

Public Works  
Contract Plain  
Paper - Packet 2  
10-22-2020  
7 P55

accumulated sick days.

**Section 6:** In the event of a death in the immediate family of a regular employee; or the immediate family of his/her spouse, such employee will be paid for the time lost from scheduled work at his base rate of pay to attend the funeral services not to exceed three (3) days. 'Immediate family' for the purpose of this clause is defined as parent, grandparents, spouse, sisters, brothers, child, grandchild, mother-in-law, father-in-law, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, aunt and uncle. The Town may request verification of the date of the death and funeral and the relationship of the deceased.

**Section 7:** An employee may use up to five (5) days of his/her sick leave when a member of the employee's household is ill. This request may be accompanied by a Doctor's note.

**Section 8:** Military leave, not to exceed two (2) weeks shall be granted to employees who are required to serve a period of active Reserve or National Guard Duty. During this period, the employee shall be paid the difference, if any, between his regular and military pay.

In cases of National or State 'call up of Reserves' the Town will conform to State/Federal statutes regarding any pay or reinstatement requirements.

## ARTICLE 12 - INSURANCE

**Section 1:** The Town shall provide the current Connecticut State Partnership Plan 2.0 medical plan or a substantially equivalent plan to employees and their dependents during the term of this Agreement. The Town may change insurance carriers to provide these benefits. The parties recognize that, because the Town is a small employer with less than 50 employees in its group health insurance plan, the terms of the insurance plan may be changed by insurance carrier without the consent of the Town and that such changes shall be effective upon all employees in the plan. In such a circumstance, the Town shall provide as much advance notice as reasonably possible to employees of the changes to the policy. If the state of Connecticut allows the Town to participate in a state health insurance pool, the parties agree to negotiate only this one item during the term of the contract.

**Section 2:** Employees shall contribute weekly under an IRS 125 tax free plan the following toward the premium cost for the coverage selected:

- Effective July 1, 2020, employees shall contribute 15.5% of the premium cost of insurance.
- Effective July 1, 2021, employees shall contribute 16% of the

premium cost of insurance.

**Section 3:** The Town will provide employees with the same Life Insurance coverage on the same terms and conditions as is provided to other Town employees who currently receive Life Insurance coverage at a rate of one (1) times their annual straight time earnings.

**Section 4:** Any employee who: (1) as of May 18, 2010 is employed by the Town and is a member of the Union; (2) retires from their employment with the Town under the provisions of the Municipal Employees Retirement System (MERS); (3) has at least 15 years of full-time service with the Town; and (4) is at least 55 years old at the time of retirement is entitled to \$2,000 per year for up to five years or until the employee turns 67 years old, whichever occurs first.

An employee who is planning to retire pursuant to this Article 12, Section 4 shall give the Town 60 days advance notice of the retirement date and the Town shall pay the first payment hereunder within 60 days of the retirement date and annually thereafter, as applicable.

The moneys paid out under this Article 12, Section 4 are intended to be used for medical expenses.

If there is a change under applicable law that materially alters either of the parties' rights or obligations under this Article 12, Section 4, the parties agree to negotiate this one item.

### **ARTICLE 13 - SHORT TERM DISABILITY**

**Section 1:** The Town will provide short-term disability insurance coverage through an insurance provider for employees who become temporarily disabled due to an injury or illness that occurred outside of work. Employees who are eligible for short-term disability insurance coverage will receive 60% of their base wages for up to 26 weeks. Employees who are receiving 60% of their pay from the Town's short-term insurance carrier may use their accrued sick time to make up the difference between the 60% payment that they are receiving from the insurance carrier and their regular base weekly wages, for up to 26 weeks. After an employee has exhausted their accrued sick time, the Town will pay the employee the difference between the 60% payment that they are receiving from the insurance carrier and their regular base weekly wages, for up to eight (8) weeks.

**Section 2:** If a medical condition makes it necessary for an employee to take a short term disability leave, he must notify the Assistant Director of Public Works in writing as soon as possible and provide written documentation from the treating physician attesting to the disability.

- Section 3:** Leaves of absence necessitated by medical conditions related to maternity are covered by the short term disability leave policy.
- Section 4:** Employees on disability leave of absence must notify the Assistant Director of Public Works of their intent to return to work. In addition, employees returning from disability leave must provide the Assistant Director of Public Works with medical clearance to return to work.
- Section 5:** The Town will reinstate an employee returning from disability leave without loss of seniority.

#### **ARTICLE 14 - PENSION**

- Section 1:** The Town shall continue to participate in the Municipal Employees Retirement System ("MERS"), Connecticut General Stat. § 7-425 et. seq., and the Town and covered employees shall make contributions to MERS, as provided by applicable law.
- Section 2:** If there is a change under applicable law that would permit the Town to terminate the participation in MERS by employees hired on or after July 1, 2012 and allow such employees to participate in the Town's defined contribution plan in lieu of MERS, the parties agree to negotiate this one item.

#### **ARTICLE 15 - NO STRIKE NO LOCKOUT**

The Union shall not authorize a strike, slow-down, suspension, or stoppage of work nor shall there be any lockout by the Town.

#### **ARTICLE 16 - SAFETY AND UNIFORMS**

- Section 1:** The Town will provide employees with the following shoe allowance, cleaning allowance, clothing and safety equipment:
- a. Employees are required to wear steel toed safety shoes at all times. The Town will reimburse each employee up to \$175 each contract year for the price employees pay to purchase such steel toed safety shoes.
  - b. Five (5) pairs of work pants or as needed, five (5) t-shirts, work gloves with cuffs as needed, two (2) sweatshirts, one (1) coat adaptable for heavy winter weather use, and one (1) high visibility rain suit with Department of Transportation markings. Employees are required to wear the Town-provided clothing and equipment at all times during

their employment.

- c. Eye and ear protection to be distributed at reasonable times throughout the year.
- d. Effective July 1, 2012, the Town will provide each employee annually a \$400 cleaning allowance to be paid by August 1st. Employees are expected to report to work wearing clean and neat clothing.
- e. If an employee is required to have a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) and his or her physician is not registered on the National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners to perform the required CDL examination, the Town will pay the cost for the employee to have their physical taken at Concentra or its successor.

## ARTICLE 17 - WAGES

Wages shall be paid according to the attached Schedule A.

## ARTICLE 18 – DRUG TESTING

**Section 1:** The Town may randomly drug test employees that drive in the Public Works Department or require any employee in the Public Works Department to be tested where the Town has reasonable suspicion to believe that the employee is under the influence of drugs or alcohol that adversely affects or could adversely affect such employee's job performance. The Town will confirm any initial positive drug test with a second test from a split sample. Any employee who tests positive (after testing the split sample) for the presence of any illegal controlled substance in violation of the Town's Drug and Alcohol policy may be immediately suspended from employment without pay and without any recourse to the grievance procedures contained herein, and may be required to enroll in an employee assistance program. The employee will not be allowed to return to work until he/she successfully completes the program. For a period of 12 months following completion of the program, the employee will consent to random alcohol and drug testing. If the employee tests positive (after testing the split sample) for a second instance, violates the Town's Drug and Alcohol policy, or refuses to take a drug test, the employee may be immediately terminated from employment, without any recourse to the grievance procedure contained herein.

**Section 2:** Nothing contained in this section shall prohibit the Town from taking any other disciplinary action against an employee that violates its Drug & Alcohol Policy including immediate termination of employment.

## ARTICLE 19 - DURATION

This Agreement shall be effective as of July 1, 2020, and as specified herein, and shall remain in effect until June 30, 2022 and, unless at least one hundred fifty (150) days prior to the end of the effective period either party shall serve written notice by certified mail upon the other that it desires revision or modification of any designated provision or provisions of this Agreement, it shall be automatically renewed for successive periods of twelve (12) months. In the event negotiations are entered into as above provided and such negotiations extend beyond June 30, 2020, this agreement shall remain in full force and effect until such time as a new agreement is reached.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties hereto have caused these presents to be executed at Prospect, Connecticut this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

**TOWN OF PROSPECT**

**LOCAL 1303-379 OF COUNCIL 4  
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE,  
COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL  
EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO**

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**SCHEDULE A – WAGES**

<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Wage Increase</b>	<b>Hourly Rate</b>
July 1, 2020	2.25%	\$30.00
July 1, 2021	2.75%	\$30.83