

**THE TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT**

**~~-And-~~**

**THE UNITED PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES UNION,**

**UNIT #424**

**WATER TREATMENT EMPLOYEES**

**To June 30, 2017**

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**AGREEMENT**  
**Between**  
**THE TOWN OF BRANFORD**  
**And**  
**THE UNITED PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES UNION, unit #424,**

This Agreement entered into by and between the Town of Branford (hereinafter referred to as the "Town") and the United Public Service Employees Union, Unit #424, (hereinafter referred to as the "Union").

**PREAMBLE**

The welfare of the Town of Branford and its employees is dependent upon the service the Town renders the public. Improvements in this service and economy in operating and maintaining expenses are promoted by willing cooperation between the Town management and the organization of its employees. An obligation rests upon the management, upon the Union and upon each employee to render honest, efficient and economical service. The spirit of cooperation between the management and the Union, and the employees represented thereby, being essential to efficient operation, all parties will so conduct themselves to promote this spirit.

**MANAGEMENT RIGHTS**

- 14.0 Except as otherwise modified or restricted by an express provision of this Agreement, the Town of Branford reserves and retains solely and exclusively, whether exercised or not, all the lawful and customary rights, powers, and prerogatives of management. Such rights include, but shall not be limited to: the right to obtain from any source and to contract for materials, services, supplies and equipment, including work currently performed by members of the bargaining unit, establishing standards of productivity and performance of its employees; determining the objectives of the Town of Branford and the methods and means necessary to fulfill those objectives, including the creation or the discontinuation of services, departments or programs in whole or in part, the determination of the content of job classifications; the content of job classifications for newly created positions; the determination of the qualification of employees; the appointment, promotion, assignments, direction, scheduling of hours of work and transfer of personnel; the suspension, demotion, discharge or any other appropriate disciplinary action against its employees; the relief from duty of its employees because of lack of work; the establishment, modification or discontinuation of reasonable and uniformly applied work rules by the Superintendent or with his express approval; and the taking of all necessary actions to carry out its objectives in emergencies.

**ARTICLE 1**  
**RECOGNITION**

- 1.0 All employees of the Sewer Treatment Plant of the Town of Branford as set out by classification in Appendix A.
- 1.1 The Town may hire non-bargaining unit employees on a temporary basis to work for the Waste Water Treatment Facility, when a bargaining unit employee is unable to work due to sickness, an accepted workers' compensation claim or an unpaid leave of absence. The length of temporary employment shall not exceed ninety (90) calendar days without the written agreement of the bargaining unit.

**ARTICLE 2**  
**DUES CHECK OFF**

- 2.0 The Town agrees to deduct from the pay of all its employees who, in writing, authorize such deductions from their wages, such membership dues, initiation fees, reinstatement fees, and service fees, as may be fixed by the Union. Such deduction shall continue for the duration of the Agreement except that any employee may withdraw such authorization in writing by certified mail to UPSEU Local #424, Unit 5 or the President of the Local to be given sixty (60) days prior to the expiration date of the contract and to take effect upon termination of the Agreement.
- 2.1 All employees in the collective bargaining unit who are not members on the effective date of this clause shall, for so long as they remain non-members, as a condition of employment, pay to the Union a service fee, equivalent to the amount uniformly required of its members. All employees in the collective bargaining unit who are members of the Union, who hereafter cease to be Union members, shall, for so long as they remain non-members, as a condition of employment, pay to the Union a service fee equivalent to the amount uniformly required of its members.
- 2.2 The deduction for any month shall be made during each payroll period of said month and shall be remitted to the Union together with a list of names of employees from whose wages such deductions have been made.
- 2.3 The Employer's obligations to make such deductions shall terminate automatically upon termination of the employee who signed the authorization or upon his or her transfer to a job not covered by this Agreement, except that deductions shall be resumed if any employee, terminated by layoff, is rehired during the life of the contract then in existence.
- 2.4 The Union agrees to save the Town harmless from any damages, fees, costs or assessments incurred by reason of the carrying out of the deduction provisions of this article, including the claim of an assignment of wages to the Union for

membership dues. Notwithstanding the provisions of this article, the Town reserves the right to protect the confidentiality of its records and the disclosure of these records shall be limited to matters directly related to any dispute that the Union is required to defend under this provision.

### ARTICLE 3 SENIORITY

- 3.0 The length of continuous service of the employee in the bargaining unit shall determine the seniority of the employee.
- 3.1 The principal of seniority shall govern and control in all cases of promotion within the bargaining unit, transfer, decrease or increase of the working force as well as preference in assignment to shift work and choice of vacation time.
- 3.2 All new employees shall, for the first one hundred and twenty (120) working days of their employment, be considered probationary employees. The probationary period may be extended for a period of thirty (30) working days in the sole discretion of the Town. If retained after the one hundred and twenty (120) working day period, these employees shall be placed upon the seniority list with seniority as of the date of hiring. Days lost from work for any reason beyond five (5) working days during the one hundred and twenty (120) day probationary period or, if applicable, during an extended probationary period shall not be counted as employment for purposes of computing the initial or extended probationary period. All such employees may be dismissed during the probationary period.
  - a. With respect to all matters (other than termination during the probationary period), probationary employees are covered by the terms of this Agreement and shall have access to the grievance procedure for the enforcement of their rights thereunder.
- 3.3 Laid-off employees shall be subject to recall in inverse order of layoff for (18) eighteen months from the date of layoff. A qualified laid-off employee, as determined by the appropriate authority (department head, human resource director, supervisor or First Selectman), shall be accorded an opportunity for re-employment prior to new employees being hired, provided such laid-off employees responded to a call to report for work not more than ten (10) working days after receipt of notice sent to him/her by registered mail, to his/her last known post office address. A determination of "not qualified" shall not be made on arbitrary, capricious or discriminatory grounds. If such laid-off employee fails to report for work within fifteen (15) calendar days, he shall lose all rights of seniority unless he is temporarily incapacitated, preventing his reporting or is employed elsewhere, in which case he must notify the Town in writing within five (5) calendar days after the receipt of the notice to return that he will report for

work as quickly as his health or temporary employment will permit, but no later than thirty (30) calendar days after receipt of notice to report to work.

- 3.4 Jobs of an emergency nature may be temporarily filled at once by those next in line of seniority in the classification pending the return of laid-off employees having seniority who have been notified to report for work as herein above provided.
- 3.5 The Town shall prepare and maintain, subject to examination and agreed correction by Union Representatives in writing, a seniority list (unit wide) to record the status of each employee in the unit. The Union shall be provided with a copy of the seniority list and shall be notified of all changes. Each employee shall have the right to protest any error in his/her seniority status.
- 3.6 Seniority rights of a laid-off employee will continue to accumulate while he/she is laid off.
- 3.7 All promotions and transfers within the bargaining unit shall be in accordance with the rule of seniority herein stated, provided he is qualified.

An employee's seniority shall be lost when (s)he:

- (1) terminates voluntarily;
- (2) is discharged for cause;
- (3) fails to report to work within fifteen (15) calendar days after receipt of notice of recall directed to his/her last known address;
- (4) fails to report to work upon the termination of a FMLA leave or any other authorized leave of absence;
- (5) takes employment elsewhere during a contractual leave of absence without the express consent of the Town;
- (6) is absent from work without proper notification of absence to the Town;
- (7) if the employee is absent as a result of illness, accident or injury on the job for a period equal to fifteen (15) months over a rolling two (2) year period; or
- (8) is laid off in excess of recall rights.

An employee whose seniority is lost for any of the reasons outlined in this paragraph, shall be considered a new employee if (s)he is again rehired by the Town. The failure of the Town to rehire such employee shall not be subject to the grievance provisions of this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 4**  
**HOURS OF WORK**

- 4.0 Regular hours of employment of all employees shall be forty (40) hours a week, divided equally over five (5) consecutive days of eight (8) hours each Monday through Friday, starting at 7:00 a.m. and quitting at 3:30 p.m. with one-half (1/2) hour for lunch.
- 4.1 Any hours an employee is required to work beyond the normal regular hours of any work day or work week shall be compensated at one and one-half times (1 1/2x) his regular hourly rate of pay.
- a. Any hours worked on a Saturday shall be compensated at one and one-half times (1 1/2x) his regular hourly rate of pay, with a minimum of three (3) hours.
  - b. Any hours worked on a Sunday shall be compensated at one and one-half times (1 1/2x) his regular hourly rate of pay with a minimum of three (3) hours.
  - c. Any hours worked on a Holiday shall be compensated at one and one-half times (1 1/2x) his regular hourly rate of pay plus his regular holiday pay with a minimum of four (4) hours.
- 4.2 Any employee, having left the plant, who is called back to work after completing his day of eight (8) hours shall be granted a minimum of three (3) hours' work at the rates specified in this contract.
- 4.3 An assignment of overtime work, other than emergencies, shall be made at least four (4) hours in advance by the employee's supervisor.
- 4.4 All overtime work, including scheduled and emergency, shall be distributed equally among eligible, qualified employees as far as practicable. Employees may remove themselves from the eligibility list by notifying the Superintendent in writing; however, removal from the seniority list does not prevent the Town from ordering in employees for overtime.
- 4.5 Employees assigned to on-call status will be required to carry a beeper and will receive \$20.00 each day that they are on-call between Monday through Friday and \$25.00 for each day that they are on-call on Saturday, Sunday and Holidays. Effective upon execution of this Agreement that expires June 30, 2017, employees assigned to on-call status will continue to be required to carry a beeper and will receive \$30.00 each day that they are on-call between Monday through Friday and \$35.00 for each day that they are on-call on Saturday, Sunday and Holidays. An employee scheduled to be on-call may switch with another employee, with the approval of the Superintendent; the employee that takes the

on-call assignment will receive the applicable payment, as set forth herein. An employee who is on-call shall respond to a call, and report to work, immediately.

- 4.6 Employees assigned to perform auto mechanic work will receive an additional \$50.00 per day for each day (s) he is assigned to perform such work; the Superintendent or his designee has sole discretion in determining which employee(s) will be assigned.

## ARTICLE 5 WAGES AND BENEFITS

- 5.0 A. Appendix A will reflect the following wage increases:

Effective July 1, 2013 – 2.1% (retro)

Effective July 1, 2014 – 2.1% (retro)

Effective July 1, 2015 – 2.1%

Effective July 1, 2016 – 2.1%

\* An employee must be on the payroll at the time of signing this Agreement that expires on June 30, 2017 to receive retroactive pay.

- B. Employees shall be paid weekly.

Following thirty (30) calendar days of employment, the Town shall make available to its full-time employees and their dependents Medical and Prescription Drug coverage and Dental coverage (hereinafter referred to as health insurance plan(s)).

All eligible employees and dependents will have the choice of enrolling in the following medical options: a Century Preferred \$25 Co-Pay Plan, effective January 1, 2015, or a \$1,500/\$3,000 deductible HDHP effective July 1, 2015. Employees may remain enrolled in the \$1,250/\$2,500 deductible HDHP until June 30, 2015. If employees enroll in the \$1,500/\$3,000 deductible HDHP on July 1, 2015, the Town will contribute \$625 each plan year to an employee's account with single coverage and \$1,750 to an employee's account with single plus one or family coverage. Employees must be enrolled in the HDHP for the entire plan year.

The Town of Branford may provide medical and prescription drug benefits, as described above, through alternative carriers or through self-insurance, as long as benefits are provided on a reasonably equivalent basis. All references to specific vendors will be made generic. Employees will be notified of any change in carrier or plan administration thirty (30) calendar days prior to said change or as soon as practicable.

Life Insurance is provided to all employees after three (3) months of service in the amount of \$50,000. As soon as practicable after the execution of this Agreement that expires June 30, 2017, life insurance will be increased to the amount of \$70,000.

5.1(a) All members of the bargaining unit shall contribute, by authorized payroll deduction, to the premium cost of the health insurance plans, according to the following schedule. Such contributions will be deducted weekly by the Town on a pre-tax basis.

1) Effective January 1, 2015, employees shall contribute the following amounts towards the premium cost of the health insurance plans provided by the Town, by weekly payroll deduction:

Century Preferred	14%
HDHP	9%

2) Effective July 1, 2015, employees shall contribute the following amounts towards the premium cost of the health insurance plans provided by the Town, by weekly payroll deduction:

Century Preferred	15%
HDHP	10%

3) Effective July 1, 2016, employees shall contribute the following amounts towards the premium cost of the health insurance plans provided by the Town, by weekly payroll deduction:

Century Preferred	16%
HDHP	11%

5.1(b) Employees may elect to waive, in writing, the health insurance coverage provided above and in lieu thereof may receive an annual payment from the Town of \$1,000 for waiving coverage for each fiscal year during which the employee continues to elect not to participate in such coverage. Such payment will be issued in equal payments of \$500 in December and June of each fiscal year, and will be subject to normal employment tax withholding and deductions. To receive such payment, an eligible employee must complete and submit a form provided by the Town no later than June 1 of each fiscal year indicating his/her intent not to participate in the Town-provided insurance coverage. Further, such employees must present evidence to the Town that they are covered under another insurance program. Employees whose spouse has access to either Town or Branford Board of Education medical benefits shall not be entitled to receive payments for waiving insurance coverage.

Employees may elect to resume health insurance coverage due to the occurrence of one of the following conditions for which documentation and a request for reinstatement must be submitted to the Human Resource Director in writing:

1. Involuntary termination of the alternative health benefits plan coverage;
2. Ineligibility of the employee and/or dependent(s) under the alternative plan;
3. The employee acquires a new dependent through marriage, birth or adoption and the new dependent is not covered by the alternative plan;
4. Coverage under the alternative plan is substantially reduced or the cost of the plan to the employee substantially increases.

Upon receipt of such request and documentation, insurance coverage provided by the Town shall be reinstated as soon as possible, including waiting periods, which may be prescribed by the applicable plan. Employees who are reinstated to insurance coverage provided by the Town shall reimburse, the Town, by payroll deduction the prorata share of any waiver payment made.

- 5.1(c) Retired employees shall be able to purchase the medical insurance which an active employee receives including prescription drugs if permitted by the applicable insurance company, in force for the retiree and his/her spouse immediately prior to retirement. The retired employee shall be able to purchase said insurance at the group or COBRA rate, which will be used if the Town self-insures said coverage.
- 5.2 All employees shall receive work clothing to include outer work shirt (long and short sleeve), trousers, and two jackets (winter, summer). Winter jackets will be replaced upon inspection by the Town and shall not be unreasonably denied. Said clothing shall be supplied and laundered at no cost to the employee. Each employee shall be supplied with a sufficient amount of work clothes for the work week. Effective 7/1/07, employees shall be reimbursed for safety shoes at One Hundred and Forty-Five Dollars (\$145) per year, upon submission of original receipts to the Superintendent. Effective 7/1/15, employees shall be reimbursed for safety shoes at One Hundred and Sixty-Five Dollars (\$165) per year, upon submission of original receipts to the Superintendent. The Town agrees to provide the uniforms and each employee is required to wear the appropriate supplied clothing during work hours and retain employee ID's while working.
- 5.3 If the employee is required to work for four (4) or more hours beyond his/her regularly scheduled workday, (s)he will be provided with a one-half (1/2) hour paid meal break.
- 5.4 The Town shall provide tools for the employees.
- 5.5 If a night shift is to be established, the Town and the Union shall negotiate the shift differential.
- 5.6 Employees will be eligible for the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement Fund B. Employee contributions to said fund will be made on a pre-tax basis.

5.7 Educational Improvement

Employees in this unit shall, in addition to their regular pay, receive the following payment for certification achieved:

State Certification for Grade I Operator	\$300.00
State Certification for Grade II Operator	\$525.00
State Certification for Grade III Operator	\$625.00
State Certification for Grade IV Operator	\$850.00
Certification for Grade I Collection	\$200.00
Certification for Grade II Collection	\$300.00
Certification for Grade III Collection	\$350.00
Certification for Grade IV Collection	\$550.00

Employees will receive one payment for the highest monetary amount associated with the level of certification achieved. For example, if an employee has a State Certification for Grade III Operator and a Certification for Grade III Collection, (s)he will receive one payment for the State Certification for Grade III Operator.

Certification credit payments shall be made in a lump sum subject to normal withholding in the first pay period of March each year.

5.9 LONGEVITY PROGRAM

Employees will be eligible for the following longevity payment:

<u>Service</u>	
2 – 4 years	\$325.00
5 – 7 years	\$425.00
8 – 10 years	\$525.00
Over 10 years	\$625.00

December 1 in any year shall be used to determine an employee's length of service, and payment under this provision shall be made by the Town during the month of December.

Employees hired after September 30, 2010 will not be entitled to receive longevity payments.

5.10 Employees required to work in a higher classification shall be paid for all hours worked in the higher classification at the rate of pay of the higher classification, as set forth in Appendix A.

**ARTICLE 6**  
**HOLIDAYS**

6.0 Employees shall be paid for and have the following days off as Holidays:

½ day before New Year’s Day	Labor Day
New Year’s Day	Columbus Day
Martin Luther King Day	Veteran’s Day
Washington’s Birthday	Thanksgiving Day
Good Friday	Day after Thanksgiving
Memorial Day	½ day before Christmas
Fourth of July	Christmas

(plus any additional holiday declared by the Town Government, as a day off)

6.1 If a Holiday falls on a Sunday, the following Monday shall be considered the Holiday. If a Holiday falls on a Saturday, the Holiday shall be observed the preceding Friday.

6.2 If an emergency makes it necessary to work on a Holiday, he shall be paid one and one-half times (1 1/2x) his regular hourly rate of pay plus his regular Holiday pay with a minimum of four (4) hours.

**ARTICLE 7**  
**VACATIONS**

7.0 Employees who have completed one (1) year of service on their anniversary date of hire shall be entitled to a vacation of thirteen (13) working days annually which must be used by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Newly hired employees will accrue 1.08 vacation days per month to be credited on the first (1<sup>st</sup>) of the month following the month in which it is earned; however, vacation may not be taken until after their sixtieth (60<sup>th</sup>) day of employment. If the newly hired employee is unable to use his/her accrued vacation days prior to July 1<sup>st</sup>, (s)he may carry over the accrued vacation time which must be used within the first two (2) months of the new fiscal year. On July 1<sup>st</sup> following an employee’s anniversary date of hire, the employee will be credited with thirteen (13) vacation days to be used during the fiscal year.

7.1 Employees who have completed five (5) years of service on their anniversary date of hire will be credited with five (5) additional days to a total of eighteen (18) working days annually to be used by June 30<sup>th</sup>. If the employee is unable to use his/her five (5) additional accrued vacation days prior to July 1<sup>st</sup>, (s)he may carry over the accrued vacation time which must be used within the first two (2) months of the new fiscal year. Thereafter, on July 1<sup>st</sup>, the employee will be credited with eighteen (18) vacation days.

7.2 Employees who have completed fifteen (15) years of service on their anniversary date of hire will be credited with two (2) additional days to a total of twenty (20)

working days annually to be used by June 30<sup>th</sup>. If the employee is unable to use his/her two (2) additional accrued vacation days prior to July 1<sup>st</sup>, (s)he may carry over the accrued vacation time which must be used within the first two (2) months of the new fiscal year. Thereafter, on July 1<sup>st</sup>, the employee will be credited with twenty (20) vacation days.

- 7.3 Employees who are separated or terminated from the Town and who have accrued vacation to their credit at the time of separation/termination shall be paid the salary equivalent to the accrued vacation leave prorated.
- 7.4 Employees shall not be called back to work while on vacation except for emergency work, and if called back, shall receive the regular vacation pay plus time and one-half (1 1/2x) for the hours worked.
- 7.5 Employees shall be granted their vacation by seniority preference throughout the year subject to the demands of service as determined by the Department Head.
- 7.6 Vacation pay shall be paid in advance if employee requests same of the proper authority. Such request to be made at least two (2) weeks prior to start of vacation.

Employees shall give their Department head twenty-four (24) hours' notice in order to be eligible to take a vacation day and two (2) weeks' notice to be eligible to take a vacation of one (1) week or more. Vacation time may be taken in increments of no less than four (4) hours. Requests for vacation time off may be granted in the discretion of the Department Head or his designee if an employee provides less than the notice provided for herein.

- 7.7 No more than five (5) days of unused vacation will be carried over from one fiscal year to the next. The balance of vacation days carried over may never exceed five (5) days more than the allotted vacation in a fiscal year.

## **ARTICLE 8**

### **LEAVE PROVISIONS**

- 8.0 Each employee shall earn one and one quarter (1 ¼) days per month sick leave with pay.
  - (a) It is the intent of this provision that each employee in the bargaining unit who serves continuously until the anniversary date of hire shall earn a total of fifteen (15) working days paid sick leave during the year.

Each employee hired after July 1, 2007 shall earn one (1) day per month sick leave with pay.

- (b) Employees hired after July 1, 1984 and before July 1, 1996 shall be allowed to accumulate a maximum of 120 sick leave days. Effective upon the signing of this Agreement, employees hired after July 1, 1996, shall be allowed to accumulate a maximum of 100 sick leave days.
  - (c) If an employee is out of work on sick leave for three (3) days in a thirty day period, and the Town notifies the employee in writing that (s)he is a suspected sick leave abuser, the Town may, in its discretion, require the employee to obtain a doctor's note to support his/her next absence due to sick leave. The Town will reimburse the employee for the cost of his/her co-pay for said doctor's visit.
- 8.1 Four (4) days special leave with pay shall be granted for death in the immediate family if the death occurs during the work week. Should the leave period include days not scheduled normally as work days, only the actual work days necessary to complete the four (4) day period shall be allowed. If the burial is out of state, the employee shall receive one (1) additional day. Immediate family shall mean wife, husband, sister, mother, brother, father, children, mother-in-law, father-in-law step-parent or step-child.
- Extended leave may be granted for special cases with the approval of the Director of Human Resources or the First Selectman.
- 8.2 An employee, upon retirement shall receive on the basis of his current wages, One Hundred Percent (100%) compensation for any of his unused accumulated sick leave as severance pay in a lump sum within a month, excepting employees hired after July 1, 1993, such employees entitled to receive compensation for accumulated sick leave up to seventy (70) days. Further, employees hired after July 1, 1996, shall be entitled to receive compensation for accumulated sick leave up to forty-five (45) days. Employees hired after ratification and approval of this Agreement (July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2013) , shall not be entitled to receive compensation for accumulated sick leave.
- 8.3 Time off without loss of pay to act as a pallbearer shall be granted upon request of an employee with the approval of the First Selectman or his designee.
- 8.4 Leave of absence without benefits requested in writing to the Town by an employee or his qualified Representative, shall be granted a maximum period of one (1) year for legitimate purposes, as determined by the First Selectman or his/her designee, and shall be in writing by the Department Head to the Employee with a copy to the Union Secretary. Failure to return to work after the authorized leave of absence shall terminate an employee's seniority rights. Upon return to work, all other rights and privileges shall be granted as if no break.
- 8.5 Workers' Compensation shall be supplemented by the difference in the employee's regular pay for no longer than fifteen (15) months over a rolling two

(2) year period of time. In cases where the employee does have a third-party claim, he shall advise the Town Counsel or have his attorney advise the Town Counsel on the status of this third-party claim. If it is determined at any time during the employee's absence that (s)he, because his/her injury, will never be able to perform the essential functions of his/her position, his/her employment with the Town will be separated.

- 8.6 Employees shall be entitled to any and all provisions they are eligible for under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993.

## **ARTICLE 9**

### **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

- 9.0 The purpose of the procedure is to provide an orderly method of adjusting grievances. Any employee, within the bargaining unit, having a problem concerning the interpretation or application of any rule or regulation affecting wages, salary, hours or work, general classification of position, promotion, dismissal, suspension, demotion, transfer, layoff, sickness, vacation or other leave, or other conditions of employment shall seek adjustment in the Step order listed below. Written warnings shall be issued by the supervisor to the affected employee on ordinary infraction of rules before suspensions are issued against an employee. A copy of such warning shall also be given to the Chief Steward by the Supervisor. Oral warnings shall precede written warnings. Time extension beyond those stipulated below may be arrived at by mutual agreement of the parties concerned. All references to days in this section shall mean calendar days.

#### **Step 1 – Employee to Superintendent**

Within fifteen (15) days of its occurrence, or knowledge of its occurrence, the affected employee or the Union shall present to the Superintendent the facts available pertaining to the problem or incident and the remedy sought to adjust the problem.

Within seventy-two (72) hours, the Superintendent shall adjust the problem or notify in writing the employee and/or his Representative of his decision.

#### **Step 2 – To the Director of Human Resources**

The employee and/or the Union may appeal the decision of the Superintendent to the Director of Human Resources within fifteen (15) days. The Director of Human Resources shall render a decision in writing to the Union within ten (10) days of receipt of the grievance.

Step 3– To the First Selectman

The employee and/or the Union may appeal the decision of the Director of Human Resources to the First Selectman within fifteen (15) days. The First Selectman shall render a decision in writing to the Union within ten (10) days of receipt of the grievance.

Step 4 - Arbitration

The Union may appeal the decision of the First Selectman by submitting the grievance to the State Board of Mediation and Arbitration within twenty (20) days of the decision of the First Selectman, excepting termination grievance, which may be appealed within ten (10) days of the decision of the First Selectman. A copy of said appeal shall be filed simultaneously with the Town. The Town may, however, choose to have the case heard before the American Arbitration Association as long as it pays for the cost of the arbitrator, less the filing fee the Union would have incurred by submitting the grievance to the State Board of Mediation and Arbitration.

- 9.1 In case of disciplinary action resulting in written documentation in an employee's personnel file, the Town shall take appropriate action to request the right to remove/destroy such documentation after a period of eighteen (18) months from the date it is placed in the file, upon written request by the affected employee and provided said employee has not subsequently been disciplined for the same or reasonable related offense.

If the Town's request to remove/destroy such documentation is denied by the State record keeper's office, the Town agrees it shall no longer rely upon such prior documentation to determine future disciplinary actions against the employee.

**ARTICLE 10**  
**SAFETY AND HEALTH**

- 10.0 Both parties to this Agreement hold themselves responsible for mutual, cooperative enforcement of safety rules and regulations.

The Town is committed to the safety and health of all employees and recognizes the need to comply with regulations governing injury and accident prevention and employee safety. The Town will provide employees with protective equipment to be utilized when directed by the Superintendent or his designee.

The Town will maintain safety and health practices consistent with legal requirements. If an employee is ever in doubt about how to safely perform a job, it is the employee's responsibility to ask the Superintendent or his designee for assistance. Any suspected unsafe conditions and all injuries that occur on the job

must be reported immediately. It is the responsibility of each employee to accept and follow established safety regulations and procedures.

All accidents, injuries, potential safety hazards, safety suggestions and health and safety related issues must be reported immediately to the Superintendent or his designee.

- 10.1 Should an employee complain that his work requires him to be in unsafe or unhealthy situations, in violation of acceptable safety rules, the matter shall be considered immediately by Representatives of the Town and the Union. If the matter is not adjusted satisfactorily, the grievance may be processed according to the grievance procedure in this Agreement.
- 10.2 Employees shall be provided with a secure area in which to change clothes and shower, and be provided with a separate break area.

#### **ARTICLE 11** **PRIOR PRACTICE**

- 11.0 Any and all privileges enjoyed by the employees prior to the date of this Agreement will not be denied to them because of the signing of this Agreement, unless the parties, through collective bargaining mutually agree to changes or have specifically waived any of these privileges.

#### **ARTICLE 12** **UNION ACTIVITIES**

- 12.0 Union officers, not to exceed one (1) shall be allowed to attend official Union Conferences without loss of pay for a period not to exceed three (3) days annually. Such leave may be taken in increments of one (1) hour. Leave under this Article must be requested through the Superintendent in writing to the First Selectman or his designee at least seven (7) days in advance. Such leave shall not be unreasonably denied.
- 12.1 In the event Union officials are required to meet with Town officials on grievance matters or contract negotiations during their regular working hours, they shall not suffer any loss of pay for the time involved.

#### **ARTICLE 13** **PRIVATIZATION**

- 13.0 (See Memorandum of Understanding attached hereto).

**ARTICLE 14**  
**JOB DESCRIPTION**

14.0 The Town shall provide the Union with job descriptions when completed.

**ARTICLE 15**  
**DURATION**

15.0 Except as otherwise provided, the date of the signing of this Agreement by the authorized representatives of the Union and the Town shall constitute the effective date of this Agreement.

15.1 The Town will provide each employee with a copy of this Agreement within thirty (30) days after the signing of this Agreement. New employees will be provided with a copy of this Agreement at the time of hire. The UPSEU office will be provided with six (6) signed copies of this Agreement, within thirty (30) days after the signing of this Agreement, from the Town.

This Agreement will become effective upon execution and shall remain in full force and effect until June 30, 2017 and each year thereafter unless either party gives notice to the other of its intention to change this Agreement. Said notice to the other party must be given in writing during the month of January prior to the end of the current fiscal year.

**SIGNATURE BLOCK**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed by their duly authorized representatives at the Town of Branford, Connecticut this, 20<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2015.

UNITED PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES  
UNION, LOCAL #424

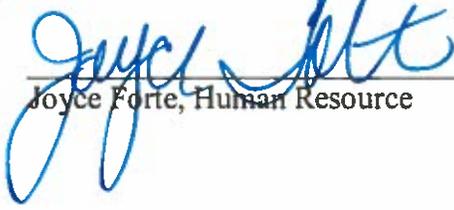
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Knowlton, Local President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin E Boyle, UPSEU President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel Bonfiglio  
Labor Relations Representative

TOWN OF BRANFORD

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jamie Cosgrove, First Selectman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joyce Forte, Human Resource

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING - SUBCONTRACTING

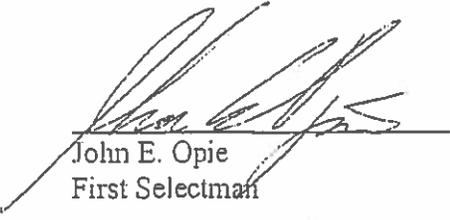
The Town of Branford (the "Town") and UPSEU, Local #424, Unit 5 (the "Union") hereby agree to the following:

1. The Town and the Union agree to delete Article 13 – Subcontractors – Section 13.0, from the parties' collective bargaining agreement with the understanding that the Town will not lay off current bargaining unit members for the purpose of subcontracting bargaining unit work. Further, if a member of the bargaining unit separates his/her employment with the Town, the Town will replace said individual within three (3) months of separation so that there are a minimum of six (6) bargaining unit members. If the Town adds another bargaining unit member to the sewer plant in fiscal year 2000 – 2001, the Town will maintain a minimum of seven (7) bargaining unit members.
2. The Town and the Union agree that if the sewer plant is privatized by the Town, in accordance with Article 14 of the parties' collective bargaining agreement, the Company hired to operate the plant will be required to hire all bargaining unit members employed at the time the Company takes over operations at the sewer plant. Said Company shall also be required to provide the same wages and comparable benefits to the bargaining unit employees who are employed by the Town at the time the Company takes over operations at the sewer plant. Further, said Company will be required to agree that it can only terminate the bargaining unit employees it hires for just cause. Further, the Company will be required to allow said bargaining unit members the right to have their termination heard before the State of Connecticut, Board of Mediation and Arbitration.
3. If the Town is seriously considering privatization of the sewer plant, it will notify the Union and provide the Union with notices of public meetings that will occur to discuss such privatization.
4. If the sewer plant is privatized, employees working at the sewer plant at the time of privatization will be given preference in the filling of existing vacant positions in the Town as long as the particular employee has the

skill and ability necessary to perform the position to which (s)he is applying for, and also as long as the Town would not be in violation of the terms of an existing collective bargaining agreement.

TOWN OF BRANFORD

UPSEU, Local #424, Unit 5



John E. Opie  
First Selectman



John Altsmannsberger  
President UPSEU, Local #424, Unit 5

Date 3/29/05

Date 3/18/05

**Town of Branford and United Public Services Employees Union, Local #424, Unit 5 (WPCA Employees)**

**Wages Appendix A**

**July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2017**

Position	June 30, 2013	July 1, 2013	July 1, 2014	July 1, 2015	July 1, 2016
		102.10%	102.10%	102.10%	102.10%
Laborer	Annual \$45,031.72	\$45,977.67	\$46,943.20	\$47,929.01	\$48,935.52
	Hourly \$21.65	\$22.10	\$22.57	\$23.04	\$23.53
Assistant Mechanic	Annual \$49,144.86	\$50,182.56	\$51,236.39	\$52,312.36	\$53,410.92
	Hourly \$23.63	\$24.13	\$24.63	\$25.15	\$25.68
Operator	Annual \$49,688.55	\$50,734.72	\$51,800.14	\$52,887.95	\$53,998.59
	Hourly \$23.89	\$24.39	\$24.90	\$25.43	\$25.96
Mechanic	Annual \$53,612.57	\$54,748.47	\$55,898.19	\$57,072.05	\$58,270.56
	Hourly \$25.78	\$26.32	\$26.87	\$27.44	\$28.01
Collections System Maintainer	Annual \$53,612.57	\$54,748.47	\$55,898.19	\$57,072.05	\$58,270.56
	Hourly \$25.78	\$26.32	\$26.87	\$27.44	\$28.01
Process Operator	Annual \$53,612.57	\$54,748.47	\$55,898.19	\$57,072.05	\$58,270.56
	Hourly \$25.78	\$26.32	\$26.87	\$27.44	\$28.01
Lab Technician	Annual \$55,740.05	\$56,914.62	\$58,109.83	\$59,330.14	\$60,576.07
	Hourly \$26.80	\$27.36	\$27.94	\$28.52	\$29.12
Collection Supervisor	Annual \$57,205.65	\$58,401.20	\$59,627.63	\$60,879.81	\$62,158.28
	Hourly \$27.50	\$28.08	\$28.67	\$29.27	\$29.88
Process Chief	Annual \$57,205.65	\$58,401.20	\$59,627.63	\$60,879.81	\$62,158.28
	Hourly \$27.50	\$28.08	\$28.67	\$29.27	\$29.88

**Town of Branford Waste Water Treatment Plant**

*This is a brief summary of the benefits covered under the lumemos plan. It is not intended to be a complete list of benefits*  
**Option III OP \$25; HI Cost Diagnostic \$75; ER \$100; OP \$150 \$500 IP; UC \$75**  
*includes Health Care Reform Mandates Preventive Care covered 100%*

**Option V \$1,500/\$3,000**  
**LUMENOS HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT**

COST SHARE PROVISIONS	In-Network Member pays:	Out-of-Network Member pays:	COST SHARE PROVISIONS	In-Network Member pays:	Out-of-Network Member pays:
Annual Deductible (individual/2-member family/3+ member family)		\$400/\$800/\$1,000	Annual Deductible (single/family)		
Coinsurance Maximum (individual/2-member family/3+ member family)	Not Applicable	30% after deductible \$2,400/\$4,800/\$7,200	Coinsurance Out of Pocket Plan Year Maximum (single/family)	Not applicable \$1,500 / \$3,000	20% \$4,000 / \$8,000
Cost Share Maximum (deductible + Coinsurance share maximum)		\$2,800/\$3,600/\$8,200	Lifetime Maximum	Unlimited	Unlimited
Office Visit Copayment	\$25 per visit	Deductible & Coinsurance	<b>PREVENTIVE CARE</b>		
Hospital Copayment	\$500 per admission	Deductible & Coinsurance	Well child care	No cost share	Deductible & Coinsurance
Urgent Care Copayment	\$75	Not Covered	Adult Physical examinations	No cost share	Deductible & Coinsurance
Emergency Room Copayment - waived if admitted	\$100	\$100	Other Preventive Screenings:		
Outpatient Surgery Copayment	\$150	Deductible & Coinsurance	Routine gynecological care: pap smear & pelvic exam	No cost share	Deductible & Coinsurance
Lifetime Maximum	Unlimited	Unlimited	Mammography, Prostate, colorectal, colonoscopy, lipid & diabetic	No cost share	Deductible & Coinsurance
<b>PREVENTIVE CARE</b>			Routine Hearing & Vision screening	No cost share	Deductible & Coinsurance
Well child care			Immunizations and Vaccinations (other than those needed for travel)	No cost share	Deductible & Coinsurance
<b>Well Child Care (including immunizations)</b>	<b>No Copayment</b>		<b>HOSPITAL SERVICES</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6 exams, birth to age 1</li> <li>6 exams, ages 1 - 5</li> <li>1 exam every 2 years, ages 6 - 10</li> <li>1 exam every year, ages 11 - 21</li> </ul>		Deductible & Coinsurance	All Inpatient Admissions	Deductible	Deductible & Coinsurance
<b>Adult Exams:</b>			Specialty Hospital - (Rehab)	Deductible	Deductible & Coinsurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>STANDARD HCR ADULT PREVENTIVE CARE</li> <li>AGE 22+ 1 EXAM PER YEAR</li> </ul>	<b>No Copayment</b>		100 days per member per Calendar Year -additional visits are available once maximum is met, subject to Out of Network cost shares	Deductible	Deductible & Coinsurance
			Outpatient Surgery in a licensed ambulatory surgical center	Deductible	Deductible & Coinsurance
			<b>DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES</b>		
			Diagnostic lab and x-ray	Deductible	Deductible & Coinsurance
			High Cost Diagnostic Tests MRI, MRA, CAT, CTA, PET, and SPECT scans	Deductible	Deductible & Coinsurance



Inpatient mental health & substance abuse	\$500 per admission	Deductible & Coinsurance	OTHER MEDICAL SERVICES	Skiiled Nursing Facility	Deductible	Deductible & Coinsurance
Skiiled nursing facility – up to 120 days per calendar year	\$500 per admission					
Rehabilitative services – up to 60 days per person per calendar year	No Charge		Up to 120 days per Calendar Year	Deductible	Deductible & Coinsurance	
Outpatient surgery – in a hospital or surgi-center	\$150 per visit		Private Duty Nursing	Deductible	Deductible & Coinsurance	
EMERGENCY CARE			Limited to \$15,000 per Plan Year			
Walk-in centers	\$35 per visit	Deductible & Coinsurance	Immunizations and Vaccinations for Travel	Deductible	Deductible & Coinsurance	
Urgent care – at participating centers only	\$75	Not Covered	Prescription drugs – (when purchased from network pharmacy)	After Deductible:		
Emergency care – copayment waived if admitted	\$100	\$100 per visit	Retail Pharmacy:	Deductible	Deductible & Coinsurance per prescription	
Ambulance	No Charge	No Charge	The maximum supply of a drug for which benefits will be provided when dispensed under any one prescription is a 30 day supply.			
OTHER HEALTH CARE						
Outpatient rehabilitative services						
50 visit maximum forChiro, PT, OT and ST per year.	\$25 per visit	Deductible & Coinsurance				
Durable medical equipment / Prosthetic devices	Covered					
Unlimited maximum per calendar year	Covered					
Diabetic supplies & equipment	Covered					
Infertility services (State Mandated benefit levels)	Covered	Deductible & Coinsurance				
Home health care	No Charge	Deductible & Coinsurance	Diabetic drugs and supplies	Deductible	Deductible & Coinsurance	
PHARMACY Retail 30 day supply Mail Order 90 days: 2 times Retail			Human Organ and Tissue Transplant	Deductible	Deductible & Coinsurance	
Tier 1: Generic Drugs	\$5	Coinsurance	Unlimited Maximum Home health care	Deductible	Deductible & Coinsurance	
Tier 2: Listed Brand-Name Drugs	\$20	Coinsurance	Nursing and therapeutic services limited to 200 visits per calendar year	Deductible	Deductible & Coinsurance	
Tier 3: Non-Listed Brand-Name Drugs	\$35	Coinsurance	Home health aide services limited to 80 visits that are (applicable to the 200 visits limit)	Deductible	Deductible & Coinsurance	
Annual Maximum per Calendar Year	\$750	Coinsurance	In the Home Hospice Medical Social Services under the direction of a Physician Up to \$420	Deductible	Deductible & Coinsurance	

Rx codes include: age/gender, duplicated therapy; Drug to drug Interaction; Step Therapy; Quantity Limits; Refill too soon