Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting June 6, 2017 4:30 P.M. Town Hall



Present: Bruce Adams, Jeff Parkin and Mike VanValkenburg.

Also present: Bill Bachrach, Patricia Braislin, Lesly Ferris, John Grant, Betty Kraster, Donna Hayes, Rick Osborne, Elyse Sadtler, Virginia Suttman and Lynn Worthington.

Mr. Adams called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Mr. Adams made a motion to remove item #2 River Road/N Kent Road from the agenda and add item #2 Executive Session: Discussion of pending Litigation – KVHE vs. Town of Kent pending in Litchfield Superior Court to the agenda. Mr. VanValkenburg seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Mr. Adams made a motion to move into Executive Session at 4:35 p.m. and invited Patricia Braislin into Executive Session. Mr. Parkin seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Mr. Adams made a motion to exit Executive Session and return to the Regular BOS meeting at 4:45 p.m. Mr. Parkin seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Mr. Adams made the following motion:

I move to settle the pending tax appeal litigation with KVHE by adjusting the fair market value of the property to \$635,000 pursuant to the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes section 8-216a pertaining to low and moderate income housing and that the assessed value and the resulting tax bill shall be calculated based on the adjusted value.

Mr. Parkin seconded the motion and the motion carried.

#### Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Adams made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2017 Special BOS Meeting, as submitted. Mr. VanValkenburg seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Mr. Adams made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2017 Special BOS Meeting, as submitted. Mr. VanValkenburg seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Mr. Adams made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2017 Annual Budget Meeting, as submitted. Mr. Parkin seconded the motion and the motion carried.

#### Public Communication

Oral: None.

Written: Mr. Adams stated there were two written correspondences (attached): o June 1, 2017 Staff Report from Donna Hayes, CZEO

o May 31, 2017 Senior Activities report from Lesly Ferris, Park and Rec director

Report of First Selectman:

Mr. Adams reported on some things he did in the month of May:

- o Met with Prep Heads and Birch Hill developers
- o Toured Kent Transfer Station with Goshen residents
- o Appreciation lunch at Senior Center
- o E-Waste pick-up
- o Pistol permit interviews
- o Annual Resource Workshop
- o Senior Lunch
- o Memorial Day Parade duties

Meetings covered by the BOS – Group or individual

- o Budget hearing Full BOS
- o COG 5/11 Bruce
- o Carter Road construction meetings Bruce
- o BOS 5/4 AND 5/9 full BOS
- o Budget vote Bruce
- o Streetscape Bruce

Police Report – Phone at Town Hall is 860-927-3134. E-mail is residenttrooper@townofkentct.org

Trooper Fisher continues to do an exemplary job. He is proactive and a great fit for Kent.

He handled the Memorial Day Parade without issue as well as two recent untimely deaths.

He worked well with KVFD on the recent forest fire.

He is working well so far with the organizers of the Gilmore Girls Fan Fest.

## **Report of Selectmen:**

Mr. VanValkenburg had nothing to report.

Mr. Parkin reported that he had a conversation with a young couple that expressed an interest in looking into a proposal for a disc golf course in town. Mrs. Ferris stated that a few years ago Park and Rec looked into a disc golf course and was unable to secure a location.

## **Report of Treasurer:**

Mrs. Herbst did not attend the meeting but did request four new vendors be added to the Approved Vendor List FY 2016-2017. Mr. Adams made a motion to add the following four vendors to the Approved Vendor List FY 2016-2017:

- o Greenwoods, Inc.
- o River Alliance of CT
- o Sportsmen's
- o Allied 100 LLC

Mr. VanValkenburg seconded the motion and the motion carried.

## Tax Refunds:

Mr. Parkin made a motion to approve the following five tax refunds:

ο	Michael Keehner	\$	10.00
ο	Andrew Baird	\$	16.35
ο	Brent Kallstrom	\$	129.64
ο	Kent Green Laundromate	\$1	,915.48
ο	Kent Green Laundromate	\$1	,020.24
V	anValkenburg seconded the n	notion a	nd the m

Mr. VanValkenburg seconded the motion and the motion carried.

## Employee(s) report(s) on Seminar/workshops:

Donna Hayes reported that she attended a meeting regarding FEMA's upcoming Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) Discovery Meeting for the Housatonic Watershed in western Connecticut, western Massachusetts, and southeastern New York. FEMA gathers information about local flood risk and flood hazards and reviews mitigation plans to understand local mitigation capabilities, hazard risk assessments, and current or future mitigation activities. Ms. Hayes and Mr. Osborne will complete a questionnaire to provide FEMA the most comprehensive list of possible river reaches in the Housatonic Watershed potentially to be studied in the upcoming Risk MAP project for the watershed.

## Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Program

Mr. Parkin made a motion to warn a Public Hearing on Wednesday, June 21, 2017 to discuss Kent Affordable Housing's request to apply to the Dept. of Revenue Services' Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) for funds to install solar power at Stuart Farm Apartments, Phase II, with a warned BOS meeting immediately following the hearing. Mr. VanValkenburg seconded the motion and the motion carried.

## Summer Concert series

Park and Rec requested the Board of Selectmen to approve the use of the space behind the Kent Welcome Center for the summer concert series on July 6, July 20, July 28 and August 3, 2017,6-8 p.m. Mr. Adams made a motion to deny Park and Rec's request to the use of the space behind the Kent Welcome Center for the summer concert series on July 6, July 20, July 28 and August 3, 2017, 6-8 p.m. Mr. VanValkenburg seconded the motion and the motion carried.

## Social services Director Resident Policy update

Mrs. Pullaro did not attend the meeting. Mr. Adams stated that the discussion should be tabled until the next BOS meeting.

## **Policy and Procedure Manual**

Mr. Adams made a motion to approve the Policy and Procedure Manual, which was updated to include the Insurance Opt-Out. Mr. VanValkenburg seconded the motion and the motion carried.

## **Public Restrooms:**

Mr. Adams stated the building is open. He added that he actively is looking to hire a cleaner for the building.

\*An equal opportunity employer and service provider\* BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING MINUTES, JUNE 6, 2017 PAGE 3

# Electric Car Charging Station:

No action taken.

## **Carter Road Bridge:** Mr. Adams reported that Carter Road should be opened on Friday, June 9, 2017.

#### **Emergency Shelter:** No action taken.

## **Health Insurance**

No action taken.

Ms. Sadtler asked the First Selectman if the gates have been installed on N. Kent Road and River Road. Mr. Adams stated that the gates have not been installed, and the gate on N. Kent Road might not be installed due to the lack of State funding.

Mr. VanValkenburg made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:22 p.m. Mr. Adams seconded the motion and the motion carried.

seellion po Kearns dministrative Assistant

These are draft minutes and the Board of Selectmen at the subsequent meeting may make corrections. Please refer to subsequent meeting minutes for possible corrections and approval of these minutes.

## AGENDA

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING

JUNE 6, 2017 4:30 P.M. TOWN HALL

## **Regular Meeting**

- 1. Call to order
- 2. River Road/N Kent Road
- 3. Approval of Minutes
  - a May 4, 2017 Special Meeting
  - b May 9, 2017 Special Meeting
  - c May 19, 2017 Annual Budget meeting
- 4. Public Communication
  - a Oral
  - b Written
- 5. Report of First Selectman
- 6. Report of Selectmen
- 7. Report of Treasurer
- 8. Tax Refunds
- 9. Employee(s) report(s) on Seminar/workshops
- 10. New Business
  - a Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Program
  - b Summer Concert series
  - c Social Services Director Resident Policy update
- 11. Old Business
  - a Policy and Procedure Manual
  - b Public Restrooms
  - c Electric Car Charging Station
  - d Carter Road Bridge
  - e Emergency Shelter
  - f Health Insurance
- 12. Adjourn

"An equal opportunity employer and service provider."



# TOWN OF KENT LAND USE OFFICE

## STAFF REPORT

DATE: June 1, 2017

FROM: Donna Hayes, CZEO

# Daros

## Land Use Clerk Position:

Tai Kern was hired as the Land Use Clerk and began her employment on May 22.

## **Building Department:**

- Permits Issued: 39 (May)
- Total Construction value: \$730,841

## Planning & Zoning:

- Permits Issued: 11 (May)
- Certificates of Compliance Issued: 0 (May)
- Applications before the Commission: (June)
  - o New tennis courts at the Kent School.
    - o Signage for Ace Hardware.
  - o Deposition of fill at the Preston Mountain Club.
  - Applications approved by the Commission (May)
    - ο 0

## **Inland Wetlands:**

- Approved: May
  - o Annual cleaning of the Emery Park swimming area
  - o Construction of bridge across Bog Hollow Brook
- Pending: May
  - o Inground gunite swimming pool, pool equipment, bluestone patio and fencing
  - Installation of processed stone in a 9' wide by 200' long area approximately 25' from the stream
  - o Replacement of two culverts on Macedonia Brook Road

#### Zoning Board of Appeals:

- Pending:
  - o Certificate of Approval of Location for motor vehicle repair.
  - o Application for variance to side and front yard setback.
- Approved:
  - o None

#### **Architectural Review Board:**

- Pending:
  - o Sign for hardware store.
  - o Repairs and landscaping to 26 South Main Street.
  - o Tree removals in the Village District.

## **UPDATE ON CONTINUING PROJECTS:**

- Rewrite of the Regulations:
  - Additional special meetings will be scheduled at the June 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of P&Z to finalize the regulations and schedule a date for a public hearing.

#### **VIOLATIONS:**

- Legal Issues:
  - Mauri v Town of Kent ZBA The Petition for Certification to appeal to the Appellate Court was denied in January of this year (we did not receive notification of this until May). As a result, the Cease and Desist Order is in effect. The property owner had signed contracts for 4 additional weddings this year and we are working with Attorney Zizka to figure out what the next steps will be. This will be discussed during Executive Session at the June 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of P&Z. Total legal fees as of the end of November: \$45,965.30, but there could be additional charges if the P&Z decides to have Attorney Zizka file for a Court Injunction.
- Notice of Violations:
  - A shed and two LP tanks were installed in the Village Center Commercial district without a permit. A request for voluntary compliance was sent. I am still waiting for a request for variance through the Zoning Board of Appeals.
  - A letter was sent to a property owner on Bulls Bridge Road due to a neighbor's complaint about trash and debris. The cleanup has begun.
  - I spoke with another resident on South Kent Road about excess trash bags and possible wetlands violation. I was told that he would start the cleanup this week.
  - I will be speaking with P&Z regarding the land filling permit for 99 Upper Kent Hollow Road. It seems that additional fill has been brought in and work has ceased on the property. A call has been placed to the property manager to discuss how much longer this job will take.

# Kent Park and Recreation

Lesly Ferris, Director P.O. Box 678 41 Kent Green Boulevard Kent, CT 06757-0678 Telephone 860-927-2003 Fax 860-927-2313 parkandrec@townofkentCt.org www.kentCtparkandrecreation.com

To: Board of Selectmen

Listy From: Lesly Ferris

Date: May 31, 2017

Re: Senior Activities

Please note the following special activities took place at the Kent Senior Center during May 2017:

- 4, 11, 18 Senior Art Group
- 5, 12, 19, 26 Friday Senior Lunch, including appreciation lunch on the 12<sup>th</sup>
- 10 Mother's Day Luncheon
- 24 Memorial Day Luncheon
- 31 Luncheon with Kent Center School student council members

Thank you.

	Vendor Name	Vendor Type	<b>Department</b>	Invoice Date	Dept Approval	Invoice Amount
2 Rive 3 Spo 4 Ailio	enwoods, Inc. ors Alliance of CT rtsmen's ed 100 LLC	Service Provider Organization Retailer Retailer	P/R Conservation P/R Town Hall	04/03/2017 4/24/2017 5/2/2017 5/22/2017	4/4/2017 4/27/2017 5/3/2017 5/26/2017	1,550.00 50.00 518.00 \$149.00
5 6 7 8 9						
10 11 12 13 14						
15 16						

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The vendors and invoices listed above have been reviewed and approved by a majority of the Board of Selectmen. Pursuant to said approval they have been added to the existing *Approved Vendor Listing* for FY

Approved at the Regular Selectmen's meeting held on: see minutes

6/6/2017

1 Trail clearing: Emery Park Trail Project

- 2 Rivers Alliance annual charitable contribution
- 3 Uniforms and equipment for baseball
- 4 Batteries for Defibtech
- 5
- 6
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- 12
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- 15 16
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# Kent Park and Recreation

Lesly Ferris, Director P.O. Box 678 41 Kent Green Boulevard Kent, CT 06757-0678

Telephone 860-927-1003 Fax 860-927-1313 parkandrec@townofkentCt.org www.kentCtparkandreCreation.com

To: Board of Selectmen

Listy From: Lesly Ferris

Date: May 31, 2017

Re: Summer concert series

I have learned that the Kent Chamber of Commerce has agreed to sponsor the summer concert series for 2017 and would like to stage the concert series behind the Kent Welcome Center.

I am writing to request the Board of Selectmen approve the use of the space behind the Kent Welcome Center for the summer concert series on July 6, July 20, July 28 and August 3, 2017, 6-8 p.m.

Please note the chamber has agreed verbally to broker the use of the adjoining property owners' land for the concerts.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.



Board of Directors President: Virginia Bush Sultman Vice President: Anne Bisenius Treasurer: Jean Marie Horovitz Secretary: Bill Bachrach

> Sharon Cipolia Hal Kamm Betty Krasne Dan Schlesel Gregg Sheridan

May 1, 2017

To: Board of Selectmen, Town of Kent From: Virginia Bush Suttman, and the Board of Kent Affordable Housing

RE: Tax Credit Application for Solar Power at Stuart Farm Apartments

Kent Affordable Housing (KAH) wants to apply to the Dept. of Revenue Services' Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) for funds to install solar power at Stuart Farm Apartments, Phase II. Such applications must come from the municipality in which the project is located.

During the long process of getting these five affordable rental apartments approved and funded, we have consulted with several solar contractors and chosen Ross Solar for the contract. They have done the necessary analysis to show that Photovoltaic Panels will provide significant power to supplement onthe-grid electricity to the apartments, halving the costs to the future residents.

The funds for construction, which is expected to begin in June, will come from the CT Department of Housing (DOH). The approved budget does not provide for the solar program, because DOH does not yet have the processes in place to include that.

The Tax Credit program allows nonprofits to apply for funds, through their towns, and the money comes in the form of contributions from certain CT corporations, which are given matching tax credits to offset their cost. The municipality incurs no cost, except a modest amount of time to make the application. Administration and overseeing the installation of the project will be handled by the architect and contractor, along with the Board of KAH.

A copy of the application, a summary of the solar contract, and drawings of the installation are attached. We at KAH hope that the Kent Selectmen will vote to participate in this project. It will be an economic benefit to the families at Stuart Farm Apartments, Phase II, but will also demonstrate the commitment of Kent to renewable energy and positive environmental values.

Thanks for your consideration of this proposal.

Virginia Bush Suttman

Kall Kent Affordable Housing, Inc. P.O. Box 265, Kent, CT 06757-0265 kentaffordablehousing.org Department of Revenue Services State of Connecticut (Rev. 03/17)



Municipality: Kent

# Form NAA-01

## 2017 Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Program Proposal

This form **must** be completed and submitted to your municipality for approval. All items **must** be completed with as much detail as possible. If additional space is needed, attach additional sheets. Please type or print clearly. See attached instructions before completing. Do not submit this form directly to the Department of Revenue Services.

### Part I — General Information

Name of tax exempt organization/municipal agency:

Kent Affordable Housing Inc./Town of Kent

Address:

PO Box 265 (KAH), Kent, CT 06757

Federal Employer Identification Number: \_\_\_\_\_22-3036664

Program title: Photovoltaic Panels for Stuart Farm Apartments, Phase II

Name of contact person: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Virginia Bush Suttman, President, Kent Affordable Housing

Telephone number: (860) 927-3684

Email address: info@kentaffordablehousing.org

Total NAA funding requested (\$250 minimum, \$150,000 maximum): \$ 90,000.00

Is your organization required to file federal Form 990 or 990EZ, Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax?

X Yes No

If Yes, attach a copy of the first page of your most recent return.

If No, attach a copy of your determination letter from the U.S. Treasury Department, Internal Revenue Service.

## Part II — Program Information

Check the appropriate description of your program:

#### 100% credit percentage

- \_X\_\_\_ Energy conservation; or
  - Comprehensive college access loan forgiveness (see Conn. Gen Stat. §12-635(3)).

#### 60% credit percentage

- Job training/education for unemployed persons aged 50 or over;
- Job training/education for disabled persons;
- Program serving low-income persons;
- \_\_\_\_\_ Child care services;
- Establishment of a child day care facility;
- Open space acquisition fund; or
- Other (specify):

#### Description of program:

Installation of Grid-Connected Photovoltaic (PV) System for five affordable rental units, which units are to be constructed under a grant from CT Department of Housing, as Phase II of the existing five affordable rental units called Stuart Farm Apartments, at 15 Maple Street Extension in Kent.

#### Need for program:

The system will supply electrical power to the five apartments to assist in their affordability for Kent families of modest income. There is a shortage of rental units, especially affordable units, in Kent, which has very high property costs, often because of second homes. The American Community Survey data of 2015 indicated that 58% of Kent's rental households faced housing costs that exceeded 30% of their income. The present and future apartments at Stuart Farm are priced not much below market rates for the area, and electricity costs (including HVAC) average about \$150-200 a month. The proposed solar equipment would halve these costs.

#### Neighborhood area to be served:

Stuart Farm Apartments are a quarter of a mile and about a 10 minute walk from Kent's center, with its shops, churches, medical facilities, elementary school, community organizations and work opportunities. The two-acre rural property is opposite the town's light industry zone, and is served by town water and sewer. KAH also owns an adjoining acre, which it intends to develop with three more apartments, establishing an environmentally progressive neighborhood. An incentive housing zone is being developed nearby. The Stuart Farm solar system will be an inspiring demonstration for other developments in town.

#### Plan to implement the program:

The general contractor intends to start construction on Stuart Farm Apartments Phase II in June, and the work will be overseen by the architect, his engineering consultants, the KAH board and its housing consultant, and independent inspectors on behalf of the CT Department of Housing. When the structures are roof-ready the solar contractor will install the equipment, in compliance with the standards of Eversource and the local building department.

#### **Timetable:**

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Program start date: June 2017

Program completion date: June 2018

The program completion date must not be more than two years from the program start date. A certified post-project review is due to the municipality overseeing implementation no later than three months after program completion date for all projects receiving \$25,000 or more in NAA funding.

## Part III --- Financial Information

#### **Program Budget:**

Complete in full. Expenditures must equal or exceed total funding.

#### Sources of Revenue:

NAA funds requested	\$90,000.00	
Other funding sources - itemized sources:		
a) Kent Affordable Housing	\$9,000.00	
b)		
c)		
d)		_
Total Funding:		
Proposed Program Expenditures:		
Direct operating expenses - itemized description:		
a) Install Photovoltaic Equip Ross Solar Group Contract	\$90,000.00	
b)		
c)		
d)		
Administrative expenses - itemized description:		
a) Housing Enterprises Inc. Consultant	\$9,000.00	
b)		
c)		
d)		
Total Proposed Expenditures:	\$99,000.00	

## Part IV — Municipal Information

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## To be completed by the municipal agency overseeing implementation of the program

Board of Sele	ctmen, Town of Kent
Mailing address	S:
PO Box 678,	Kent, CT 06757
Name of munic	ipal liaison: Bruce Adams, First Selectman
	ner 860-9274627
Telephone num	Jov I
•	

Post-Proj	ect Review
ls a post-project review	required for this proposal?
X Yes	No
If Yes, date post-	project review due:
June	2019
D	late

## 2017 Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Program Proposal Instructions

Complete all items on Form NAA-01, 2017 Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Program Proposal. Incomplete applications will not be accepted. Direct inquiries to Department of Revenue Services (DRS), Neighborhood Assistance Act Program, Attn: Research Unit, 450 Columbus Blvd Ste 1, Hartford CT 06103-1837, or call 860-297-5687.

## Part I General Information

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Enter the name of the tax exempt organization or municipal agency, address, Federal Employer Identification Number, and email address.

**Program Title:** Assign a unique program title to each program for which your organization is making an application.

Federal Form 990: Attach a copy of the first page of your organization's most recent federal Form 990 or Form 990EZ. If your organization is not required to file either Form 990 or Form 990EZ, attach a copy of the determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service.

#### Part II Program Information

**Description of Program:** Describe the program, including information about how the program will operate, its benefit to the community, how recipients will be selected, and any measures used to determine the program's impact on the community.

Need for Program: Demonstrate a need for this program. For example, provide relevant statistics.

Neighborhood Area to Be Served: Describe the neighborhood or municipality this program will serve.

Plan to implement the program: Describe how the program will operate. Identify other persons or organizations involved in the administration of the program.

Timetable: Indicate the starting and completion dates of the program. The program completion date must not be more than two years from the program start date.

## Part III Financial Information

Each program proposal must include a program budget that includes all sources of funding and all anticipated expenditures. The information provided in the budget may be used during a post-project audit.

Sources of Revenue: The budget must include the requested NAA funding and any other anticipated revenue sources.

NAA Funding Requested: Indicate the total amount your organization is requesting for its program. This amount may not exceed the total proposed expenditures. Please note that the minimum NAA funding is \$250, with a maximum funding of \$150,000 per organization or agency per year.

Other Funding Sources: Provide a detailed description(s) and the amount(s) of all funding sources.

Proposed Program Expenditures: The budget must include a detailed description and the amount of all direct operating and administrative expenditures. Expenditures must equal or exceed total funding.

Direct Operating Expenses: Expenses include materials, equipment, wages, salaries, tuition fees, sub-contracting services, and any other expenses needed to administer the program.

#### Part IV Municipal Information

This part is to be completed by the municipal agency overseeing implementation of the program.

Municipal Liaison: The municipality must designate an individual to serve as a liaison with DRS for all NAA matters.

Post-Project Review: Any program receiving \$25,000 or more in NAA funding is required to provide a post-project review, prepared by a certified public accounting firm, to the municipality overseeing the program. This review must be submitted to the municipality no later than three months after the program completion date.



CT Commercial Installation Contract

October 2016

## Installation of Grid-Connected Photovoltaic (PV) System

#### THIS AGREEMENT BETWEEN ROSS SOLAR GROUP LLC (at times referred to as "installer" or "RSG") AND:

Owner's Name: Kent Affordable Housing, Inc.	Today's Date: 10/21/16
Owner's Address: PO Box 265	Owner's Telephone: 860-927-3684
City or Town: Kent	State, Zip Code: CT, 06757

#### **DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT:**

(A) This Installation Agreement (this "Agreement") includes all materials and labor charges for a Solar Grid-Integrated Photovoltaic system (the "System"), to be installed at 15 Maple Street Ext, Kent, CT with a total Manufacturer's Namepiate Rating of 26,040 Watts DC. The contract price (as described below) includes (i) 93 Solarworld 280-watt photovoltaic modules, or equivalent (ii) 5 Transformerless inverters (1 per building) with rapid shutdown capability. Also included in the Installation Cost are related hardware, disconnect switches, wiring, and all labor charges for a complete installation. Data-monitoring included. Internet and trenching to each building to be provided by customer or others. The System shall be installed with a pitched-roof racking system such as Unirac Solarmount, Ironridge XRS, or equivalent.

#### Manufacturer's PV Nameplate Rating of: 26,040 watts Estimated Annual Output in kwh: 30,000-31,500 Contract Price: \$ 90,000

Contract Price includes installation, wiring and utility interconnection of photovoltaic modules, inverter(s), mounting equipment, disconnect switches and related hardware for a complete installation.

See System Cost Breakdown and System Payment Schedule annexed hereto as Exhibit A.

The Contract Price shall be paid as follows (all as more particularly described on the System Payment Schedule annexed hereto as part of <u>Exhibit A</u>):

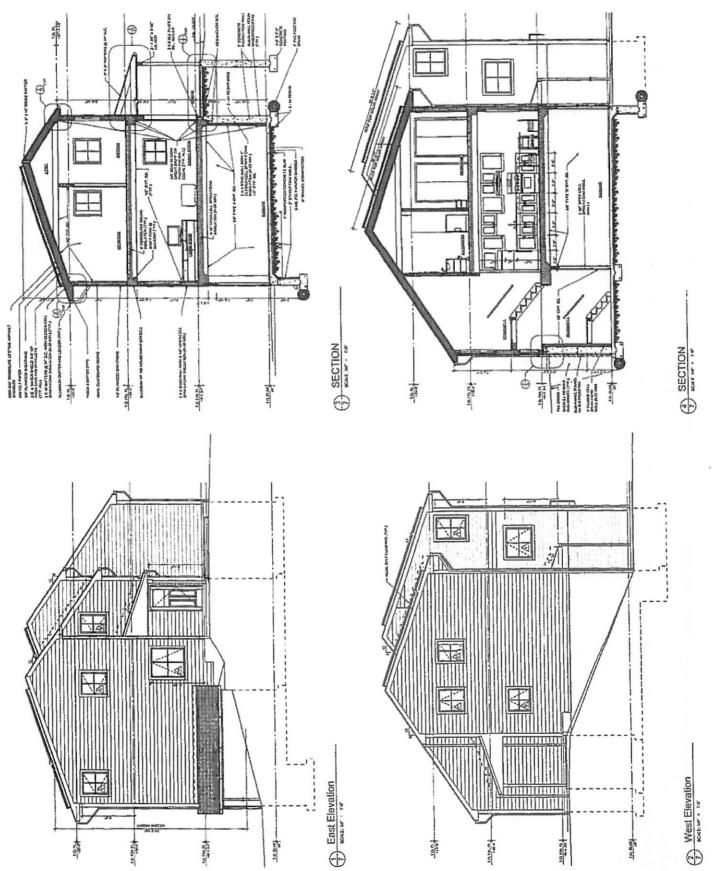
5%	\$5,000	Down Payment due upon Contract Notice to Proceed at the time that project funding is released
15%	\$13,000	Due upon Eversource Interconnection Application Approval
20%	\$18,000	Due upon Delivery of Goods to sitc
50%	\$45,000	Due upon Completion of Installation (pre utility inspections)
10%	\$9,000	Due upon System Activation

ROSS SOLAR GROUP 38 BEAVER BROOK ROAD DANBURY, CT 06810 PHONE (203) 512.4500 www.rosssolargroup.com OCTOBER 2016

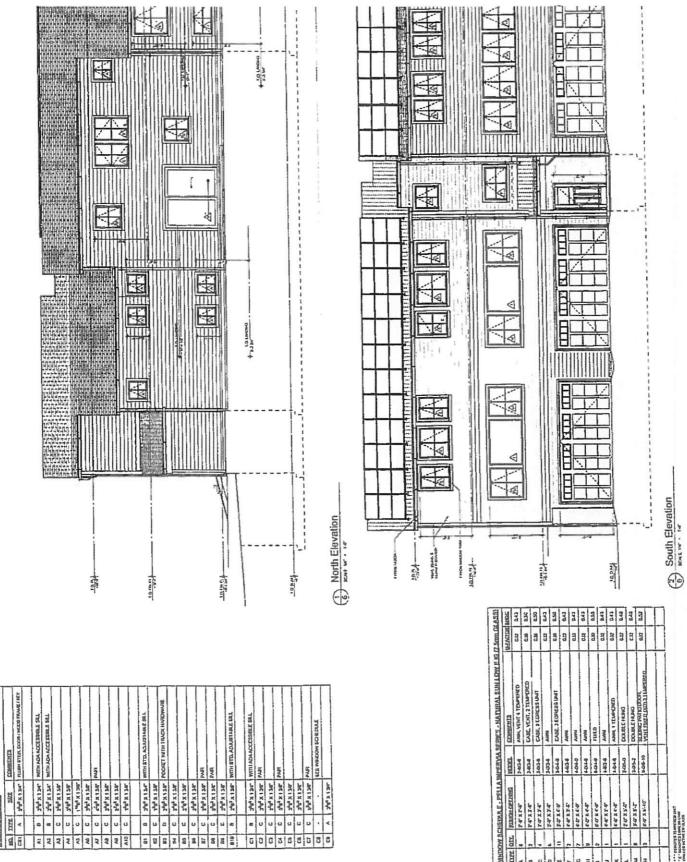
PAGE 1 OF 8

INITIAL ROSS SOLAR GROUP

INITIAL CUSTOMER



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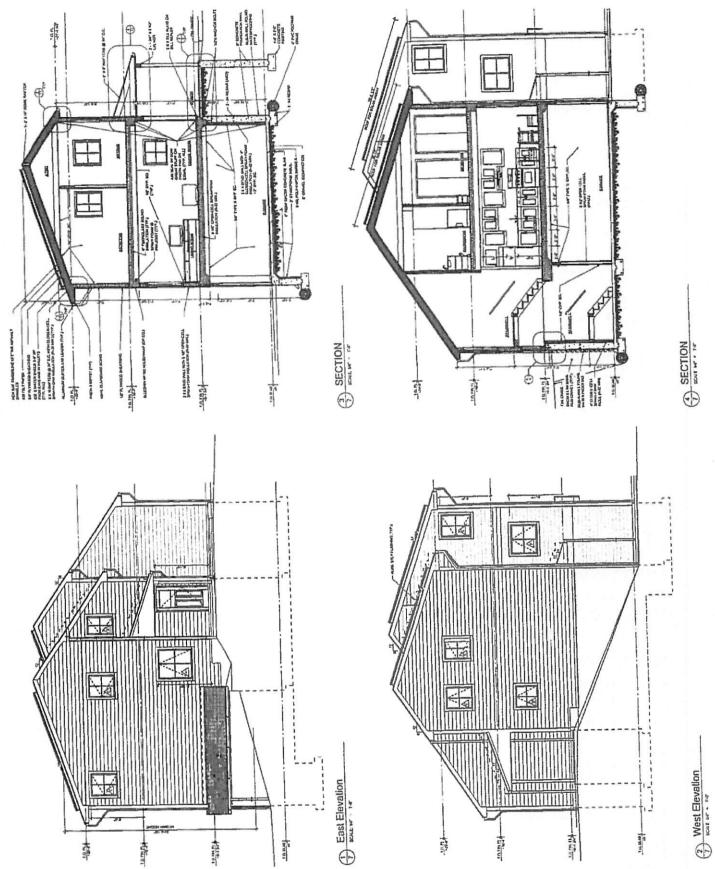
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DRS: Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Program

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Neighborhood Assist	ance Act Tax Credit Program	KAH Rays	egenda

The Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Tax Credit Program is designed to provide funding for municipal and tax exempt organizations by providing a corporation business tax credit for businesses who make cash contributions to these entities.

#### 2017 Program Proposal Form NAA-01

Businesses can receive a credit of 60% of their approved contribution to certain programs (or 100% in the case of certain energy conservation programs) approved by the Department of Revenue Services. Any tax credit that is not taken in the income year-in which the contribution was made may be carried back to the two immediately preceding income years (beginning with the earlier of such years).

The program has several statutory limits, including the following:

- A business is limited to receiving \$150,000 in tax credit annually.
- A non-profit organization is limited to receiving \$150,000 in contributions in the aggregate.
- The minimum contribution on which credit can be granted is \$250.
- Beginning on July 1, 2017, the program has a ten million dollar cap, which, if exceeded, results in proration of approved donations.

For more information on this program see:

Information Publication 2015(13), The Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Program

and

The Neighborhood Assistance Act Program tax credit summary in the <u>Online Guide to Connecticut Business Tax Credits</u>.

Organizations wishing to participate:

Each municipal agency or tax-exempt organization that wishes to participate in the NAA Program must complete in its entirety Form NAA-01, the program proposal application. This form must be submitted to a participating municipality for approval. Contact the municipality for deadline information. Do not send form NAA-01 directly to the Department of Revenue Services.

A link to a list of Neighborhood Assistance Act Municipal Liaisons from the prior program year can be found below in order to assist you. This list is not all-inclusive. You may still approach any Connecticut municipality. Please note that the municipality must submit all locally approved programs to the DRS no later than July 3, 2017.

#### Businesses wishing to participate:

Each business requesting a tax credit under the Neighborhood Assistance Act Program must complete a separate Form NAA-02 for each program it wishes to sponsor. The contribution must be cash, and needs to be made in the corporation's income year that corresponds to the same year as the approved program.

Form NAA-02 must be submitted to DRS beginning September 15 through October 2, 2017. Businesses may mall or hand deliver their applications. In addition, applications may be submitted electronically by emailing Form NAA-02 to NAAProgram@ct.gov. No fax transmittals will be accepted.

E-mail any questions to DRS.TaxResearch@po.state.ct.us or contact 860-297-5687 for more information.

#### 2017 Application Process

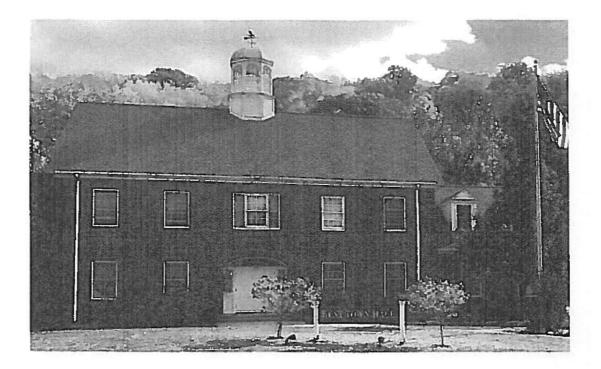
All forms and some DRS publications are in Adobe Acrobat format. You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader 7.0 or higher to view and print the forms. For additional assistance or if you are have trouble downloading a form, visit our Adobe Information page.

2017 Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act Program Proposal - Form NAA-01

2017 Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act Business Application - Form NAA-02

# TOWN OF KENT, CONNECTICUT

# EMPLOYEE POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL



# **Record of Revisions**

Adopted 6/27/2011 Amended 7/19/2011 Amended 8/2/2011 Amended 10/4/2011 Amended 6/5/2012 Amended 6/20/2012 Amended 6/20/2012 Amended 10/2/2012 Amended 8/6/13 Amended 11/16/13 Amended 11/16/13 Amended 11/7/14 Amended 5/5/15 Amended 6/2/15 Amended 4/7/17 Amended 6/6/17

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. APPLICABILITY GENERAL	6
2. EMPLOYMENT PLAN	6
EXCLUSIONS	6
3. HIRING POLICIES AND PROCESS	7
DEPARTMENTS	7
JOB DESCRIPTIONS ADA POLICY	8
E-VERIFY POLICY	Ě
EEOC POLICY	ç
VACANCIES	9
APPLICATION PROCESS NEWLY HIRED EMPLOYEES	9
4. COMPENSATION PACKAGE	10
GENERAL WORK WEEK/ HOURS OF WORK	10 10
PAY DAYS	10
PAY CORRECTIONS	11
5. REPORTING AND RECORD KEEPING	11
TIME KEEPING RECORDS	1:
PERSONNEL RECORDS	1:
6. COMMUNICATIONS	11
EMPLOYEE BULLETIN BOARD	1:
7. STANDARD OF CONDUCT	12
DRESS CODE	1
PERFORMANCE AND SAFETY STANDARDS SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY	1
STANDARD OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT	1: 1:
8. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESS	14
WARNINGS	1
DISMISSAL	1
SUSPENSION RESIGNATION	1
RESIDIATION RETURN OF PROPERTY	1
GRIEVANCES AND COMPLAINTS	1
VERBAL GRIEVANCE OR COMPLAINT	1
WRITTEN GRIEVANCE OR COMPLAINT GRANTS	1
LEGAL COUNSEL	1
9. ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES	1
TOWN HALL CLOSURE	1
FAIR TREATMENT SAFETY	1
EMERGENCY	1
USE OF EMAIL, PHONE AND COMPUTER	1

**RECYCLING AND ENERGY CONSERVATION** NO SMOKING CONFLICT OF INTEREST REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

#### **10. BENEFITS**

<u>10.</u>	BENEFITS	18			
BENE	IFITS AND SERVICES	18			
BENEFIT YEAR		18			
BENEFITS CATEGORIES		19			
LIFE	INSURANCE	19			
MEDI	ICAL INSURANCE	19			
DENT	TAL INSURANCE	20			
RETIREMENT PLAN		20			
RETIREE HEALTH BENEFITS		21			
CHANGE OF CARRIERS EDUCATION CONTINUING EDUCATION JOB CERTIFICATION		21			
		21 21 21			
			PAID TIME OFF (PTO)		22
			EXTE	NDED LEAVE	23
<u>11.</u>	FORMS	24			
DISTRIBUTION, COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT OF STANDARD PAY PRACTICES		25			
	IPT OF POLICY MANUAL	26			
<u>12.</u>	APPENDICES	27			
APPENDIX A - EMPLOYEE TIME RECORD FORM		28			
APPENDIX B - EMPLOYEE SEXUAL HARASSMENT COMPLAINT FORM		29			

APPENDIX A - EMPLOYEE TIME RECORD FORM	28
APPENDIX B - EMPLOYEE SEXUAL HARASSMENT COMPLAINT FORM	29
APPENDIX C - EMPLOYEE WARNING	30
APPENDIX D - EMPLOYEE RESIGNATION FORM	31
APPENDIX E - EMPLOYEE GRIEVANCE OR COMPLAINT FORM - ALLEGED VIOLATION OF POLICY	32
APPENDIX F - EMPLOYEE EDUCATION AND TRAINING FORM	33
APPENDIX G - EMPLOYEE NOTIFICATION FORM OF PERSONAL DAYS AWARDED FOR FISCAL YEAR	34
APPENDIX H - EMPLOYEE REQUEST FORM FOR EXTENDED LEAVE	35
APPENDIX 1 - EMPLOYEE REQUEST FORM FOR POLICY WAIVER FOR CURRENT FISCAL YEAR	36
APPENDIX I - CONFLICT OF INTEREST ALLEGATION FORM	37
APPENDIX K - EMPLOYEE/ELECTED OFFICIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND UNDERSTANDING FORM	38
APPENDIX L - EMPLOYEE REPORT OF MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS OR TRAFFIC VIOLATION	39
APPENDIX M - FORMS TO REPORT ACCEPTANCE OF BIDS FOR GOODS AND/OR SERVICES	40
APPENDIX N – TOWN VEHICLE POLICY AGREEMENT FORM	41
APPENDIX O – HEALTH INSURANCE "OPT-OUT" PROGRAM	42
APPENDIX P - HEALTH INSURANCE OPT-OUT FORM	43

17

18

18 18

# 1. Applicability General

These policies and procedures were adopted by the Board of Selectmen and apply to a specific group of Employees of the Town of Kent. Those Employees are:

- Hired by the First Selectman and/or the Board of Selectmen, by Elected Officials or by Commission(s); the Hiring Authorities of the Town of Kent.
- Required to meet all terms of employment in their Job Description, as written and modified by the Board of Selectmen, and abide by all of the provisions of these policies and procedures, and
- Subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment, by the Hiring Authority.

# 2. Employment Plan

The Board of Selectmen shall determine the appropriate rate of pay for each noncontractual municipal job, subject to budgetary approval by the legislative body. Job descriptions shall be developed and jobs will be filled in accordance with the provisions set forth herein.

The plan shall be reviewed by the Board of Selectmen biennially, starting in September of 2012 and every two (2) years after that. At that time the Board may make revisions as it sees necessary, in its discretion to reflect changes in area of economic conditions and to attract and retain qualified personnel. The terms and conditions of this document shall apply to all Town of Kent employees except as excluded herein and where inconsistent with or pre-empted by a collective bargaining agreement.

## Exclusions

The Policies set forth in this document do not apply to employees, members or officials of any of the following:

- 1. Region One Board of Education;
- 2. Kent Board of Education;
- 3. Kent Volunteer Fire Department;
- 4. Kent Sewer Commission.

Furthermore, if any of the foregoing participates in the same or similar rights and/or benefits as are available to Town officials or employees, such participation does not

cause them to be considered as or deemed to be Town officials or employees by virtue of such participation, regardless of who makes payments, if any, for such rights and/or benefits.

# 3. Hiring Policies and Process

## **Departments**

The following are the principal management Departments within the Town of Kent:

- 1. Selectmen
- 2. Highway
- 3. Town Clerk
- 4. Tax Collector
- 5. Tax Assessor
- 6. Land Use
- 7. Park and Recreation
- 8. Treasurer
- 9. Social Services

Each department shall have a Department Head whether or not there are additional employees within the department. The Department Head shall be the principal point of contact with the Board of Selectmen for those departments that administer policies directed by Town Boards or Commissions.

Each Department Head shall have the authority to recommend to the Board of Selectmen the hiring or firing of any personnel. Each Department Head shall have the authority to recommend salary and salary adjustments to the Board of Selectmen. However, the salary shall be set by the Board of Selectmen within the limits of the budget appropriation therefore and shall be effective immediately.

Unless directed to the contrary by any state statute or town ordinance, each department that has or anticipates requiring support staff (clerks or assistants) shall try to maintain a defined level of subordinate positions specified by skill level or training required and job responsibilities. Each specific level of subordinate position shall comport with a salary range scale agreed by the Board of Selectmen.

Job Descriptions

On a biennial basis, starting in September of 2012 and every two (2) years after that, the First Selectman, with the advice of applicable Boards. Commissions and/or Department Heads, shall conduct an organizational review of each municipal department. Following such reviews, the Department Head may recommend to the Board of Selectmen the retention of the current organizational structure of any department or may recommend organizational revisions of any department. The Department Head also shall recommend the allocation of job duties within the various departments. Such revisions and allocations may be implemented only after the approval of the Board of Selectmen. Job descriptions shall be developed and/or revised by the First Selectman with input from any applicable Boards or Commissions and/or the Department Heads. Where the First Selectman deems it necessary, incumbent employees may be interviewed regarding job duties. In addition to defining responsibilities, the job description may include an Appendix that sets out terms of employment that modify this policy in specific areas for the current employee. The Board of Selectmen must approve any such Appendix, thereby making it a matter of public record. Upon termination of the employee, for whatever reason, the Appendix shall be void. Job descriptions are also subject to approval by the Board of Selectmen (Appendix I).

The statements contained in each employee's job description are illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed, the skill typically required and the scope of responsibility. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment to the position.

## **ADA Policy**

The Town of Kent is committed to complying with all applicable provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA"). It is the Town's policy not to discriminate against any qualified employee or applicant with regard to any terms or conditions of employment because of such individual's disability or perceived disability so long as the employee can perform the essential functions of the job. Consistent with this policy of nondiscrimination, the Town will provide reasonable accommodations to a qualified individual with a disability, as defined by the ADA, who has made the Town aware of his or her disability, provided that such accommodation does not constitute an undue hardship to the Town. Employees with a disability who believe they need a temporary or permanent reasonable accommodation to perform the essential functions of their job should contact the First Selectman and request accommodation.

## E-Verify Policy

The Town of Kent is committed to compliance with Federal Law regarding hiring practices. It shall be a policy of the Town of Kent that the Town must use the federally maintained E-Verify Program (www.uscis.gov/e-verify) (or any successor program) to verify the employment eligibility of new hires made by the Town. New hires must complete an I-9 form. The Selectman's administrative assistant shall process the verification and maintain the records.

## **EEOC** Policy

The Town of Kent is committed to equal employment opportunities for all. Equal Employment Opportunity has been, and continues to be, a fundamental principle at the Town of Kent. Employment and promotions are based upon personal capabilities and qualifications without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, sexual orientation or any other protected characteristic as established by law. This policy applies to all terms and conditions of employment, including policies and procedures related to recruitment and hiring, compensation, working conditions, benefits, and termination from employment.

## Vacancies

The Department head shall notify the Board of Selectmen in writing of a job vacancy. The Board of Selectmen shall determine if the Town will fill the vacancy. The Department Head would post a job opening notice internally via e-mail to all department heads and on the Town of Kent website and in such other places as may be deemed appropriate.

## **Application Process**

There is no legal right to municipal employment. The Department Head has discretion to decline to offer employment should he/she believe the applicant does not adequately fit the position, that there are more qualified candidates available, that the applicant does not possess the qualifications or skills required for the position, in the event he/she considers the applicant pool to be inadequate, or if the applicant fails to file an application by the announced closing date for the receipt of applications unless an extension has been publicly announced prior to such date.

## Newly Hired Employees

Upon hiring a new employee, the Selectmen's Administrative Assistant will be notified immediately in order to start a personnel file and set up the new employee for payroll. Notification must include, at minimum, the new employee's name, social security number, date of hire, and beginning salary. The new employee shall report to the Selectmen's Office to complete all required employment forms.

All new hires and employees transferring to a new position will complete an introductory period the first 90-days of employment in that position. Such a period allows the employee time for training and adjustment to the new position.

# 4. Compensation Package

## General

Salary shall be set by the Board of Selectmen and with the approval of the Board of Finance within the limits of the budget appropriation therefore and shall be effective immediately.

An employee must work an average of thirty hours a week or more to be classified as a Full-time Employee and eligible for benefits, providing they are fulfilling the job requirement of his/her job description. Salaried Employees will receive a pro-rata share of his/her annual salary each pay period.

## Work Week/ Hours of Work

Each work week begins on Sunday at 12 a.m. and ends on the following Saturday at 11:59 p.m.

Town Hall offices are generally open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, subject to change by the First Selectman. Work schedules may vary based on the needs of each department. The Department Head will advise the employee of his/her individual work schedule as defined in the job description. These hours may be modified at any time by the Department Head or the Board of Selectmen.

Employees are expected to arrive to work on time and be ready to work at the start of each work day and may not be accompanied by children and/or pets on a recurring basis. Tardiness and unauthorized absences may result in disciplinary action. Such occurrences, early departures, and whole or part day absences will be recorded by the Department Head on the individual's attendance record. The Department Head (and/or the First Selectman) is responsible for ensuring the accuracy of all attendance records.

## Pay Days

Employees are paid weekly on Thursday. Hourly employees' paycheck will include earnings for all hours worked through the end of the previous payroll period. Salaried employee's paycheck will include weekly salary through the end of the previous payroll period. In the event that a regularly scheduled payday falls on a day off, such as a holiday, employees will receive pay the prior business day.

If a regular payday falls during an employee's vacation, the employee's direct deposit will be processed on schedule or a paycheck would be available upon return.

An itemized statement of wages will be made available to all Town employees utilizing direct deposit.

## **Pay Corrections**

The Town takes all reasonable steps to ensure that employees receive the correct amount of pay in each paycheck and that all employees are paid promptly on the scheduled payday. In the event that there is an error in the amount of pay, the employee should promptly bring the discrepancy to the attention of the Finance Department so that corrections can be made as quickly as possible.

# 5. Reporting and Record Keeping

## Time Keeping Records

Accurately recording time worked is the responsibility of every employee, an attendance sheet for salaried employees and a time record for hourly employees. Employees must complete a time record at the end of each day and to verify that all necessary information regarding the date and hours worked are correct and legible. An employee must sign his or her own time record. The Department Head will review and then initial time record before submitting it for payroll processing. Any errors in a time record must be brought to the attention of the Department Head in order to be corrected. All entries are in ink. All corrections must be initialed and dated by both the employee and the Department Head. See Appendix A.

## **Personnel Records**

Accurate, up to date records must be maintained so that the Town may properly handle paychecks, insurances, withholding taxes, etc. This is for the personal benefit of employees and is legally required of the Town.

## 6. Communications

## **Employee Bulletin Board**

An employee bulletin board is located in the hallway outside of the Town Hall large meeting room on the first floor. The board houses information about employee rights, as well as federal, state and local labor laws. Employees should check this bulletin board periodically. This bulletin board is not an area for additional postings or for general employee usage.

# 7. Standard of Conduct

**Dress** Code

Kent, Connecticut Employee Manual

An employee represents the Town in the eyes of the public. Therefore, it is important that employees report to work properly groomed and wearing appropriate attire, consistent with the nature of the work to be performed. Any employee who reports to work inappropriately dressed will be asked to leave and return properly groomed and dressed.

## **Performance and Safety Standards**

Work standard rules are designed to protect the rights and safety of all and to ensure effective and efficient performance results. Since the Town cannot create a list that addresses all situations in all departments, each Department Head may develop and publish performance and safety standards and rules that every employee in that department is expected and required to follow. No conduct, which is immoral, unsafe, unethical, or illegal, will be tolerated.

All employees shall perform the work assigned to them in a safe, competent and efficient manner and shall follow the lawful directives and instructions of his/her Department Head. All employees shall comply with and abide by any additional rules and standards specific to the employee's department.

## Sexual Harassment Policy

It is the policy of the Town of Kent to maintain a working environment that is free from sexual and other unlawful harassment. The Town does not tolerate the harassment of any applicant, employee, independent contractor, volunteer, or visitor based on sex, sexual orientation, race, color, religion, creed, national origin, ancestry, marital status, age, physical or mental disability. All forms of harassment are prohibited whether verbal, physical or visual, and regardless of the medium through which it occurs.

Sexual harassment, as defined in section 717 of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, and Public Act No. 80-285 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended, toward employees of the Town of Kent is forbidden. Sexual harassment includes:

Abusing the dignity of an employee through insulting or degrading sexual remarks or conduct; Making threats, demands or suggestions that an employee's work status is contingent upon the employee's toleration or consent to sexual advances; Taking retaliation against employees for complaining about the behaviors described above.

If the employee encounters such abuses from the Department Head, fellow employees, Town commissioners, elected officials or individuals doing business with the Town, the employee should report it to the First Selectman, Selectman's Administrative Assistant, Social Services Administrator or union steward.

The complainant should immediately commit the complaint to writing. The complaint should include the name of the complainant, date of the complaint, date of the alleged harassment, name(s) of the alleged harasser(s) and a detailed statement of the

circumstances leading to the complaint, and the complainant's signature. See Appendix B.

All employees, appointees and elected officials also have the right to file a formal complaint with the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities.

In the case of actual assault or any other criminal offence, the CT State Police must be notified immediately.

Mandatory training session for all supervisors shall be provided by the Town of Kent. Employees are invited to attend.

## Standard of Official Conduct

Residents of the Town of Kent expect Town of Kent Employees to be independent, fair and impartial. This code establishes the minimum ethical standards that employees must observe. By adhering to these standards, employees will avoid both actual and potential conflicts of interest.

- 1. Employees should seek to improve the image and quality of public service at all times. Employees serve the Town of Kent, not their self-interests.
- 2. Employees shall not accept any gift or compensation valued at more than \$25 from any person or organization interested in any Town business.
- 3. No employee shall use Town-owned property for personal convenience or profit.
- 4. All employees serving on boards and commissions must refrain from voting upon or otherwise participating in any matter that presents a conflict of interest between their specific private self-interest and the interest of the residents of the Town of Kent.
- 5. Employees shall maintain the public's trust at all times by not disclosing confidential Town information outside of their official functions, nor divulging private confidential information in a public setting.
- 6. Employees shall not engage in political campaign activities while on municipal duty.
- 7. No employee shall enter into a contract with the Town of Kent unless the contract is awarded through a public, competitive bid process.
- 8. No employee shall use his/her position to influence any person for his/her selfinterest.
- 9. All employees should be free and encouraged to exercise their rights as citizens, to cast their votes, and express their opinions on all political subjects but shall identify if the opinion is personal or reflects the Town's position.
- 10. No employee shall be in a supervisory or subordinate position to any other employee that is a member of his or her immediate family.

# 8. Administrative Process

## Warnings

Employment is on an at-will basis. Department Heads are encouraged to informally discuss concerns with the employee's performance and/or concerning compliance with standards and rules.

A formal warning concerning an employee's performance and/or compliance shall be written and must be signed by both the employee and the Department Head. See Appendix C.

A copy of all warnings will be filed in employee's personnel file in the Selectman's office and will be considered active for twelve months, provided the fact that the warnings have been issued may be noted in an employee's performance evaluation and shall not be expunged there from.

## Dismissal

Any employee may be dismissed with or without cause, whenever in the judgment and discretion of the Hiring Authority, he/she determines that there is insufficient work available to the employee within the department or when the employee's work performance, assimilation into a position or misconduct so warrant. The employee shall be notified in writing of such action within forty-eight (48) hours and the reason therefore, by hand-delivery to the employee or by delivery to his/her usual place of abode as reflected in the personnel file.

## Suspension

In the event that the Hiring Authority, in its discretion, determines that an employee's work performance or conduct justifies disciplinary action short of dismissal, the Hiring Authority may suspend such employee without pay. In the event a suspension is imposed rather than termination, the period of suspension may not exceed thirty (30) days. Within forty-eight (48) hours of the suspension determination, the employee shall be notified in writing of such action and the reason therefore. The suspended employee shall forfeit all privileges and pay which might accrue to him/her during the period of suspension.

## Resignation

To resign in good standing, an employee will give the Town at least fourteen (14) calendar day's prior notice in writing unless the Town, because of extenuating circumstances, agrees to permit a shorter period of notice. See Appendix D. A written resignation, giving the reasons for leaving, shall be furnished by the employee to the Department Head and/or First Selectman. The resignation shall be forwarded to the Board of Selectmen with a statement by the Department Head as to the resigned employee's service performance and pertinent information concerning the cause for resignation. There will be an opportunity for an exit interview with a Selectman other than the First Selectman.

## Return of Property

Employees are responsible for all property, materials, and/or written information issued to them or in their possession or control. Employees must return all Town property immediately upon request or upon termination of employment. The Town may also take all action deemed appropriate to recover or protect its property.

## **Grievances and Complaints**

A grievance or a complaint shall mean a claim by an employee alleging a violation of these policies. A grievance or a complaint form is available. See Appendix E. A grievance or complaint must adequately articulate the nature of the grievance or complaint, the policy or procedure that the

## Verbal Grievance or Complaint

An employee claiming to be aggrieved must first discuss the matter with the Department Head within five (5) days of the event that led to the grievance or complaint, in an effort to resolve the problem informally. See Appendix E.

## Written Grievance or Complaint

In the event that no resolution is forthcoming within ten (10) business days of the informal discussion, then the employee may submit in writing to the First Selectman a statement of the grievance or complaint. See Appendix E.

Within ten (10) business days of the receipt of the written grievance or complaint, the Board of Selectmen shall respond in writing to the employee. The Board of Selectman may sustain the grievance or complaint and impose a remedy or shall deny the grievance or complaint.

## Grants

Grant proposals or applications must be acknowledged by the First Selectman and the Treasurer. before submission. If further approval is needed, the grant request will be referred to the Board of Selectmen.

## Legal Counsel

Other than the commissions that provide for legal counsel in the budget, all requests for the Town's legal counsel must be approved by the First Selectman

# 9. Administrative Policies

## **Town Hall Closure**

Full-time employees who work year-round shall be entitled to a paid day off at their Regular Hourly Pay Rate any time Town Hall is closed except for the 104 weekend days. Part-time employees will be entitled to be paid their regular scheduled hours if Town Hall is closed on a day they are regularly scheduled to work. Temporary, Seasonal or per diem Employees shall not be so entitled.

Town Hall will be closed on three calendar specific days:

- January 1
- July 4
- December 25
- 1/2 day on Christmas Eve
- 1/2 day on New Year's Eve

Seven other days set by Federal or State decree:

- Martin Luther King Day
- President's Day
- Labor Day
- Columbus Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Memorial Day
- Veterans' Day
- Two days set by the Board of Selectman:
  - Good Friday
  - the day after Thanksgiving.

If one of the three calendar specific days falls on a Sunday, Town Hall shall close the following Monday, but if one of those three days falls on a Saturday, qualified Employees, as described above, shall be awarded one day of Paid Time Off in that fiscal year, even if they typically do not qualify for other Paid Time Off. In addition to these 12 days, the First Selectman may close Town Hall for any reason, the most common of which is a dangerous weather condition.

#### Fair Treatment

The First Selectman and every Department Head are encouraged to consider an unusual circumstance that an Employee faces where the policies set forth herein could be temporarily amended in a negotiated agreement that fairly exchanges Time Off for other compensation. However, any Employee seeking a recurring or "standing" exception to the policies set forth herein must apply to the Board of Selectmen for such a waiver. See Appendix I. All such policy waivers granted shall be a matter of public record and shall terminate the following June 30th. The Employee may apply for and the Board of Selectmen may grant a new waiver any time after July 1st of a succeeding fiscal year.

## Safety

Employees are expected to be safety-conscious and to assist the Town in finding conditions on the town premises that might cause an accident or create a fire hazard. An employee should report any unsafe conditions to the Department Head. Employees

should familiarize themselves with the locations of fire extinguishers, fire exits, first aid kits, and emergency equipment. Detailed information is available in the Selectmen's Office.

Town of Kent employees will display in their vehicle a provided vehicular identification tag while in the Town employ.

# Emergency

A complete plan for a wide variety of disasters is available in the Selectmen's office. The Board of Selectmen will review and update biannually in coordination with the Emergency Management Director.

#### Use of email, phone and computer

Personal use of the telephones, email, and computer during working hours should be limited to essential use only. Communications and other information systems are not to be used in any way that may be disruptive, offensive to others, or harmful to morale. Misuse or abuse of Town phones, computers and email, as determined by the Department Head, will be grounds for disciplinary action.

The Town may access its electronic communications systems and obtain the communications within the systems, without notice, when the Town deems it appropriate to do so.

All emails or files sent or received by employees on Town owned computers are Town property and may be viewed by Department Heads and/or the Board of Selectmen.

## **Recycling and Energy Conservation**

The Town of Kent supports environmental awareness by encouraging recycling and waste management in it business practices and operating procedures. This support includes a commitment to purchase, use and dispose of products and materials in a manner that will best utilize natural resources and minimize negative impact on the environment. Special recycling receptacles have been set up to promote this effort. Employees are expected to recycle, reuse and reduce (including disposable products) whenever possible.

## No Smoking

Per State Stature 19a-342, no person shall smoke in any building or portion of a building owned or leased and operated by the Town of Kent except in smoking area that may be designated by the Board of Selectmen.

# **Conflict of Interest**

Complaints by anyone with firsthand knowledge that a public official or town employee has a personal interest in any matter coming before them in their official capacity that might affect their ability to make an objective determination with respect to such matter will be investigated by the First Selectman and responded to by the Board of Selectmen. See Appendix J.

### **Reporting Requirements**

The Board of Selectmen has designed various forms to administer the Policies described in this document. Copies of those forms can be found in the Appendix and are available in the Selectman's office. Employees must submit them to the Board of Selectmen and/or Department Head in the required time period, as printed on the form. The Board may eliminate or modify existing forms or add new forms as needed.

# 10. Benefits

### **Benefits and Services**

The policies and benefits offered by the Town may be changed or eliminated at any time by action of the Board of Selectmen. The Town or its designee retains full discretionary authority to interpret the terms of the plans, as well as full discretionary authority with regard to administrative matters arising in connection with the plans. The Town may modify or eliminate any benefits or programs it currently provides, as well as increase the cost to employees of such benefits and programs. This discretionary authority extends to all issues concerning benefit eligibility and entitlement.

Termination of full-time status (for whatever reason) will terminate such individual's participation in such programs.

Notwithstanding the above statement, full-time employees of the Highway Department, excluding the highway foreman, are subject to the terms of a Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town and Teamsters Local Union No. 677.

#### **Benefit** Year

The Town budgets and keeps its records on a fiscal year basis, July 1st to June 30th.

## **Benefits** Categories

For the purpose of determining benefits, the Board of Selectmen has established three (3) Employee Categories, developed by the First Selectman and approved by the Board of Selectmen as per "Job Description":

#### **Full-time Salaried Employees**

- 1. Highway Foreman
- 2. Land Use Administrator
- 3. Park and Rec Director
- 4. Selectman's Administrative Assistant

#### **Part-time Salaried Employees**

- 1. Animal Control Officer
- 2. Tax Assessor
- 3. Treasurer

#### **Part-time Hourly Employees**

- 1. Assessor Assistant
- 2. Assistant Assessor
- 3. Assistant Town Clerk(s)
- 4. Land Use Clerk
- 5. Social Services Director
- 6. Tax Collector Assistant
- 7. Treasurer Clerk(s)
- 8. Zoning Board of Appeals Clerk

#### Life Insurance

Full-time Town employees will be enrolled as participants in whatever life insurance program is then being offered by the Town.

#### Medical Insurance

The Town provides medical insurance coverage to its eligible union and non-union employees. Any questions concerning benefit levels or coverage can be answered by Selectman's Office. Anyone enrolled in the Town of Kent's employee health plan must meet all eligibility requirements including, without limitation, hours worked. All employees, including multiple position employees, who work thirty (30) hours or more per week, except temporary/seasonal and per diem employees, shall be eligible to participate in the group health plan, subject to any eligibility requirements established by the health insurer for participation in such plan. Health insurance coverage is also available for the spouse and dependents of an employee at the premium cost sharing schedule set by the Board of Selectmen.

Federal law, known as COBRA, may allow employees and their dependents who are covered by the Town's health insurance program to temporarily continue that coverage following certain qualifying events (such as termination of employment), when health coverage would otherwise end. COBRA continuation rights are described in greater detail in the separate information employees receive at enrollment in the health insurance program. For additional information, please contact the First Selectman. An employee eligible for health insurance may elect to opt out of the available coverage if he or she meets the conditions in the opt out program. The program is detailed in Appendix O and the form necessary to apply for the program is in Appendix P.

### Dental Insurance

The Town provides dental coverage on a cost share basis to its eligible full-time Town employees. Any questions concerning benefit level or coverage can be answered by the Selectmen's Office.

### **Retirement** Plan

Full-time Town employees who, as of January 1 or July 1 of any year:

- 1. Have completed at least one year of continuous full-time Town service, and
- 2. Have not reached age sixty (60) are eligible to enroll as participants in whatever Town retirement plans that are then being offered by the Town, subject to the terms and conditions of the plans.

Participants in Town pension plans may continue participation therein until the earlier of the following:

- 1. Termination of status as a full-time Town employee (for whatever reason, including but not limited to death, retirement, disability, reduction in work schedule below minimum hourly requirements, or other termination of full-time Town status).
- 2. Attainment of age seventy (70).

Termination of status as participants in Town pension plans does not affect entitlements to vested benefits there under, all in accord with the plan's term and conditions. Vesting shall be determined by the plan terms and conditions.

#### Retiree Health Benefits

Full-time Town employees voluntarily retiring from Town service as full-time Town personnel who are at least sixty five (65) years old and have completed at least twenty five (25) years of continuous full-time service may continue to participate in the Town's group insurance plans following such retirement, provided that:

- 1. The Town shall contribute, in whole or in part, only for individual coverage for such eligible retiree on the same basis as it contributes to plans for individual coverage of full-time Town employees.
- 2. At such time as such eligible retirees first become eligible for Medicare or comparable federally provided health care benefits, the health care coverage offered by the Town shall be reduced and limited to a plan providing supplemental coverage to that offered by Medicare or comparable federally provided health care benefits programs.
- 3. The Town reserves the right, exercised in a non-discriminatory manner, (i) to change health care coverage offered retirees pursuant to the Town's group health insurance plan, (ii) to change the Town's percentage of contributions towards payments for such health care coverage and (iii) to change or eliminate such health care coverage, in whole or in part, at any time in the future.
- 4. Eligible retirees requesting spousal or family coverage may obtain same at the expense of such eligible retiree provided that at such time as such spouse or other covered family member first becomes eligible for Medicare or comparable federally provided health care benefits, the health care coverage offered by the Town to such covered spouse or other family member shall be reduced and limited to a plan providing supplemental coverage to that offered by Medicare or comparable federally provided health care benefits program.

## **Change of Carriers**

The Town reserves the right to change insurance carriers or other benefit carriers whenever deemed desirable in the judgment and at the discretion of the Board of Selectmen.

#### Education

#### Continuing Education

Employees are encouraged to attend workshops and conferences as included and approved in their respective departments' budgets.

#### Job Certification

The Town will pay the cost of necessary job certification courses, as pre-approved by the Board of Selectmen. Such costs will include course materials and the employee's mileage and time.

#### Paid Time Off (PTO)

Employees will be notified of Time-Off benefits. See Appendix G. Employees may be entitled to Time-Off benefits as defined and outlined below, provided that they give the First Selectman and his/her Department Head two (2) weeks advance notice of their intent to be absent, that such Paid Time-Off is approved, and that they promptly report their absence to the Selectmen's Administrative Assistant. The First Selectman or Department Head may waive the advance notice requirement in the event of a medical or other emergency, provided that they are contacted by the Employee on the first day of his/her absence, kept informed as to the likely duration of the absence, and receive completed copies of all necessary forms upon the Employee's return to service. Employees who fail to meet these provisions shall be deemed to be taking an Unexplained Absence and will be subject to termination if the absence lasts three (3) days or more.

Full-time Employees shall be entitled to a set number of Paid Time-Off days each fiscal year, based upon their length of service as of June 30th of the previous fiscal year. A multi-position Employee's length of service shall be calculated from the date they qualified as a Full-time Employee. Paid Time Off may be used for any purpose, including vacations, sickness, bereavement or family issues and the Employee is not obligated to explain their purpose, but no additional days will be awarded for any purpose beyond the schedule, as follows:

In Service at least:	But less than:	Days Awarded:
	Less than 1 year	1 day for every 10 weeks worked (maximum of 5 days)
1 year	5 years	25
5 years	10 years	30
10 years	15 years	35
15 years		40

When an Employee reaches an anniversary date that would entitle them to additional Paid Time Off, the number of additional days awarded shall be prorated for the remaining time in that fiscal year, rounded up to the nearest half-day. Paid Time Off must be used in half or full day increments and in the fiscal year they are awarded, except that after one (1) year of service Employees awarded Paid Time Off may "bank" up to five unused days each year, up to a maximum of sixty (60) days, and then draw on those "banked" days in any subsequent fiscal year with the approval of their Department Head or the First Selectman.

Payment in lieu of PTO (Paid Time Off) shall not be permitted except that, upon termination of employment, the employee shall be paid for all unused Paid Time Off, including the days that they have "banked" in their final pay period. In the event of an employee's death, the employee's estate or named beneficiary shall receive any payment for unused PTO which is due. Otherwise, unbanked or unused days will be forfeited on June 30th each year.

Full-time Employees will not be charged a Paid Time-Off for absences caused by either a jury summons or a two-week military reserve commitment, but shall only be paid the difference between their Regular Hourly Pay Rate and their juror or military pay for each day absent. To avoid being charged Paid Time-Off, the Employee must provide the Selectmen's Administrative Assistant a copy

of either the jury summons or reserve duty notification and a copy of all paychecks received from the Federal or State government for their service.

Full-time Employees who are eligible and receive Worker's Compensation for a workrelated injury that causes them to miss work will not be charged Paid Time-Off or receive any additional compensation while on Worker's Compensation. Worker's Compensation benefits are subject to statutory requirements and limitations and the terms, provisions, and conditions of any insuring agreement between the Town and its Worker's Compensation insurer(s). Employees who sustain proven work-related injuries shall be entitled to Worker's Compensation benefits required by state law.

#### **Extended** Leave

After completing at least one (1) year of service, any Employee who has used all of the Paid Time Off to which they are entitled, if any, may request an Extended Leave of up to ninety (90) days for any reasons, during which time all compensation including the accrual of additional benefits shall be suspended. However, Extended Leave shall not be considered a "break in service" and, if the Employee was covered by the Town's health insurance policy prior to the Extended Leave, then he/she shall continue to be covered, provided that they pay 100% of the premium attributable to his/her insurance coverage. See Appendix H.

At the end of an Extended Leave, the Employee will be returned to their former position or one with similar pay in accordance with state and federal law. If the Employee is medically unable to perform his/her original job, he/she may be transferred to work suitable to their physical condition if such work is available. If an Employee is absent for more than ninety (90) days continuously, for any reason including abutting Extended Leave and other Days Off, the Town does not guarantee reinstatement.

# 11. Forms

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Page 23 of 43

# Distribution, Compliance and Enforcement of Standard Pay Practices

Employees shall acknowledge receipt and understanding of the Policy and Procedure manual, ethical standard and performance standards contained herein and those of the employee's particular department before entering upon the duties of his or her office or employment with the Town of Kent. The Board of Selectmen shall amend these standards as needed when it believes such revision is required. The contents of this manual should not be confused for a contract between the town and its employees. This is a summary of our policies, which are being offered here only as information.

Employee signature

Date

# **Receipt of Policy Manual**

Elected Officials shall acknowledge receipt and understanding of the Elected Officials Policy and Procedure manual, ethical standard and performance standards contained herein and those of the his or her particular department before entering upon the duties of his or her office. The Board of Selectmen shall amend these standards as needed when it believes such revision is required. The contents of this manual should not be confused for a contract between the town and its elected officials. This is a summary of our policies, which are being offered here only as information.

**Elected Officials signature** 

Date

# 12. Appendices

Kent, Connecticut Employee Manual

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Page 26 of 43

# Appendix A – Employee Time Record Form

#### **Town of Kent** Weekly time sheet for week ending: **Employee Name** 7.10 Department **PTO Time** Overtime **Regular Time Total Time** 6.00 Special Instruction regarding Sick, Vacation or other paid time off 1 PTO Type Out **FTO Hrs** IN Qut Out Worked Hours 1d In Monday 9:00 AN 12:00 PM 1:00 P 4:00 PN 8.00 **Tuesday** Wednesday Thursday Friday Slaurday Sunday 6.00 **Employee Signature** Supervisor Approval If you are using this time sheet within an excel program. PTO time is Sick s v Vacation time must be entered as hours, colon then a space and the Bereavement В letter a or p for a.m. or p.m. Personal Other Ρ Example: 9:08 a or 4:00 n ò Shaded areas can be modified - enter all data there

# Appendix B - Employee Sexual Harassment Complaint Form

# RECORD OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT COMPLAINT

Name of Complaint:	
Date of Complaint:	
Date of Alleged Harassment:	
Names of Alleged Harasser(s):	

Detailed statement of the circumstances leading to the complaint:

Complainant's Signature

# Appendix C - Employee Warning

# **RECORD OF FORMAL WARNING**

\_

Date:

Employee:

Nature of Warning:

Comments:

Print Name of Department Head

Signature of Department Head

Print Name of Employee

Signature of Employee

# Appendix D - Employee Resignation Form

# **RECORD OF RESIGNATION**

Name of Employee:	
Date of Resignation:	
Last day of Employment:	
Reasons for Resignation:	

Employee's Signature

Appendix E - Employee Grievance or Complaint Form – Alleged Violation of Policy

# **RECORD OF GRIEVANCE OR COMPLAINT**

Name of Employee:

Date of Complaint:

Detailed statement of the circumstances leading to the grievance or complaint:

Employee's Signature

# Appendix F - Employee Education and Training Form

# **REQUEST FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING REIMBURSEMENT**

Name of Employee:	
Date of Request:	
Details of the Request:	
Department Head Comment:	
Date of Selectmen Approval:	
Department Head Signature	Date

# Appendix G - Employee Notification Form of Personal Days Awarded for Fiscal Year

June 30, 2011

.

Dear

Effective July 1, 20\_\_\_, your new rate of pay will increase to \$ per hour or annually. This reflects the increase in salary approved by the Town of Kent for fiscal year .

Based upon the length of your employment, you are entitled to \_\_\_\_\_\_ of Paid Time Off effective July 1, 20\_\_.

Thank you.

Joyce Kearns Administrative Assistant

# Appendix H - Employee Request Form for Extended Leave

# REQUEST FOR EXTENDED LEAVE

Name of Employee:		
Date of Request:		
Dates requested:		
Details of the Request:		
	······································	
	······································	
Department Head Comme	nt:	
	······································	
I understand that the time understand that I am respo period.	off requested will be onsible for 100% inst	uncompensated. I also urance premium for the same time
Employee Signature		Date
Department Head Signatu	re	Date
Selectman's Signature		Date

Appendix I - Employee Request Form for Policy Waiver for Current Fiscal Year

# REQUEST FOR POLICY WAIVER

Name of Employee:		
Date of Request:		
Details of the Request:		
	·····	
Department Head Comme	nt:	
•••••		
l understand that if approve Policy and Procedure man apply for a waiver again ar	ual and shall termina	utside of the policies set in the ate the following June 30. I may f a succeeding fiscal year.
Employee Signature		Date
Department Head Signatu	re	Date

Selectman's Signature

Date

# **Appendix J - Conflict of Interest Allegation Form**

# CONFLICT OF INTEREST ALLEGATION FORM

Detailed statement of the circumstances leading to the complaint:

		<b></b>
Complainant's Signature	Date	
Findings of the First Selectman:		
Findings of the First Selectman:		
Findings of the First Selectman:		
Findings of the First Selectman:		
Findings of the First Selectman:		
Findings of the First Selectman:		
Findings of the First Selectman:		
Findings of the First Selectman:		
Findings of the First Selectman:		
Findings of the First Selectman:		
Findings of the First Selectman:		
Findings of the First Selectman:		
Findings of the First Selectman:		
Findings of the First Selectman:		
First Selectman's Signature	Date	

Appendix K - Employee/Elected Official Acknowledgement and Understanding Form

Elected Officials shall acknowledge receipt and understanding of the Elected Officials Policy and Procedure manual, ethical standard and performance standards contained herein and those of the his or her particular department before entering upon the duties of his or her office. The Board of Selectmen shall amend these standards as needed when it believes such revision is required. The contents of this manual should not be confused for a contract between the town and its elected officials. This is a summary of our policies, which are being offered here only as information.

**Elected Officials signature** 

Date

# Appendix L - Employee Report of Motor Vehicle Accidents or Traffic Violation

# EMPLOYEE REPORT OF MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT OR TRAFFIC VIOLATION

Name of Employee:

Date of Accident/Violation:

Details:

I understand that I am responsible for payment of any parking or other fines, or issued citations for any offense while in a municipal vehicle or privately owned vehicle while on a work related trip. In the event that a privately owned vehicle is damages during an approved work related trip, and the damage is not due to my gross negligence, the Town will reimburse me up to \$250 for repairs or the amount of the deductible, whichever is less.

Employee Signature	Date	
Department Head Comment:		
Department Head Signature	Date	

# Appendix M - Forms to Report Acceptance of Bids for Goods and/or Services

Forms to Report Acceptance of Bids for Goods and/or Services when: No competitive bids sought or available Lower cost bid passed over

# Appendix N – Town Vehicle Policy Agreement Form

#### **Town Vehicle Policy**

It is the policy of The Town of Kent that the Town vehicle is provided to employees for Town business <u>only</u>.

The Town may allow employees to drive the Town vehicle home at night and on weekends for convenience, emergencies and/or security purposes.

The use of the Town vehicle is restricted only to employees of the Town.

Non-employees, such as spouses, children, other relatives, or friends, <u>are not authorized</u> to drive the Town vehicle at any time.

Employees driving the Town vehicle are required to wear safety belts (seat belts) any time the vehicle is driven and to operate the vehicle in strict compliance with State of Connecticut motor vehicle laws.

The Town will consider any unauthorized use of the vehicle as the equivalent of theft, and the driver may be held responsible (liable) for consequences of any accidents.

Employees driving the Town vehicle may be observed on a random basis, after call-in complaints, and/or after an accident.

If negative results are found, disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment, may be required.

Employees driving the Town vehicle will complete the mileage log located in the vehicle at the beginning and end of all trips.

Each department's mileage line will be charged for fuel, based on the mileage log.

I, the undersigned, have read and understand and agree to comply with this policy and have attached a copy of a valid Connecticut driver's license.

Employee Name Printed: \_\_\_\_\_\_

Employee Name Signed:\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Appendix O – Health Insurance "Opt-Out" Program

- 1. The Town's active, eligible individuals, who are participating in a group-sponsored health insurance program other than the Town of Kent's sponsored-plan, whether it be an individual or family plan, have the option to "Opt-Out" of their health insurance plan, beginning on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Individuals who "Opt-out" of their insurance shall be eligible to receive a stipend, equivalent to fifty percent (50%) of the Town's cost of the plan for which the individual is eligible, in two equal payments, issued on December 1<sup>st</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup> of the current fiscal year. Individuals must provide written documentation of alternate health coverage on letterhead from the sponsor of the alternate plan. This letter must include the dates of coverage and the names of those covered by the plan. This documentation will be required to be eligible to participate in the program and to receive the stipends.
- 2. To be eligible to participate in this program, the individual must provide the Town with proof of insurance from another group-sponsored health plan (spouse, military, etc.) and complete the Health Insurance Opt-Out Provision Form. The Health Insurance Opt-Out Form must be signed on an annual basis.
- 3. An individual who decides to participate in this program and drops his/her health insurance coverage through the Town may re-enroll in the program during the covered period only if the individual has a qualifying event, as recognized by the health plan's underwriting rules. The qualifying events are:

Marriage or divorce Birth or adoption of a child Death of a family member carrying the insurance Loss of other coverage through no fault of the employee or subscriber Change in hours, from full-time to part-time, which results in change of employment status

- 4. In order to re-enroll in the Town health insurance program, the individual must notify the First Selectman's office within thirty (30) days of the qualifying event and provide written documentation of same. If the individual has a qualifying event and needs to re-enroll in the Town's sponsored insurance, the individual's "opt-out" benefit shall be reduced proportionately for the time the individual re-subscribes in the program. The individual's health insurance premiums shall be adjusted so as to recapture any of the "opt-out" benefits for which the employee was not entitled.
- 5. At the next scheduled open enrollment period, the individual who participated in the "opt-out" program may select any carrier and plan then offered by the Town for which he/she otherwise is eligible.
- 6. The Board of Selectmen may promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement this program. The continuation of this program will be reviewed annually.

#### Appendix P – Health Insurance Opt-Out Form

Name:			FD FOR RECORD	1-9 A 9.42
Department:			KENT	
Address: (Street, City, St, Zip)			<u>~</u>	201
Town of Kent Health Plan:	Individual	Family		

# Employees must provide the following information:

 Aetna Enrollment/Change Request form
 Letter submitted on letterhead from the sponsor of the alternate plan as proof
of existing coverage
 Copy of current insurance card

#### **Payment information:**

The Town of Kent will pay the Opt-Out stipend in two equal payment of 50% of the Town of Kent's cost of the health plan being opt-out of, issued on December 1" and June 1" of the current fiscal year providing proof of coverage is provided by the individual at that time.

If there is a qualifying event in which an individual who has opted-out needs to opt back into the Town of Kent's insurance, the Town will pay a prorated opt-out benefit based on the numbers of months the individual had opted out of the Town's health insurance.

I have read the Health Insurance Opt-Out Program material and instructions and I attest to the following:

- I am covered under another group sponsored health plan that is in effect as of the optout effective date of July 1, 2015 and have provided my alternate plan information.
- I understand that I must report promptly changes to information I have provided which may impact my eligibility.
- I understand that this is valid only for fiscal year effective on the date of signing of this form.
- I meet the qualifications to elect the Town of Kent's Health Insurance Opt-Out program.

Signature (Required)

Date (Required)

Kent, Connecticut Employee Manual

Page 42 of 43