026.

### IX. MUNICIPAL REFERRALS [Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) 8-24]

A. **Application of Jerry Lokken, for East Lyme Parks & Recreation,** for a Special Permit under Section 20.1.2(F) of the East Lyme Zoning Regulations, for municipal improvements to construct an ADA accessible trail, and improve the existing parking area for Darrow Pond, for property located at 16 Mostowy Road, East Lyme, Assessor Map #40.0, Lot #5 (*Special Meeting Public Hearing Scheduled for 12/15/2025*)

G. Goeschel, Town Planner provided the Commission with a brief history regarding the acquisition of the property and an overview of the proposed recreational trails project which includes the construction of an ADA accessible trail and boardwalk, maintenance of existing trails, and an expansion to the existing parking lot. He noted that the Town is in the process of applying for a second round of grant funding from the CT DEEP Recreational Trails Grant program which is due December 18<sup>th</sup> of this month. He said, he is looking for a favorable review and approval of consistency with the POCD in order to strengthen the Town's grant application.

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**MOTION(#12):** T. Laducer moved to find the proposed project Consistent with the the 2020 POCD, as amended.  
**SECOND:** T. Fitting  
**DISCUSSION:** None  
**VOTE:** Unanimous (6-0-0)

### X. OLD BUSINESS

#### A. Subdivision Regulations – Section 4; Application Submission Procedure

Town Planner Goeschel recommended he schedule a meeting with Town Attorney Tim Bleasdale to meet with the Commission to discuss the matter and he would work on coordinating that meeting.

#### B. Twin Valley 23-Lot CDD Subdivision; Request for Bond Reduction

Goeschel indicated he received email correspondence from the Town Engineer that recommend a 70% reduction in the bond if the developer had not submitted an As-Built of the detention basins. Goeschel indicated they did not receive an As-built of the stormwater structures and recommended he speak further with the Town Engineer and request a formal memorandum. The discussion was tabled and no further action was taken.

### XI. NEW BUSINESS

#### A. 2026 Planning Commission Calendar

**MOTION (#13):** R. Gordon moved to approve the 2026 Meeting Calendar.  
**SECOND:** N. Menapace  
**DISCUSSION:** None  
**VOTE:** Unanimous (6-0-0)

#### B. 29 Upper Walnut Hill Road, Jeffrey T. Gannoe, Applicant & Owner; Application for two-lot Resubdivision of land Zoned RU-200, Tax Assessor's Map #54.0, Lot #9 (*Date of Receipt: 12/4/2025; 65-days for Public Hearing: 2/11/2026*)

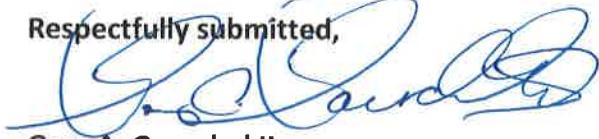
As the Public Hearing is scheduled for January 13, 2026, there was no discussion and no action taken.

### XII. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION (#14):** N. Franco Moved to Adjourn the meeting.  
**SECOND:** R. Gordon  
**VOTE:** Unanimous

**MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:22PM**

Respectfully submitted,



Gary A. Goeschel II  
Director of Planning /  
Inland Wetlands Agent

December 9, 2025

TO: East Lyme Planning Commission

FR: Don MacKenzie  
10 Woodland Dr.  
Niantic, CT 06357

RE: Placement of Chair(s) for East Lyme Planning Commission

Dear Commission,

On November 24, 2025, I sent Rep. Menapace a letter letting him know my thoughts after speaking to two (2) attorneys, our Planning Official, and our Zoning Officer on Rep. Menapace becoming Chair or Vice-Chair on the Town's Planning Commission. All 4 people agree that although legal for you to hold the position(s) it would or could be simply put, a "Bad Look."

First, I would like to discuss H.B. 5002 which at one time, you were a co-sponsor but for some reason, you are no longer listed as a co-sponsor. For those who do not know:

**Bill 5002 - Statement of Purpose:** To lower housing costs, increase housing options and better support homeless persons. Prior to VETO, you supported that bill.

**H.B. 8002—An Act Concerning Housing Growth** lays out a framework for how Connecticut will plan for and support housing growth in the years ahead. The bill states that housing is central to Connecticut's long-term affordability, economic strength, and community well-being. As our State Rep, you supported 8002 as well.

## **Party Line Voting**

- **Democrats** mostly voted in favor of the bill. In the House vote, six Democrats who had voted against a previous version of the bill (HB 5002) switched their votes to "yes" for HB 8002. In the Senate, all four Democrats who had previously opposed the bill also changed their votes to "yes".
- **Republicans** were unanimously opposed to the bill in both chambers, citing concerns over a "top-down mandate" and a loss of local planning & zoning control.

As I stated in my letter to you on November 24<sup>th</sup>, East Lyme has a Planning and a Zoning Commission, and it is now apparent that you wanted to lead or had aspirations of leading the Planning Commission. This is where I (and others) see a conflict of interest. This Town has seen its share of "Bad Press" over the past couple of years and should the constituency see or feel there is a conflict of interest, they will push back. So, the work that was done may have to get revisited, legal may have to get involved, expenses, timing, etc.

In my opinion, you are still allowed to remain on the Commission and recuse yourself as necessary but not in a leadership role as I agree, it just is not a "Good Look." By chairing or co-chairing our Planning Commission who then becomes your "voice" or "responsibility" the people of East Lyme or every other Town in our State? Every town is different and many people choose to move or live in a Town based on how they are zoned. You should have one boss, the people in your district. Not the Working Families Party, not your Party in Hartford. You were elected to represent East Lyme, Salem, and Montville.

Thank You.

members and alternates may serve on subcommittees. The Commission will vote on membership to the established subcommittees. The Chair may temporarily fill any vacancies in a position on subcommittees, appointing a regular or alternate member, until such time as that position can be permanently filled. The Chair may appoint a parliamentarian to make recommendations on rules of meeting conduct.

The Commission shall appoint ex-officio representatives to other Town and Regional Boards and Commissions in order to provide input back to the East Lyme Planning Commission on issues affecting the general responsibilities and duties of the Commission.

## **ARTICLE VI - DUTIES, OBLIGATIONS, RESPONSIBILITIES, PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES**

### **SECTION I – CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

All members must be aware of the Connecticut General Statutes regarding disqualification of members in matters before planning or zoning commissions or zoning boards of appeals (Sec. 8-21). No member of the Planning Commission shall appear for or represent any person, firm or corporation or other entity in any matter pending before the planning or zoning commission or zoning board of appeals. No member of the Planning Commission shall participate in the hearing or decision of the commission of which he is a member upon any matter in which he is directly or indirectly interested in a personal or financial sense. In the event of such disqualification, such fact shall be entered on the records of the commission and replacement shall be made from alternate members.

### **SECTION II - RESPONSIBILITIES**

Commission members and alternates are encouraged to be present at other agency meetings, town meetings, public hearings, and budget hearings. Members and alternates may voice their personal opinions on issues not subject to action by the Planning Commission but, shall make it clear that the opinion given is an individual member's and not that of the Planning Commission.

### **SECTION III – PRIVILEGES**

Alternates may attend all meetings and executive sessions of the Commission. Alternates not seated shall not participate in discussion or deliberation of applications before the Commission. Alternates may ask questions during a public hearing but, should refrain from making comments that would cause them to be disqualified to vote if seated.

Individual members of the Commission shall maintain the right of minority reports (written or verbal), which then shall become part of the minutes of the meeting.

## **ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS**

### **SECTION I - SCHEDULING OF MEETINGS**

A schedule of regular monthly meetings for the following year will be established by the December meeting during which the Election of Officers is held. Meetings of the Planning Commission shall be held on the dates set forth by the Commission, at such place and time as

# Connecticut Working Families Party Endorses 84 candidates ahead of the November election

 [workingfamilies.org/2024/09/connecticut-working-families-party-endorses-85-candidates-ahead-of-the-november-election](https://workingfamilies.org/2024/09/connecticut-working-families-party-endorses-85-candidates-ahead-of-the-november-election)

Roger Senserrick

September 5, 2024

Hartford, Conn. – Connecticut Working Families Party (WFP) is proud to announce the endorsement of 84 candidates for the upcoming 2024 elections. These endorsements span across federal, state senate, and state house districts, reflecting WFP's commitment to advocating for policies that promote economic opportunity, affordable housing, and a state budget that allows for necessary investments in our communities.

**Sarah Ganong**, State Director of the Connecticut Working Families Party, said, "Our endorsed candidates represent the values and vision that the Working Families Party fights for every day. Our candidates are committed to building a Connecticut that works for everyone, not just the wealthy and well-connected. From opposing restrictive budget measures to ensuring affordable housing and creating opportunities for all residents, WFP candidates are ready to work together on day one to build governing power for working people in our state."

These endorsements reflect the WFP's dedication to building a Connecticut where everyone has the freedom to thrive—where opportunity, equity, and personal freedom are prioritized. WFP candidates are committed to ensuring everyone has the right to make their own choices, whether it's about reproductive rights, gender identity, or the path they choose in life. They believe in fostering strong communities and economic growth that benefits all residents, not just a privileged few.

Each endorsed candidate will appear on the Working Families Party ballot line (Row C) in the upcoming election.

## Federal Candidates:

- Chris Murphy (U.S. Senate)
- John Larson (U.S. House District 1)

- Jahana Hayes (U.S. House District 5)

### State House Candidates:

District	District
8	Nancy Hammarstrom
12	Geoff Luxenberg
17	Eleni Kavros DeGraw
20	Kate Farrar
21	Mike Demicco
22	Rebecca Martinez
23	Jane Wisialowski
24	Emmanual "Manny" Sanchez
26	David DeFronzo
27	Gary Turco
28	Amy Morrin Bello
35	Cinzia Lettieri
37	Nick Menapace
38	Nick Gauthier
39	Anthony Nolan
40	Christine Conley
41	Aundre Bumgardner
46	Derell Wilson
48	Christopher Rivers
49	Susan Johnson
82	Michael Quinn
83	Jack Fazzino
85	Mary Mushinsky
87	Kieran Ahern
88	Joshua Elliott
90	Rebecca Hyland
91	Laurie Sweet
98	Moira Rader
100	Kai Belton
101	John Michael Parker
102	Robin Comey
104	Kara Rochelle
107	Aaron Zimmer
108	Anne Weisberg
109	Farley Santos
110	Bob Godfrey
112	Beth Cliff
117	MJ Shannon
118	Frank Smith
120	Kaitlyn Shake



# 2024 CONNECTICUT WORKING FAMILIES PARTY CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you for filling out the Connecticut Working Families Party Candidate Questionnaire. Please answer all the questions that are applicable.

**This survey is split up into different sections for candidates running for executive, school board, legislative, and other offices. Please answer all questions from sections labeled for your position. For example, if you are running for a school board, answer all questions from sections labeled school board.**

This candidate questionnaire is a form fillable PDF. If you haven't already, please download this questionnaire. You should be able to leave all of your answers inside of the PDF.

Once you are finished, please submit the questionnaire using the online form at <https://wfpus.org/endorsement-application-submission>. Please name your document "FirstName\_LastName\_Position".

If you have any questions, please reach out to [jburke@workingfamilies.org](mailto:jburke@workingfamilies.org).

Due to ballot access laws, if you do not live in one of the following communities, please call our Campaigns Director James Burke @ (860) 912-9827 to discuss your candidacy before applying for our endorsement: Bridgeport, Danbury, Fairfield, Hamden, Hartford, Meriden, Middletown, New Britain, New Haven, New London, Norwalk, West Hartford, Windham/Willimantic. Thank you.

## CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Position you are running for: \_\_\_\_\_

Other personal questions you may want to ask:

**Please list all endorsements (with name and contact) from unions, progressive organizations and progressive elected officials you have received up to this point.**

## INFORMATION ABOUT YOU (ALL OFFICES)

- 1.** Tell us about who you are and why you are running, your core values and vision, and why you want the Working Families Party endorsement.
- 2.** Have you previously run for office? If so, please provide details.
- 3.** What is your gender identity?

**4. Please indicate which of the following you identify as:**

- Asian
- Black or African American
- Hispanic or Latinx of any race
- Middle Eastern or North African
- Native American
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White
- Two or More Races
- Prefer not to say
- Other

**5. Are you currently or have you ever been a member of a union?**

- Yes
- No

**6. If Yes, which union?**

**7. Do you have military experience or connection?**

- Current Active Duty
- Guard/Reserve Member
- Military Veteran (Regardless of Discharge Status)
- Military Retired
- Family Member of an Active Duty Member or Veteran
- War Survivor or Refugee
- No

## **STUDENTS AND EDUCATION: (EXECUTIVE, LEGISLATIVE, SCHOOL BOARD)**

**8. With federal aid soon expiring, our schools will be seeing shortfalls in funding. Will you support increased local funding of education to help avoid cuts to student programming and staff?**

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

**9. Will you oppose any efforts to privatize any school services currently performed by town or school district employees?**

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

**10. Do you support the paraeducators and cafeteria workers in your school district having the right to organize a union if they haven't already, earn a living wage, have access to affordable, quality healthcare, and receive a strong retirement plan, such as a defined benefit pension?**

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

**11. What measures would you support to help students who have fallen behind in school to get caught up?**

**12. Right-wing activists have recently targeted school policies that support trans, non-binary, students and/or sought to place new restrictions on them. If elected, would you oppose any efforts to roll-back protections for LGBT students?**

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

**13.** Will you call for an immediate moratorium on expanding the number of charter schools in your community?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

**14.** Are there currently school resource officers in your school district? If so, would you support eliminating them?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

## LOCAL APPROACH TO THE HOUSING CRISIS (ALL OFFICES)

**15.** Tell us a bit about how the housing crisis has impacted your community and any ideas you have to solve it:

**16.** Local zoning laws often prohibit the creation of more affordable types of housing by requiring minimum lot sizes, expansive set-back requirements, and single-family only housing areas. Would you support amending the local zoning code to allow for a greater diversity of housing types?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

**17. Do you support “inclusionary zoning” policies to require that some percentage of newly developed housing is set aside for low- and moderate-income families?**

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

**18. How would you balance the need for market rate vs. affordable/subsidized housing in your municipality?**

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

## **POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY (EXECUTIVE, LEGISLATIVE)**

**19. Do you support shifting some resources away from policing and into the services, housing, education, jobs and infrastructure we need to thrive?**

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

**20. Would you support the addition of a local non-police emergency response team to respond to non-violent resident concerns such as mental health crises (similar to the CAHOOTS and STAR programs in Eugene and Denver)?**

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

**21.** Will you support local policies to reduce unnecessary arrests and direct local law enforcement to stop arrests for lower level charges in your community?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

**22.** Will you work to ensure that local law enforcement and government agencies -- including local police departments, school systems, and social service agencies in your district -- limit cooperation with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in enforcing federal immigration policy?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

**23.** We've seen progress towards a new vision for policing with first responders working alongside social workers and mental health professionals. However, some municipalities have outsourced these roles to non-public agencies. With this expanded view of public safety do you pledge to keep these roles public rather than privatized?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

## **MUNICIPAL BUDGETS (ALL OFFICES)**

**24.** Municipalities are limited in the ways they can raise money through regressive property taxes. If elected, would you use your voice and influence to help WFP and the Recovery

for All coalition to increase taxes on millionaires and billionaires and make bold increases to municipal state aid and education cost sharing?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

**25.** From inflation to expiring federal grants, municipalities are in tough shape for budgets in 2023. Will you oppose any cuts to municipal programs which would reduce staffing and services in your community?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

**26.** Oftentimes towns and school boards are pitted against each other during budget negotiations. How do you plan to work alongside your elected colleagues for the good of students, parents, and seniors?

**27.** How will you approach budget shortfalls, and how will you ensure that budgets are not balanced on the backs of the working people who have borne the brunt of the health and economic crises? Tell us about your local budget priorities:

## LOCAL APPROACHES TO CLIMATE CHANGE: (ALL OFFICES)

**28.** Locally, will you support public investment in infrastructure, renewable energy, and energy efficiency to transition your locality to 80-100% clean renewable energy by 2050, while ensuring a just transition for communities and workers, paid for by a price on emissions, to generate good jobs and economic growth while reducing carbon emissions? (for reference: NY Renews Solutions Project)

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

**29.** Will you oppose the construction of new dirty energy infrastructure, such as coal plants and natural gas pipelines in your locality?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

**30.** If not already banned, do you support banning hydrofracking in your locality?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

## GENERAL QUESTIONS: (ALL OFFICES)

**31.** Will you commit to requiring the payment of prevailing wages to construction and service workers employed on public contracts and subsidized projects, or to support the continuation and effective enforcement of such requirements where they are already in place?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

**32.** Will you publicly oppose any municipal, state, or federal paid leave plan that relies on employer tax credits and voluntary employer action rather than setting up a true plan that would cover all workers, and will you oppose a plan that jeopardizes existing unemployment insurance benefits and excludes people who need leave to address serious personal or family member illnesses or injuries?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

**33.** Will you pledge to use the visibility of your position to publicly support union organizing drives, contract campaigns and strikes?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

**34.** Will you pledge to object to any public construction project using non union labor and insist all construction in your municipality use project labor agreements.

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

## **GLOBAL VALUES FOR LOCAL LEADERS (ALL OFFICES)**

**35.** Do you support a woman's right to an abortion? Will you stand alongside organizations like Planned Parenthood in your community?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

**36.** CT is home to many national insurance companies which lobby locally and across the country against health insurance reform. Do you support WFP's mission to reform this healthcare system by creating a public option for CT and eventually Federal Medicare for All?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure - please explain

**37.** Please tell us in which of the following ways you are willing to help build the Working Families Party. Please check all

- I will publicly describe myself as a Working Families Democrat, Working Families Party-endorsed candidate or Working Families Party member.
- I am (or will become) a dues-paying member of WFP.
- I will meet with Working Families Party members and leaders at least once per year.
- I will publicly commit to taking action at the request of the WFP on issues where we are aligned.
- I will encourage my supporters to become WFP members and activists.
- I will list the WFP endorsement (and logo when appropriate) in campaign communications.
- I am interested in discussing and exploring a deep partnership with WFP to win my campaign and build the WFP.
- I am not interested in any of these actions.

## THANK YOU FOR FILLING OUT THE QUESTIONNAIRE!

Once you are finished, please submit the questionnaire using the online form at <https://wfpus.org/endorsement-application-submission>. Please name your document "FirstName\_LastName\_Position".