

Preliminary Official Statement Dated February 18, 2026

NEW MONEY ISSUE

S&P GLOBAL RATINGS:

(See "Ratings" herein)

In the opinion of Bond Counsel, under existing law, interest on the Notes is included in gross income for federal income tax purposes pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code"). In the opinion of Bond Counsel, under existing statutes, interest on the Notes is excludable from Connecticut taxable income for purposes of the Connecticut income tax on individuals, trusts and estates and is excluded from amounts on which the net Connecticut minimum tax is based in the case of individuals, trusts and estates required to pay the federal alternative minimum tax. (See "Tax Status of the Notes" herein.)

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT

\$10,800,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES

(FEDERALLY TAXABLE)

(BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY)

Dated: March 12, 2026

Due: November 24, 2026

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Coupon</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>CUSIP (1)</u>
\$10,800,000	%	%	105385***

The \$10,800,000 General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes (Federally Taxable) (the "Notes") will be general obligations of the Town of Branford, Connecticut (the "Town"), and the Town will pledge its full faith and credit to pay the principal of and interest on the Notes when due. (See "Security and Remedies" herein).

Interest on the Notes will be payable at maturity. The Notes will be issued by means of a book-entry system and registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee for The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), New York, New York. The Beneficial Owners of the Notes will not receive certificates representing their ownership interest in the Notes. Principal of and interest on the Notes will be payable by the Town or its agent to DTC or its nominee as registered owner of the Notes. Ownership of the Notes may be in principal amounts of \$5,000 or integral multiples thereof. DTC will act as security depository for the Notes. So long as Cede & Co. is the Noteowner, as nominee for DTC, reference herein to the Noteowner or owners shall mean Cede & Co., as aforesaid, and shall not mean the Beneficial Owners (as described herein) of the Notes. (See "Book-Entry Transfer System" herein.)

The Notes are not subject to redemption prior to maturity

The Registrar and Certifying Agent, Transfer Agent and Paying Agent for the Notes will be U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, of Hartford, Connecticut.

The Notes are being offered for sale in accordance with the official Notice of Sale dated February 18, 2026. Electronic bids via *PARITY*® for the Notes will be received until 11:00 A.M. (E.T.) on Wednesday, February 25, 2026, as described in the official Notice of Sale for the Notes. (See "Appendix D" to this Official Statement.)

The Notes are offered for delivery when as, and if issued, subject to the final approving opinion of Pullman & Comley, LLC, Bond Counsel, of Hartford, Connecticut. It is expected that delivery of the Notes in book-entry-only form will be made to DTC on or about March 12, 2026.

- (1) CUSIP® is a registered trademark of the American Bankers Association. CUSIP data herein are provided by CUSIP Global Services, managed on behalf of the American Bankers Association by FactSet Research Systems, Inc, which is not affiliated with the Town and are included solely for the convenience of the holders of the Notes. The Town is not responsible for the selection or use of these CUSIP numbers, does not undertake any responsibility for their accuracy, and makes no representation as to their correctness on the Notes or as indicated above. The CUSIP number for a specific maturity is subject to being changed after the issuance of the Notes as a result of various subsequent actions including, but not limited to, a refunding in whole or in part of such maturity or as a result of the procurement of secondary market portfolio insurance or other similar enhancement by investors that is applicable to all or a portion of certain maturities of the Notes.

This cover page contains certain information for quick reference only. It is not a summary of this issue. Investors must read the entire Official Statement to obtain information essential to the making of an informed investment decision.

No dealer, broker, salesperson or other person has been authorized by the Town of Branford, Connecticut (the "Town"), to give any information or to make representations not contained in this Official Statement, and if given or made, such other information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized.

This Official Statement does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy, nor shall there be any sale of the Notes by any person in any jurisdiction in which it is unlawful for such person to make such offer, solicitation or sale.

The information set forth herein has been obtained by the Town from sources which are believed to be reliable but it is not guaranteed as to accuracy or completeness. The information and expressions of opinion herein are subject to change without notice and neither the delivery of this Official Statement nor any sale made hereunder shall, under any circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs of the Town since the date of this Official Statement.

Other than as to matters expressly set forth in Appendix A - "Audited Financial Statements" to this Official Statement, the independent auditors for the Town are not passing on and do not assume any responsibility for the accuracy or adequacy of the statements made in this Official Statement and make no representation that they have independently verified the same. The independent auditor has not been engaged to perform and has not performed, since the date of its report included herein, any procedures on the financial statements addressed in that report. The independent auditor also has not performed any procedures relating to this Official Statement.

Other than as to matters expressly set forth in Appendix B to this Official Statement, Bond Counsel is not passing on and does not assume any responsibility for the sufficiency, accuracy or completeness of the statements made in this Official Statement and makes no representation it has independently verified the same.

The Municipal Advisor (as defined herein) to the Town has provided the following sentence for inclusion in this Official Statement. The Municipal Advisor has reviewed the information in this Official Statement in accordance with, and as part of, its responsibilities to the Town and, as applicable, to investors under the federal securities laws as applied to the facts and circumstances of this transaction, but the Municipal Advisor does not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of such information.

References to web site addresses presented herein are for informational purposes only and may be in the form of a hyperlink solely for the reader's convenience. Unless specified otherwise, such web sites and the information or links contained therein are not incorporated into, and are not part of, this offering document.

This Official Statement may include "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Without limiting the foregoing, the words "may," "believe," "could," "might," "possible," "potential," "project," "will," "should," "expect," "intend," "plan," "predict," "anticipate," "estimate," "approximate," "contemplate," "continue," "target," "goal" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements, although not all forward-looking statements contain these words. All forward-looking statements included in this Official Statement are based on information available to the Town up to the date as of which such statements are to be made, or otherwise up to, and including, the date of this document, and the Town assumes no obligation to update any such forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances that arise after the date hereof or after the date of any report containing such forward-looking statement, as applicable. Actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of certain important factors, including, but not limited to (i) the effect of and from, future municipal, state and federal budgetary matters, including state and federal grants and other forms of financial aid to the Town; (ii) federal tax policy, including the deductibility of state and local taxes for federal tax purposes; (iii) macroeconomic economic and business developments, both for the country as a whole and particularly affecting the Town; (iv) financial services industry developments; (v) litigation or arbitration; (vi) climate and weather related developments, natural disasters and other acts of God; (vii) factors used in estimating future obligations of the Town; (viii) the effects of epidemics and pandemics, including economic effects; (ix) foreign hostilities or wars; (x) foreign or domestic terrorism or domestic violent extremism; (xi) disruptions to the Town's technology network and systems, including computer systems and software; and (xii) other factors contained in this Official Statement.

The Town deems this Official Statement to be "final" for purposes of Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12(b)(1), but is subject to revision or amendment.

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NOTE ISSUE SUMMARY

The information in this Note Issue Summary and the cover page is qualified in its entirety by the detailed information and financial statements appearing elsewhere in this Official Statement. This Official Statement speaks only as of its date and the information herein is subject to change.

Date of Sale:	Wednesday, February 25, 2026, 11:00 AM (E.T.).
Location of Sale:	Office of the Finance Director, Branford Town Hall, 1019 Main Street, Branford, Connecticut 06405.
Issuer:	Town of Branford, Connecticut (the "Town").
Issue:	\$10,800,000 General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes (Federally Taxable) (the "Notes").
Dated Date:	Date of Delivery, March 12, 2026.
Interest Due:	At maturity, November 24, 2026.
Principal Due:	At maturity, November 24, 2026.
Purpose and Authority:	The Notes are being issued to finance capital projects undertaken by the Town pursuant to certain bond resolutions authorized by the Representative Town Meeting. (See "Authorization and Use of Proceeds" herein.)
Redemption:	The Notes are <u>NOT</u> subject to redemption prior to maturity.
Security:	The Notes will be general obligations of the Town and the Town will pledge its full faith and credit to the payment of principal of and interest on the Notes when due. (See "Security and Remedies" herein.)
Credit Rating:	The Notes have been rated "____" by S&P Global Ratings ("S&P"). The bond rating on the Town's outstanding general obligation bonds is currently "____" by S&P. (See "Ratings" herein.)
Basis of Award:	Lowest Net Interest Cost ("NIC"), as of the dated date.
Tax Status:	See "Tax Status of the Notes" herein.
Continuing Disclosure:	In accordance with the requirements of Rule 15c2-12(b)(5) promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Town will agree to provide, or cause to be provided, notices of certain events not in excess of ten (10) business days of occurrence of such events pursuant to a Continuing Disclosure Agreement to be executed by the Town in substantially the form attached as Appendix C to this Official Statement.
Registrar, Transfer Agent, Certifying Agent and Paying Agent:	U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, Corporate Trust Services, CityPlace I, 185 Asylum Street, 27 th Floor, Hartford, Connecticut 06103.
Legal Opinion:	Pullman & Comley, LLC of Hartford, Connecticut will act as Bond Counsel.
Delivery and Payment:	It is expected that delivery of the Notes in book-entry-only form will be made to The Depository Trust Company on or about March 12, 2026 against payment in Federal Funds .
Issuer Official:	Questions regarding the Town and this Official Statement should be directed to James P. Finch, Jr., Finance Director, 1019 Main Street, Branford, Connecticut 06405 - Telephone (203) 315-0663.
Municipal Advisor:	Munistat Services, Inc., 129 Samson Rock Drive, Suite A, Madison, Connecticut 06443, attention: Mr. Mark N. Chapman, Managing Director, Telephone: (203) 421-2087.

I. SECURITIES OFFERED

INTRODUCTION

This Official Statement, including the cover page and appendices, is provided for the purpose of presenting certain information relating to the Town of Branford, Connecticut (the "Town") with assistance from the municipal advisor in connection with the issuance and sale of \$10,800,000 General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes (Federally Taxable) (the "Notes").

The Notes are being offered for sale at public bidding. A Notice of Sale dated February 18, 2026 has been furnished to prospective bidders. Reference is made to the Notice of Sale (attached hereto as "Appendix D") for terms and conditions of the bidding.

All quotations from and summaries and explanations of provisions of statutes, charters, or other laws and acts and proceedings of the Town contained herein do not purport to be complete and are qualified in their entirety by reference to the original official documents; and all references to the Notes and the proceedings of the Town relating thereto are qualified in their entirety by reference to the definitive forms of the Notes and such proceedings.

The presentation of information in this Official Statement is intended to show recent historical trends and is not intended to indicate future or continuing trends in the financial or other positions of the Town. Except for information expressly attributed to other sources, all financial and other information presented herein has been provided by the Town.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOTES

The Notes will be dated the date of delivery and will bear interest at the rate or rates per annum shown on the cover page of this Official Statement. Interest will be calculated on the basis of a 360-day year, consisting of twelve 30-day months.

A book-entry system will be employed evidencing ownership of the Notes with transfers of ownership effected on the records of The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York ("DTC"), and its participants pursuant to rules and procedures established by DTC and its participants. (See "Book-Entry Transfer System" herein.) The Registrar, Certifying Agent, Transfer Agent and Paying Agent will be U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, in Hartford, Connecticut, 06103. The legal opinion on the Notes will be rendered by Pullman & Comley, LLC, of Hartford, Connecticut in substantially the form set forth in Appendix B to this Official Statement. **The Notes are NOT subject to redemption prior to maturity.**

AUTHORIZATION AND USE OF PROCEEDS

Authorization:

The Notes are issued pursuant to Title 7 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended, the Charter of the Town, and bond resolutions adopted by a Representative Town Meeting.

Use of Proceeds: Proceeds of the Notes will be used as follows:

Projects	Amount of Total Authorization	Prior Financings	Additions (Reductions)	The Notes (This Issue)
East Industrial Road Real Property Acquisition.....	\$ 10,800,000	\$ -	\$10,800,000	\$10,800,000

RATINGS

The Notes have been rated "___" by S&P Global Ratings ("S&P"). The rating on the Town's outstanding bonds is "___" by S&P. Such rating reflects only the views of such rating agency and any explanation of the significance of such rating may be obtained from S&P at the following address: S&P Global Ratings: 55 Water Street, New York, New York 10041. The Town furnished certain information and materials to S&P, some of which may not have been included in this Official Statement. Generally, a rating agency bases its rating on the information and materials furnished to it and on investigations, studies and assumptions of its own. There is no assurance that such rating will continue for any given period of time or that it will not be revised or withdrawn entirely by the agency if, in the judgment of such rating agency, circumstances so warrant. A revision or withdrawal of such rating may have an effect on the market price of the Town's bonds and notes, including the Notes.

AVAILABILITY OF CONTINUING DISCLOSURE INFORMATION

The Town will enter into a continuing disclosure agreement with respect to the Notes (the "Continuing Disclosure Agreement"), to provide or cause to be provided, in accordance with the requirements of SEC Rule 15c2-12(b)(5), notices of certain events not in excess of ten (10) business days of occurrence of such events pursuant to a Continuing Disclosure Agreement to be executed by the Town in substantially the form attached as Appendix C to this Official Statement. The winning bidder's obligation to purchase the Notes shall be conditioned upon its receiving, at or prior to the delivery of the Notes, an executed copy of the Continuing Disclosure Agreement.

The Town has previously undertaken in continuing disclosure agreements entered into for the benefit of holders of certain of its general obligation bonds and notes to provide certain annual financial information and event notices pursuant to Rule 15c2-12(b)(5). Except as provided herein, for the past 5 years, the Town has not failed to meet any of its undertakings in any material respect under such agreements. The Town failed to file the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, June 30, 2021, June 30, 2022, June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2024 audited financial information and operating data on a timely basis. The Town filed a failure to file notice on February 26, 2021, February 24, 2022, February 22, 2023, February 26, 2024, and February 28, 2025, respectively as required. The fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, June 30, 2021, June 30, 2022, June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2024 audited financial information and operating data were filed on August 23, 2021, December 30, 2022, January 10, 2024, August 17, 2024 and August 1, 2025, respectively.

The Town currently retains Munistat Services, Inc. as a dissemination agent to assist the Town with filings required under Rule 15c2-12. Such dissemination agent works with the Town to help ensure that proper information is filed to EMMA as required under the Town's disclosure undertakings.

TAX STATUS OF THE NOTES

Federal Income Taxes

In the opinion of Bond Counsel, under existing law, interest on the Notes is included in gross income for federal income tax purposes pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code").

United States Tax Consequences

The following is a summary of certain United States federal income tax consequences resulting from the beneficial ownership of the Notes by certain persons. This summary does not consider all possible federal income tax consequences of the purchase, ownership, or disposition of the Notes, and is not intended to reflect the individual tax position of any beneficial owner. Moreover, except as expressly indicated, this summary is limited to those persons who purchase a Note at its issue price, which is the first price at which a substantial amount of the Notes is sold to the public, and who hold Notes as "capital assets" within the meaning of the Code (generally, property held for investment). This summary does not address beneficial owners that may be subject to special tax rules, such as banks, insurance companies, dealers in securities or currencies, purchasers that hold Notes as a hedge against currency risks or as part of a straddle with other investments or as part of a "synthetic security" or other integrated investment (including a "conversion transaction") comprising a bond and one or more other investments, or United States Holders (as defined below) that have a "functional currency" other than the United States dollar. This summary is applicable only to a person (a "United States Holder") who or that is the beneficial owner of Notes and is (a) an individual citizen or resident of the United States, (b) a corporation or partnership or other entity created or organized under the laws of the United States or any State (including the District of Columbia), or (c) a person otherwise subject to federal income taxation on its worldwide income. This summary is based on the United States tax laws and regulations currently in effect and as currently interpreted and does not take into account possible changes in the tax laws or interpretations thereof any of which may be applied retroactively. Except as provided below, it does not discuss the tax laws of any state, local, or foreign governments.

United States Holders

Payments of Stated Interest. In general, for a United States Holder, interest on a Note will be taxable as ordinary income at the time it is received or accrued, depending on the beneficial owner's method of accounting for tax purposes.

Notes Purchased at a Market Discount. A Note will be treated as acquired at a market discount (market discount bond) if the amount for which a United States Holder purchased the Note is less than the Note's adjusted issue price, unless such difference is less than a specified de minimis amount. In general, any payment of principal or any gain recognized on the maturity or disposition of a market discount bond will be treated as ordinary income to the extent that such gain does not exceed the accrued market discount on the Note. Alternatively, a United States Holder of a market discount bond may elect to include market discount in income currently over the life of the market discount bond. That election applies to all debt instruments with market discount acquired by the electing United States Holder on or after the first day of the first taxable year to which the election applies and may not be revoked without the consent of the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS"). If an election is made to include market discount in income currently, the tax basis of the Note in the hands of the United States Holder will be increased by the market discount thereon as such discount is included in income.

Market discount generally accrues on a straight-line basis unless the United States Holder elected to accrue such discount on a constant yield-to-maturity basis. That election is applicable only to the market discount bond with respect to which it is made and is irrevocable. A United States Holder of a market discount bond that does not elect to include market discount in income currently generally will be required to defer deductions for interest on borrowings allocable to the Note in an amount not exceeding the accrued market discount on such Note until maturity or disposition of the Note.

Prospective United States Holders should consult their tax advisors regarding the federal, state and local tax consequences concerning the purchase, holding and disposition of a Note purchased at a discount, whether at the date of original issue or subsequent thereto.

Notes Purchased at Original Issue Premium. The initial public offering price of certain maturities of the Notes are greater than the principal amount payable on such Notes at maturity. The excess of the initial public offering price at which a substantial amount of these Notes are sold over the principal amount payable at maturity constitutes original issue premium. The offering prices relating to the yields set forth on the inside cover page of this Official Statement are expected to be the initial public offering prices at which a substantial amount of each maturity of the Notes were ultimately sold to the public. Under Section 171 of the Code, a holder of a Note may elect to treat such excess as "amortizable bond premium", in which case the amount of interest required to be included in the taxpayer's income each year with respect to interest on the Note will be reduced by the amount of amortizable bond premium allocable (based on the Note's yield to maturity) to that year. If such an election is made, the amount of each reduction in interest income will result in a corresponding reduction in the taxpayer's adjusted basis in the Note. Any election to amortize bond premium is applicable to all taxable debt instruments held by the taxpayer at the beginning of the first taxable year to which the election applies or thereafter acquired by the taxpayer and may not be revoked without the consent of the IRS. Prospective United States Holders should consult their tax advisors regarding the federal, state and local tax consequences concerning the purchase, holding and disposition of a Note purchased at a premium.

Purchase, Sale, Exchange, and Retirement of Notes. A United States Holder's tax basis in a Note generally will equal its cost, increased by any market discount included in the United States Holder's income with respect to the Note, and reduced by the amount of any amortizable bond premium applied to reduce interest on the Note. A United States Holder generally will recognize gain or loss on the sale, exchange, or retirement of a Note equal to the difference between the amount realized on the sale or retirement (not including any amount attributable to accrued but unpaid interest) and the United States Holder's tax adjusted basis in the Note. Except to the extent described above under *Notes Purchased at a Market Discount*, gain or loss recognized on the sale, exchange or retirement of a Note will be capital gain or loss and will be long-term capital gain or loss if the Note was held for more than one year. The material modification of the terms of any Note may result in a deemed reissuance thereof, in which event a United States Holder may recognize taxable gain or loss without any corresponding receipt of proceeds.

Backup Withholding. United States Holders may be subject to backup withholding on payments of interest and, in some cases, disposition proceeds of the Notes, if they fail to provide an accurate Form W-9, "Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification," or a valid substitute form, or have been notified by the IRS of a failure to report all interest and dividends, or otherwise fail to comply with the applicable requirements of backup withholding rules. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules will be allowed as a credit against the United States Holder's United States federal income tax liability (or refund) provided the required information is timely furnished to the IRS. Prospective United States Holders should consult their tax advisors concerning the application of backup withholding rules.

Medicare Tax Affecting United States Holders. For taxable years beginning after December 31, 2012, a United States Holder that is an individual or estate, or a trust that does not fall into a special class of trusts that is exempt from such tax, will be subject to a Medicare tax on the lesser of (1) the United States Holder's "net investment income" for the taxable year and (2) the excess of the United States Holder's modified adjusted gross income for the taxable year over a certain threshold. A United States Holder's net investment income will generally include its interest income and its net gains from the disposition of the Notes, unless such interest income or net gains are derived in the ordinary course of the conduct of a trade or business (other than a trade or business that consists of certain passive or trading activities). A United States Holder that is an individual, estate, or trust, should consult its own tax advisor regarding the applicability of the Medicare tax.

Information Reporting

In general, information reporting requirements will apply with respect to payments to a United States Holder of principal and interest (and with respect to annual accruals of original issue discount) on the Notes, and with respect to payments to a United States Holder of any proceeds from a disposition of the Notes. This information reporting obligation, however, does not apply with respect to certain United States Holders including corporations, tax-exempt organizations, qualified pension and profit sharing trusts, and individual retirement accounts. In the event that a United States Holder subject to the reporting requirements described above fails to supply its correct taxpayer identification number in the manner required by applicable law or is notified by the IRS that it has failed properly to report payments of, interest and dividends, a backup withholding tax (currently at a rate of 24%) generally will be imposed on the amount of any interest and principal and the amount of any sales proceeds received by the United States Holder on or with respect to the Notes.

Any payments of interest and original issue discount on the Notes to a Non-United States Holder generally will be reported to the IRS and to the Non-United States Holder, whether or not such interest or original issue discount is exempt from United States withholding tax pursuant to a tax treaty or the portfolio interest exemption. Copies of these information returns also may be made available under the provisions of a specific treaty or agreement to the tax authorities of the country in which the payee resides.

Information reporting requirements will apply to a payment of the proceeds of the disposition of a Note by or through (a) a foreign office of a custodian, nominee, other agent, or broker that is a United States person, (b) a foreign custodian, nominee, other agent, or broker that derives 50% or more of its gross income for certain periods from the conduct of a trade or business in the United States, (c) a foreign custodian, nominee, other agent, or broker that is a controlled foreign corporation for United States federal income tax purposes, or (d) a foreign partnership if at any time during its tax year one or more of its partners are United States persons who, in the aggregate, hold more than 50% of the income or capital interest of the partnership or if, at any time during its taxable year, the partnership is engaged in the conduct of a trade or business within the United States, unless the custodian, nominee, other agent, broker, or foreign partnership has documentary evidence in its records that the beneficial owner is not a United States person and certain other conditions are met, or the beneficial owner otherwise establishes an exemption.

The federal income tax discussion set forth above is included for general information only and may not be applicable depending upon a beneficial owner's particular situation. Beneficial owners should consult their tax advisors with respect to the tax consequences of the purchase, ownership, and disposition of the Notes, including the tax consequences under state, local, foreign, and other tax laws and the possible effects of changes in federal or other tax laws.

State Taxes

In the opinion of Bond Counsel, under existing statutes, interest on the Notes is excludable from Connecticut taxable income for purposes of the Connecticut income tax on individuals, trusts and estates and is excluded from amounts on which the net Connecticut minimum tax is based in the case of individuals, trusts and estates required to pay the federal alternative minimum tax. Interest on the Notes is included in gross income for purposes of the Connecticut corporation business tax.

Prospective owners of the Notes should consult their tax advisors with respect to other applicable state and local tax consequences of ownership of the Notes and the disposition thereof, including the extent to which gains and losses from the sale or exchange of Notes held as capital assets reduce and increase, respectively, amounts taken into account in computing the Connecticut income tax on individuals, trusts and estates and the net Connecticut minimum tax on such taxpayers who are also required to pay the federal alternative minimum tax.

General

The opinion of Bond Counsel is rendered as of its date and Bond Counsel assumes no obligation to update or supplement its opinion to reflect any facts or circumstances that may come to its attention or any changes in law or the interpretation thereof that may occur after the date of its opinion. The discussion above does not purport to address all aspects of federal, state or local taxation that may be relevant to a particular owner of a Note. Prospective owners of the Notes, particularly those who may be subject to special rules, are advised to consult their tax advisors regarding the federal, state and local tax consequences of owning and disposing of the Notes.

SECURITY AND REMEDIES

The Notes will be general obligations of the Town and the Town will pledge its full faith and credit to pay the principal of and the interest on the Notes when due.

Unless paid from other sources, the Notes are payable from general property tax revenue of the Town. The Town has the power under Connecticut General Statutes to levy ad valorem taxes on all taxable property in the Town without limit as to rate or amount, except as to certain classified property, such as certified forest land taxable at a limited rate and dwelling houses of qualified elderly persons of low income or of qualified disabled persons taxable at limited amounts. There was, however, no such certified forest land on the last completed grand list of the Town and, under existing statutes, the State of Connecticut is obligated to pay the Town the amount of tax revenue which the Town would have received except for the limitation on its power to tax such dwelling houses.

Payment of the Notes is not limited to property tax revenues or any other revenue source, but certain revenues of the Town may be restricted as to use and therefore may not be available to pay debt service on the Notes.

There are no statutory provisions for priorities in the payment of general obligations of the Town. There are no statutory provisions for a lien on any portion of the tax levy or other revenues or Town property to secure the Notes, or judgments thereon, in priority to other claims.

The Town is subject to suit on its general obligation bonds and notes and a court of competent jurisdiction has the power in appropriate proceedings to render a judgment against the Town. Courts of competent jurisdiction also have the power in appropriate proceedings to order payment of a judgment on such bonds or notes from funds lawfully available therefor or, in the absence thereof, to order the Town to take all lawful action to obtain the same, including the raising of the required amount in the next annual tax levy. In exercising their discretion as to whether to enter such an order, the courts may take into account all relevant factors, including the current operating needs of the Town and the availability and adequacy of other remedies.

Enforcement of a claim for payment of principal of or interest on such bonds and notes would also be subject to the applicable provisions of Federal bankruptcy laws, as well as other bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium and other similar laws affecting creditors' rights, heretofore or hereafter enacted by the Congress or Connecticut General Assembly extending the time for payment or imposing other constraints upon enforcement insofar as the same may be constitutionally applied and to the exercise of judicial discretion. Under the federal bankruptcy code, the Town may seek relief only, among other requirements: it is specifically authorized in its capacity as a municipality or by name to be a debtor under Chapter 9 Title 11 of the United States Code, or by state law or by government officer or organization empowered by state law to authorize such entity to become a debtor under such Chapter. Section 7-566 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, provides that no Connecticut municipality shall file a petition in bankruptcy without the express prior written consent of the Governor. This prohibition applies to any town, city, borough, metropolitan district or any other political subdivision of the State having the power to levy taxes and to issue bonds or other obligations.

BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY TRANSFER SYSTEM

The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), New York, NY will act as securities depository for the Notes. The Notes will be issued as fully-registered securities registered in the name of Cede & Co. (DTC's partnership nominee), or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. One fully-registered Note certificate will be issued for each maturity of the Notes, in the aggregate principal amount of each maturity, and will be deposited with DTC.

DTC, the world's largest securities depository, is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a "banking organization" within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a "clearing corporation" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a "clearing agency" registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. DTC holds and provides asset servicing for over 3.5 million issues of U.S. and non-U.S. equity issues, corporate and municipal debt issues, and money market instruments (from over 100 countries) that DTC's participants ("Direct Participants") deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the post-trade settlement among Direct Participants of sales and other securities transactions in deposited securities, through electronic computerized book-entry transfers and pledges between Direct Participants' accounts. This eliminates the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct Participants include both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation ("DTCC"). DTCC is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, and clearing corporations that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly ("Indirect Participants"). DTC has a Standard & Poor's rating of: AA+. The DTC Rules applicable to its Participants are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. More information about DTC can be found at www.dtcc.com.

Purchases of the Notes under the DTC system must be made by or through Direct Participants, which will receive a credit for the Notes on DTC's records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each Note ("Beneficial Owner") is in turn to be recorded on the Direct and Indirect Participants' records. Beneficial Owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchase. Beneficial Owners are, however, expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the Direct or Indirect Participant through which the Beneficial Owner entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in the Notes are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of Direct and Indirect Participants acting on behalf of Beneficial Owners. Beneficial Owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in the Notes, except in the event that use of the book-entry system for the Notes is discontinued.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all the Notes deposited by Direct Participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC's partnership nominee, Cede & Co., or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. The deposit of the Notes with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other DTC nominee do not effect any change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual Beneficial Owners of the Notes; DTC's records reflect only the identity of the Direct Participants to whose accounts such the Notes are credited, which may or may not be the Beneficial Owners. The Direct and Indirect Participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to Direct Participants, by Direct Participants to Indirect Participants, and by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time.

Redemption notices shall be sent to DTC. If less than all of the Notes within an issue are being redeemed, DTC's practice is to determine by lot the amount of the interest of each Direct Participant in such issue to be redeemed.

Neither DTC nor Cede & Co. (nor any other DTC nominee) will consent or vote with respect to Notes unless authorized by a Direct Participant in accordance with DTC's MMI Procedures. Under its usual procedures, DTC mails an Omnibus Proxy to the Town as soon as possible after the record date. The Omnibus Proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to those Direct Participants to whose accounts the Notes are credited on the record date (identified in a listing attached to the Omnibus Proxy).

Principal and interest payments on, and redemption premium, if any, with respect to the Notes will be made to Cede & Co. or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. DTC's practice is to credit Direct Participants' accounts upon DTC's receipt of funds and corresponding detail information from the Town or Paying Agent, on the payable date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's records. Payments by Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name," and will be the responsibility of such Participant and not of DTC nor its nominee, the Paying Agent, or the Town, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payment of principal and interest, and redemption premium, if any, to Cede & Co. (or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC) is the responsibility of the Town or Paying Agent, disbursement of such payments to Direct Participants will be the responsibility of DTC, and disbursement of such payments to the Beneficial Owners will be the responsibility of Direct and Indirect Participants.

DTC may discontinue providing its services as depository with respect to the Notes at any time by giving reasonable notice to the Town or the Paying Agent. Under such circumstances, in the event that a successor depository is not obtained, note certificates are required to be printed and delivered.

The Town may decide to discontinue use of the system of book-entry transfers through DTC (or a successor securities depository). In that event, note certificates will be printed and delivered to DTC.

The information in this section concerning DTC and DTC's book-entry system has been obtained from sources that the Town believes to be reliable, but the Town takes no responsibility for the accuracy thereof.

REPLACEMENT NOTES

The Town will provide for the issuance of fully registered note certificates directly to the Beneficial Owners of the Notes or their nominees in the event that: (a) DTC determines not to continue to act as securities depository for the Notes, and the Town fails to identify another qualified securities depository for the Notes to replace DTC; or (b) the Town determines to discontinue the book-entry system of evidence and transfer of ownership of the Notes. A Beneficial Owner of the Notes, upon registration of certificates held in such Beneficial Owner's name, will become the registered owner of the Notes.

DTC PRACTICES

The Town can make no assurances that DTC, Direct Participants, Indirect Participants or other nominees of the Beneficial Owners of the Notes will act in a manner described in this Official Statement. DTC is required to act according to rules and procedures established by DTC and its participants which are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Neither the Town, the Paying Agent nor the underwriter of the Notes will have any responsibility or obligation to the Participants of DTC or the persons for whom they act as nominees with respect to (i) the accuracy of any records maintained by DTC or by any Participant of DTC, (ii) payments or the providing of notice to the Direct Participants, the Indirect Participants or the Beneficial Owners, or (iii) any other actions taken by DTC or its partnership nominees as owner of the Notes.

PUBLIC HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS

Commencing in late 2019, an outbreak of a respiratory disease caused by a new strain of coronavirus ("COVID-19") resulted in a global public health crisis. The federal and State governments both declared public health emergencies and, along with local governments, took action to limit the spread of the outbreak and reduce the resulting economic impact. The federal and State public health emergency declarations have since been terminated.

To date, the COVID-19 outbreak has had no material adverse effect on the finances of the Town. However, prospective investors should assume that restrictions and limitations related to COVID-19 and any future variants or pandemics may be instituted by the federal or State governments and that any resurgence of COVID-19 or another infectious disease could have a material adverse effect on the Town and its financial and operational performance.

The Town received \$8.2 million from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (the "COVID-19 Aid"). The Town developed a plan for the use of such funds that focused on infrastructure improvements and other initiatives that complied with the program eligibility criteria. No assurance can be given that the Town would receive federal aid akin to the COVID-19 Aid if another pandemic or similar public health emergency were to occur.

CYBERSECURITY

The Town, like many other public and private entities, relies on technology to conduct its operations. The Town and its departments face cyber threats from time to time, including, but not limited to, hacking, viruses, malware, phishing, and other attacks on computers and other sensitive digital networks and systems. To mitigate the risk of business operations impact and/or damage from cyber incidents or cyber-attacks, the Town invests in various forms of cybersecurity and operational controls, including comprehensive policies and procedures relating to the security of the Town's government networks. Additionally, the Town purchases cybersecurity insurance, so that a claim can be made to the insurance provider in the event of a cyber-attack. No assurances can be given, however, that such security and operational control measures will be completely successful to guard against cyber threats and attacks. The results of any such attack could impact business operations and/or damage Town digital networks and systems and the costs of remedying any such damage could be substantial.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Numerous scientific studies have detailed changing global weather patterns and the potential for increasing extreme weather events across the world. The Town's location in southern Connecticut on the Long Island Sound increases its vulnerability to flooding. In addition to flooding, the Town faces other threats due to climate change, including damaging wind that could become more severe and frequent. The Town cannot predict the timing, extent or severity of climate change and its impact on its operations and finances.

The Town has a long history of planning for the impacts of coastal flooding (Salt Marsh Advancement Zone Assessment, 2014; Coastal Resilience Plan, 2016; Regional Framework for Coastal Resilience, 2017; Economic Analysis of Coastal Protection in Branford CT, 2020; Best Practices for Sustainable and Effective Management of Coastal Retreat, 2021; South Central Region Council of Governments Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2023). The Coastal Resilience Plan, with funding from a Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) grant awarded to the Town for coastal resilience planning in Branford, Madison, and Milford, Connecticut., was developed to address current and future social, economic and ecological resilience of the Town's shoreline to the impacts of storm surge, coastal flooding, and erosion. The four basic steps of the Coastal Resilience Plan include: 1) generate awareness of coastal risks; 2) assess coastal risks and opportunities; 3) identify options or choices for addressing priority risks and vulnerabilities; and 4) develop and implement an action plan to put selected options or choices into place. The Coastal Resilience Plan was incorporated into the Town's Plan of Conservation and Development adopted by the Town's Planning and Zoning Commission in 2019.

In In 2024, Branford Public Schools partnered with Zum Services Inc. on a 10-year, \$60 million contract to transition to a 100% electric school bus fleet within five years, aiming to be the first in Connecticut to do so. Additionally, the Connecticut Green Bank Board of Directors recently approved a \$12.3 million investment with Zum to support this effort. This investment coupled with grants from the Environmental Protection Agency and the State of Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection will likely enable the district to fully electrify the bus fleet two years ahead of schedule.

The Town has collaborated with Yale, Columbia University, and UConn's Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA) on various resilience studies and conceptual project recommendations to further Branford's understanding of risk, and to continue its proactive approach to becoming more resilient to climate change.

The Town has initiated a Climate Resiliency Evaluation for the Sewer Treatment Plant to identify flooding risks and mitigation strategies; the evaluation is moving into Phase II to conceptualize flood mitigation designs, which will enable the Town to identify funding sources for the preferred mitigation strategy.

The Town's philosophy is that future exposures and costs associated with climate change represent a long-term liability and the prudent approach, therefore, is to appropriate and invest funds to address this liability. As a result, Branford was instrumental in establishing Public Act No. 19-77: "An Act Authorizing Municipal Climate Change and Coastal Resiliency Reserve Funds". Branford established a Coastal Resiliency Fund in 2019 and makes annual appropriations into the fund. The fund is used as an additional tool to supplement traditional funding streams such as grants and bonding. Branford's approach is also consistent with CIRCA's publication titled "Ten Steps to Municipal Resilience".

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II. THE ISSUER



DESCRIPTION OF THE TOWN

Settled in 1644 as part of the New Haven Colony, Branford (the “Town” or “Branford”) was named in 1653, and adopted its first charter in 1958, amended most recently in 1991.

The Town's land area is 22 square miles, with more than 20 miles of shoreline along Long Island Sound. Located in the south central part of the state in New Haven County, Branford is approximately 90 miles east of Manhattan and 40 miles south of Hartford, the state capital. It is bound on the north by the Town of North Branford, west by the Town of East Haven, south by Long Island Sound, and east by the Town of Guilford.

Branford is an established, suburban residential community with an extensive commercial, retail and modern industrial base. The U.S. Census Bureau's 2023 American Community Survey reported the Town's per capita income as \$67,699 or approximately 124.4% of the state median and its median family income as \$139,892 or 116.6% of the state median.

The Town supports and encourages a balance of industrial, commercial and residential properties and the Town's Economic Development Commission and Planning and Zoning Commission work together towards that end, and often collaborate with the area chamber of commerce to continuously improve the Town's business climate.

The Town enjoys four direct points of access to Interstate 95. Route 1 (Boston Post Road) as well as State Routes (SR) 139, 142, and 146 (the latter also holding designation as a State Scenic Roadway) all go through Town. The I-95 junction with I-91 is minutes away in New Haven, less than ten miles from the Town green. Branford's stretch of Interstate 95 was improved as part of the federally funded New Haven Harbor Corridor Project, providing wider lanes, new access ramps, and better lighting, making the Branford area safer for everyone on the highway. Commuter bus service is provided by the Greater New Haven Transit District (through the Connecticut Department of Transportation) and DATTCO, a commercial bus serving shoreline communities east of New Haven.

For rail transportation, Branford is an easy commute to New Haven on the Shore Line East, which also provides direct connections to Metro North service to Manhattan's Grand Central Station and to Amtrak with its Acela train providing service along the entire northeast corridor.

Air travel, with non-stop flights to major cities up and down the east coast and Midwest, is just a few minutes away at nearby Tweed-New Haven Regional Airport, or approximately 50 minutes away at Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks. Additional national and international air services are available through New York's JFK and LaGuardia airports (limo service is available from New Haven), as well as T.F. Green in Providence, Rhode Island.

One of Branford's strengths is its continued ability to be a desired location for all types of businesses. It is home to both traditional and high tech manufacturers, a vibrant bioscience community (the Town is host to more biotech jobs than any other single town in the state) and a broad retail component that ranges from big-box to specialty boutiques. Major corporations include, Blakeslee Arpaia Chapman, Connecticut Hospice, Ark Healthcare, Cintas Corporation, HarcoSemco, and Quantum-Si, many of them leaders in their respective fields of bioscience, medical device development, operating manufacturing and research.

Because of Branford's close proximity to New Haven's Yale-New Haven Medical Center which combined with St. Raphael's Hospital in September 2012, which provides approximately 1,500 licensed beds, the Town has over one hundred fifty area physicians whose efforts are supplemented by the Visiting Nurse Association patient and child care programs. In 1980 Branford became the home of Connecticut Hospice, Inc., the nation's first hospice. The 52 bed inpatient facility treats terminally ill patients and family, as well as providing an 18 town area home care program. Combined the facility employs 156 full time staff. The Town also has a 190 bed skilled nursing facility licensed by the State of Connecticut (the "State") for Medicaid and Medicare beneficiaries offering in-patient and out-patient rehabilitation services. In addition, there is a 110 unit apartment complex for assisted living licensed by the State, and a 90 apartment congregate living center and retirement home.

Financial institutions in the Town include Citizens Bank, KeyBank, Wells Fargo Bank, Bank of America, Webster Bank, M&T Bank, Liberty Bank, Ascend Bank (formerly Guilford Savings Bank), Crosspoint Credit Union, Connex Credit Union and TD Bank.

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Branford has a diverse economic base, composed of both traditional and high tech manufacturers, a vibrant bioscience community along with a broad retail component ranging from big-box to specialty boutiques. Each sector contributes to providing the Town with a strong tax base with employment opportunities that keep the town consistently well below the region and state unemployment levels, including the most current level of 3.3% reported by Advance CT. The Town's major industry clusters include biotech R&D, medical and healthcare services, manufacturing, retail, and tourism.

The Town's economic development office works closely with businesses on issues ranging from site selection to expansion to training, and has developed a strong relationship with a variety of industry associations and state and regions organizations to promote Branford with new and expanding businesses. That includes being an active member with REX Development, BioCT, AdvanceCT, Workforce Alliance, ManufactureCT, CT Technology Council, CCIM (CT's association of commercial brokers), the Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce and the Shoreline Chamber of Commerce,

In biotech, Branford boasts one of the State's strongest R&D communities with Ancera, Celldex, Evotec, Forma Therapeutics, FreeThink Technologies, Azitra, and Viiv among them. Many of these companies continue to grow and expand as they work closely with the Town and by leveraging affiliations with BioCT, the State's biotech association; forging a relationship with UConn TIP – Technology Incubator Program – for start-ups to move to when they have outgrown their TIP space. We offer that "Graduate Space" to many as Branford has long been recognized as an ideal town for the next step when companies grow, yet still wish to be close to Yale and other Universities throughout the state. Partnering with ABCT (Accelerator for Biosciences in Connecticut), a state led competitive program for entrepreneurial research MBAs and MDs creates many new bioscience ventures in the Town's community.

Health care is another industry cluster that continues to grow with Branford Hills Health Care, Connecticut Hospice, Connecticut Orthopedic Center, Hearth at Gardenside, and the Virginia based Artis Memory Care & Senior Living. Meanwhile, Yale University-affiliated Yale Dermatology Associates has established its shoreline operation as a major tenant in a prominent building on Route 1. CPa, a new medical coding service provider, began operation less than ten years ago and is currently planning its second expansion. Connecticut Orthopedic Specialists just completed its second expansion. This 7,500 square foot expansion involved renovating an existing building across Route 1 from its main facility.

Branford's manufacturing sector includes aerospace specialists Howmet Aerospace and HarcoSemco, with Ivy Biomedical Systems, Quantum-Si, and Defibtech leading the medical manufacturing sector. American Polyfilm, Wilson Arms, and Madison Company are further examples of manufacturing enterprises that have expanded, enlarged their physical footprints, and increased their workforce. American Polyfilm's recent expansion into a new 28,000 square foot state-of-the-art manufacturing facility, allowed it to double its workforce. Growing to be one of the largest manufacturers of polyfilm in the U.S. with increased exports, it also decided to keep and expand its former manufacturing facility operating due to product demand. American Polyfilm also purchased a vacant two-acre property and has completed construction of an approximately 25,000 square foot warehouse facility to free up room at its other facilities to further increase its manufacturing capacity. Wilson Arms, a forefront manufacturer of specialty rifle barrels, has purchased a 26,000 square foot building following a recent 20,000 square foot expansion at its nearby headquarters site. Defibtech relocated to Branford in late 2016 and opened a new 24,000 square foot facility, with plans for further expansion underway. Germany based Bausch + Strobel, recently finished construction and moved into their brand new 75,000 square foot facility as their US Headquarters. This will bring existing operations from throughout the area into one, state-of-the-art facility, for the design and manufacture of production equipment fulfilling unique needs of the pharmaceutical industry.

Blakeslee Arpaia Chapman has been in business for 180 years and is the oldest, continuously operating construction firm in the country. In 2024, Massey Plate Glass & Aluminum (MPGA) celebrated its fifty years in business. Started in Branford, in a garage, repairing screens and windows for residents in town. Now, year after year, MPGA is one of the top ten glaziers in the United States. They continue to reinvest in Branford with multiple properties and buildings enabling other businesses to operate and grow.

Thanks in part to its excellent city water and nearly town-wide sewer system, Branford is now home to two large breweries. Each with its own flare, focusing on product manufacturing and distribution, the Branford brewers have already established a footprint up the eastern seaboard and throughout the northeast. In addition to being manufacturers, each is part of the tourism industry with their tasting rooms, creating visitor destinations and providing Branford with its own "beer trail" for visiting beer lovers to enjoy. Recently New England Brewing Company ("NEBCO") has acquired the former Stony Creek Brewery site in the Town, officially reopening the waterfront taproom as a NEBCO location. NEBCO purchased the property in July 2025 and is in the process of moving its own brewing operations to the location, aiming to expand production while honoring the site's popular amenities like its waterfront views and event space. Caius Farm Brewery opened in 2023. The brewery was built on a historic farm and features a roman basilica style barn and a German style beer garden. Combined with more than twenty miles of shoreline with marinas, yachts clubs and the Thimble Islands, Branford is capitalizing on this new industry and a general growth in tourism that concentrates on life-style.

Commercial and industrial investments are often recognized by South Central Regional Council of Governments as a boom to the region. The many new car auto dealers continue to upgrade and enlarge their showrooms to display the latest technology vehicles from Ford, GMC, Honda, Subaru, Kia, Jeep, and Chrysler. The 18,000 square foot showroom of Harley-Davidson motorcycles has been a destination since 1998.

Branford's diverse retail community includes national names such as Walmart and Kohl's, as well as independently owned and nationally recognized specialty shops, such as Zane's Cycles and Marathon Sports.

The "Town Center Revitalization" was completed in the early 1990s with new streets and sidewalks, lighting, public parking lots and streetscape improvements to the Town Center. The revitalization was a cooperative effort between private property owners and the Town in which owners agreed to enlarge and improve building façades and the Town agreed to provide infrastructure improvements to benefit all merchants within the designated area. The program greatly enhanced the area around the Town Green, which has further encouraged retail trade and business in that part of Town. As a result, the Branford Town Center is often used by the Yale's Center for Urban Design and others as a model town center.

The Town has revisited that project and is now working with engineers and consultants to build on the success of that original revitalization project and to continue efforts to improve vehicular and pedestrian traffic flow and parking availability, as well as to upgrade lighting and signage. The Town has been successful in recent years in securing state grants and funding to continue to improve and upgrade the Town Center's infrastructure. Examples are: the re-design, paving, and landscaping of a highly visible and strategically placed parking lot across from the Town Green; extending pedestrian walkways and lighting from Main Street along the side and back of the Town Green; restoration and repairs to The Academy, an early 19th century school building and historical landmark that graces the south corner of the Town Green facing Branford's historic Center Cemetery. These efforts have resulted in keeping the Town Center as the commercial, social and civic heart of the Town, all while respecting and maintaining the historic buildings and New England charm.

It has also helped spark proposed private investment. Only a few years after the completion of “Green View Commons”, a 119-unit apartment complex a block from the Town Green, additional areas of town are being redeveloped. Adjacent to I-95 at Exit 55, Metro Star Properties repurposed an abandoned restaurant and a dated motel, into high quality apartments that became occupied immediately. One of the buildings, facing Route 1, has service businesses on the ground floor that are geared to the consumer. Across the highway, another developer is building four apartment buildings, one of which will include office and retail businesses. The buildings will be built on the parking lot of a former movie theatre.

Atlantic Wharf, an approved project, will offer the convenience and amenities of living near the center of town. The proposed re-development of the seven and one-half acre former Atlantic Wire Mill complex near the Town Green received unanimous zoning approval and broad community support. With demolition over and site remediation nearly completed, the \$55 million project will transform an obsolete industrial brownfield site into a 21st century mixed use commercial / residential complex that is an easy walk to the Town Green, the train station, and the Branford River. Over 200 new apartment units are designed to meet a demonstrated need for housing opportunities for young professionals who want to live with easy access to rail and bus service and close to all the amenities the Town Center offers with its restaurants and entertainment. Mariners Landing is another residential project located near the center of town and was constructed on a former industrial site. This 150-unit residential project is comprised of four buildings and is close to being fully occupied. Located directly along the shore of the Branford River (an estuary of Long Island Sound with several marinas), this development, adjacent to both the New England Brewing Company noted above and the train station, will include a waterfront walkway, café and dock open to the public, and other community facilities. The project was facilitated by recommendations in the Transit Oriented Development (“TOD”) Plan.

The nearby train station is a short walk to the historic Town Green with its many small locally owned shops, restaurants and service businesses. Branford’s Shore Line East Station has ample parking for commuters and travelers alike. The addition of the passenger platform on the north side of the tracks and a connecting pedestrian bridge and a curbside “kiss & ride” this station is now convenient for facilitating commuter drop offs. These improvements will benefit the region once expanded rail service commences. Branford to Yale University, Yale New Haven Hospital, and other major employers in New Haven, as well as connecting Metro North service to Fairfield County and New York, the New Haven-Hartford Springfield rail line, as well as to Boston via Amtrack.

Implementation of the Town’s Comprehensive or Master Plan, entitled in Connecticut the “Plan of Conservation and Development” (“POCD”), intended to serve as a guide for improved utilization of underdeveloped land parcels across Town and to encourage redevelopment in high traffic commercial areas, particularly along the Route 1 corridor, has included the development of a more flexible commercial/industrial hybrid zone, permitting some additional uses that could benefit the townspeople and the region. Implementation efforts have also included a rezoning to decrease off-site parking requirements for retail and restaurants in the Town Center area. A TOD Plan, as noted above, was completed in late fall of 2017 and has also been incorporated into the POCD to serve as the Town’s roadmap for the next ten years. The TOD Plan was a factor in the approval of the Mariner’s Landing Development. A Coastal Resilience Plan, completed in 2016, was also incorporated into the adopted POCD. As the town moves toward updating the TOD plan, it is being reviewed to ensure that plans continue to move forward with goals that are in the best interest of the community and region.

FORM OF GOVERNMENT

Branford is administered by a First Selectman, who acts as the Chief Executive Officer, a Board of Selectmen, a Representative Town Meeting (“RTM”), and a six member Board of Finance that constitute the Selectmen/Board of Finance/RTM form of government.

General Town elections are held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each odd numbered year to elect the Board of Selectmen, Town Treasurer, Tax Collector, Town Clerk, and members of the RTM. Their terms of office are for two years.

The Board of Finance consists of six members who are appointed by the Board of Selectmen. No more than three can be members of the same political party.

The RTM is made up of thirty elected members representing seven voting districts. The members of the RTM choose one of their members to be Moderator of the RTM, who presides over all its meetings.

The legislative power of the Town is vested exclusively in the RTM, except as otherwise provided for by the electors. The RTM has the power to enact, amend, or repeal ordinances not inconsistent with the Charter or the General Statutes of the State. The electors have the power to approve or reject an ordinance by referendum, as provided in the Charter. The Board of Finance prepares the annual budget for recommendation to the RTM and sets the mill rate, as prescribed by Town Charter.

MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS

	Selection	Term Expires	Years of Service
Joshua Brooks - First Selectman.....	Elected	November 2027	0.3
Raymond Dunbar, Jr. - Selectman.....	Elected	November 2027	6.0
Jeffrey Vaillette - Selectman.....	Elected	November 2027	0.3
Town Clerk.....	Elected	Vacant	
Robert Imperato - Tax Collector.....	Appointed	Indefinite	4.0
Kurt M. Schwanfelder - Town Treasurer.....	Elected	November 2027	6.0
William A. Aniskovich - Town Attorney.....	Appointed	Indefinite	12.0
Joseph Mooney - Board of Finance Chairman.....	Appointed	July 2025 (1)	33.0
Paula K. Jensen - Assessor.....	Appointed	Indefinite	2.0
Christopher J. Tranberg - Superintendent of Schools.....	Appointed	Indefinite	2.0
James P. Finch, Jr. - Finance Director (2).....	Appointed	Indefinite	27.0

- (1) Joseph Mooney's term expired in July 2025. Per the Town's Charter, the members of said Board shall hold office during the time for which they are appointed and until their successors are appointed and have qualified.
- (2) James P. Finch retires effective March 6, 2026. The successor Finance Director is Kathryn H. LaBanca who has served as Assistant Finance Director since 2003.

Source: Town of Branford.

SUMMARY OF MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Police: The Branford Connecticut Police Department, organized in 1929, provides police services to the community. Branford has a land area of about 22 square miles and a population of approximately 28,000 residents and is the largest town on the shoreline between New Haven and New London, Connecticut. The Police Department responds to approximately 25,000 calls for service per year.

The Police Department is directed by the Chief and is overseen by a 6-member bipartisan volunteer, civilian Police Commission. The Branford Police Department is staffed by 56 Sworn Officers, 10 Public Safety Tele-Communicators, 2 Community Service Officers and 16 additional civilian support personnel including a Crime Analyst. The Department also maintains a cadre of 5 certified Supernumerary Police Officers.

In addition to its Patrol Division, the Police Department also has a Detective Unit for major investigations, domestic violence counseling services and youth Officers, a Marine Division to provide services to Branford's waterways, and a Police Canine Team. The Branford Police Department is also a member of the South-Central Regional Traffic Unit and South-Central Regional SWAT Team.

The Police Department maintains accreditation through the Connecticut Police Officer and Training Council (POSTC). The POSTC Accreditation Process begins with a self-assessment, requiring a review of policies, practices, and processes, against accepted public safety standards. These standards assist the Chief of Police with a proven management system of written directives, sound training ideas, clearly defined lines of authority and routine reports that support decision making and resource allocation, resulting in greater accountability within the agency. It creates a forum in which law enforcement agencies and citizens work together through integrity, transparency, and accountability, and provides clear direction about community expectations.

The Police Department has established a strong focus on mental health and social service incidents. The Branford Police Social Worker, a member of Branford Counseling & Community Services, works in conjunction with Police Department personnel to address the need for crisis intervention or other social services in the community. This co-response provides a more effective emergency response through the addition of clinical-informed support and an enhanced community resource knowledge base. This also ensures those who outreach for an emergency response receive timely and streamlined connection to resources to address their social service needs.

Fire: The Branford Fire Department originated in the late 1800s with the formation of volunteer fire companies, consolidated in 1926 into the current department. Today, the department provides comprehensive, all-hazards emergency services, including fire suppression, technical rescue, hazardous materials response, paramedic-level EMS, ambulance transport, fire prevention, and code enforcement. These services are aligned with the Town's Local Emergency Operations Plan and the U.S. Fire Administration's national strategy for all-hazards readiness. The department responds to approximately 7,000 incidents annually.

The department is led by the Fire Chief and governed by a six-member civilian Board of Fire Commissioners appointed by the Board of Selectmen. Staffing includes 44 full-time firefighters, 16 full-time EMS personnel, 33 part-time EMS staff, and 38 volunteers operating from five strategically located stations. Dispatching is coordinated through a centralized E911 communications center jointly administered by the Police and Fire Departments.

The department's fleet includes six pumpers, one ladder truck, three rescue vehicles, one brush truck, two fireboats, five ambulances, and various support units.

Guided by our mission—to deliver the highest level of service by valuing our members, promoting leadership, and striving for excellence—the department adopted a comprehensive staffing and deployment plan in FY2024. This plan addresses reduced volunteer availability and ensures a deployment model that meets a four-minute emergency response time to approximately 90% of Branford's most populated areas. Phase one of the plan, funded in FY2025, allowed for full-time staffing of a second station. This has improved service coverage and enhanced the department's ability to respond to multiple incidents concurrently.

In FY2025, ambulance billing generated \$2,497,416 in net revenue, helping offset the cost of services. Since 2018, the department has secured \$1,887,555 in grant funding, further reducing the burden on taxpayers. We remain committed to pursuing innovative solutions and delivering exceptional value to the community.

Public Works and Engineering: The Public Works Department provides the Town with the professional and technical service oriented activities which are necessary to operate and service the community. The Public Works Department maintains over one hundred miles of roads in Town. Substantial major public improvements of an ongoing nature are provided by the Public Works Department. The Public Works Department is also responsible for a paving and road repair program in which approximately five miles of road are serviced annually through general fund appropriations. The Public Works Department also administers the sidewalk replacement program, maintaining over 25 miles of sidewalks. Snow and ice removal on all public and private roads are the responsibility of the Public Works Department. The Public Works Department also services and maintains the storm water systems throughout the Town. The Tree Warden reports to the Public Works Department and administers all tree planting and maintenance on public land.

Water Pollution Control Authority: The Water Pollution Control Authority (the "Authority") oversees sanitary sewer operations in Town including the renovation and installation of sanitary facilities to new and older developments in Town. The Authority has the power to enact user charges and assessment fees to owners benefiting from the system.

The sanitary sewage system, constructed in 1961, consists of a sewage treatment facility, an interceptor line and laterals serving the central business district and surrounding areas. The system serves approximately 90% of the existing commercial and industrial areas of Town and almost 85% of the residences, including all apartments and condominiums. The plant capacity is 4.5 million gallons per day with current flow at approximately 3.35 million gallons per day. The Town also provides service to a portion of North Branford. All areas along Branford's shoreline have sewers with the exception of the Stony Creek - Thimble Island areas, which have strict sanitary sewer requirements approved by the Town and the State Department of Environmental Protection. The Town's new facility was completed in 2002. In 2003, Branford's water treatment plant was one of five such facilities in the country to receive the National Resource Defense Council "Beach Buddy" award in recognition of its efforts and success in improving the quality of the waste water being discharged in to public waterways.

Parks and Recreation: The Branford Recreation Department provides and maintains several parks and fields including but not limited to Sliney Field, Hammer Field, Branford Hills Park, Parker Memorial Park, Foote Memorial Park, Pisgah Brook, Veterans' Memorial Park, Bayview Park, Madiera Park and Young's Pond. There are approximately 4,141 acres, or approximately 28% of total Town land, that is dedicated as open space for its residents, consisting of approximately 1,800 acres of Town-owned land, 1,000 acres of water authority land, 870 acres of land trust property, one parcel for wildlife reserve and a 20-mile trail system around the Town. In total, the Town has many parks and open spaces for passive and active recreation, tennis facilities (18 courts and 16 pickle ball courts), two pools, a splash pad and two public beaches. The Town sponsors special events, provides programs for special interest groups of all ages, assists community groups in planning recreational activities, conducts workshops, clinics, special playgrounds and camps during the summer, provides lifeguards at town facilities and beach constables for the waterfront facilities, and offers a wide variety of programs such as softball, tennis, fitness programs, indoor and outdoor volleyball, basketball, and after-school programs for youngsters. There are four yacht clubs and fifteen marinas in Branford providing moorings for approximately one thousand boats. Branford hosts a regional YMCA facility, which operates two swimming pools for participants with YMCA membership.

The department also supports senior populations through Senior Services providing several programs, activities, meals, transportation and social services: fuel assistance, Renters Rebate housing information, food programs, etc. The commission on Elderly Services was established in 1970 to study the needs of and coordinate programs for the aging population within the town. The Senior Center remains the focal lifeline for Branford Residents 60+ who are active adults, semi-retired, or retired across all income categories. Staff provide direct support and access to eldercare networks, Program participation continues to grow. New staff have been added to address the social needs of the community as well as part-time chefs to offer meals 5 days per week for members and residents attending the center.

Solid Waste: The Town owns and operates a transfer station and recycling center, which accepts almost any material generated in Branford from residents, haulers, and small businesses, for disposal or recycling at out-of-town facilities. Hazardous wastes and large quantities of construction/demolition materials are not accepted.

Reworld Bristol, Inc., a Connecticut corporation (the "Company"), operates a 650-ton-per-day mass-burn solid waste disposal, electric power generation, and resource recovery facility at 229 Technology Park. The commercial operation date was April of 1988.

The Company is a subsidiary of Reworld Holding Corporation, a Delaware corporation. The Company, formerly Covanta, was created in 1984 for the purpose of owning, designing, constructing, and operating the facility for the processing and disposal of acceptable solid waste from the City of Bristol and the Towns of Berlin, Branford, Burlington, Hartland, Morris, Plainville, Plymouth, Prospect, Seymour, Southington, Warren, Washington, and Wolcott (14 municipalities collectively referred to as the "Contracting Communities"). The Contracting Communities Agreement operating under the Bristol Resource Recovery Facility Operating Committee ("BRRFOC") expired in 2014 and each municipality has contracted with Reworld through a collective agreement through 2034. Individual municipal tonnage commitments under the prior agreement were eliminated and replaced with an aggregated fourteen community commitment so that no shortfall will occur if the municipalities, in total, reach the required aggregate commitment.

The facility design provides for two furnaces designed to process acceptable waste, each with a rated capacity of 325 tons per day. The Company has guaranteed, pursuant to the service agreement, that the yearly facility capacity will be 197,630 tons per year to the Contracting Communities, which represents an availability factor of 83.3%. The furnaces produce steam that is used to generate electricity for sale, pursuant to an agreement with Eversource. The facility has a net output of 16.2 megawatts. A dry scrubber and baghouse are utilized for the removal of acid gas and particulates from stack flue gas emissions. The facility was designed using technology developed and owned by Martin GmbH of Munich, Germany.

Waste disposal service by the Company is provided through the operation of the facility or by any other alternative disposal method reasonably acceptable to the Contracting Communities, including permitted sanitary landfills. The service fee payable by each Contracting Community for such waste disposal service is its pro-rata share, based on its respective tonnage deliveries of acceptable waste, of the sum for each period of (1) an amount equal to debt service on the bonds issued for the project, (2) the operation and maintenance expenses, and (3) pass-through costs, including certain taxes, insurance and utility costs, less a credit equal to 90% of all energy revenues and with an adjustment with respect to recovered ferrous metals. The Town pays a tipping fee for refuse and is required to deliver up to its minimum commitment of 5,113 tons for the current fiscal year. Beginning in 2019, the Town began paying a tipping fee for recyclables in response to the international decline in demand for U.S. recyclables. The Agreement provides for the Town to deliver a minimum of 5,887 tons of waste in any given contract year, subject to any adjustments stipulated in the Agreement. Currently the tipping fee is \$77.48 per ton. The town has an additional exception agreement with ReWorld, which allows the town to deliver refuse to the ReWorld Preston, CT location. The tipping fee when delivering to Preston is \$75.48 per ton. The Town is committed to all required tonnage under the BRRFOC contract regardless of the tipping location.

If the facility is temporarily or permanently shut down and partially or completely unable to receive and process acceptable waste, the Company is obligated to provide waste disposal services by alternative disposal methods. The Company is obligated under the service agreement to seek to mitigate the effect of any shutdown, and the operation and maintenance expenses are to be adjusted to the extent the facility is unable to receive and process acceptable waste, to reflect the Company's actual direct costs of alternative disposal. Should the facility be shut down for an extended time, the cost of alternative disposal will depend upon transportation costs and tipping fees at the alternative disposal site.

The Contracting Communities are obligated to pay the service fee to the Company, whether or not the Contracting Communities deliver acceptable waste to the facility and whether or not the Company disposes of such acceptable waste through the facility. This obligation is absolute and unconditional, is not subject to any rights of set-off, recoupment or counterclaim which any Contracting Community may have against the Company, the trustee, or any other person, and may not be suspended or discontinued for any purpose. In the event of a payment default under the service agreement by any one or more of the Contracting Communities, the non-defaulting Contracting Communities are jointly and severally liable to pay such defaulted amount. The Contracting Communities have pledged their full faith and credit to pay all amounts due.

The Contracting Communities' obligation to pay the service fee ceases if the service agreement is terminated. If the service agreement is terminated due to a default by any Contracting Community, the Contracting Communities are obligated to pay amounts sufficient to defease the bonds or pay amounts sufficient to make timely payments of principal and interest on the bonds. If the service agreement is terminated due to a default by the Company, the Company is generally obligated to defease the bonds or to continue to make timely payments of principal and interest on the bonds.

Library: The Town has two libraries available for use by its citizens: The Willoughby Wallace Memorial Library, which is fully funded and operated by the Town, and the James Blackstone Memorial Library, which is partially funded by the Town and is governed by a private Board of Trustees, as established by a Special Act of the Connecticut General Assembly. Both facilities are staffed by full and part-time professional staff and include over 100,000 physical volumes for public use. Digital resource use is perpetually increasing: the libraries offer a wide variety of free e-books, audiobooks, magazines and movies via web browser or application on hand-held devices. Patrons are also provided with databases for use at home or within the library buildings, via the internet. Extensive use is made of computer data retrieval technologies, including CD-ROMS and Internet access. Both libraries are members of the LION, a consortium of 35 libraries throughout the state that share physical and digital materials, delivery services, informational technology support, website hosting, and an operating system using a common database for circulation and cataloguing services. In addition, both libraries provide a variety of cultural events and programs for patrons of all ages.

Human Services: Branford Counseling Center is the municipal behavioral health department of the Town licensed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health providing individual, group and family therapy to the adults and children of Branford. Clinical treatment is provided by licensed professionals and Board certified psychiatrists. The agency accepts Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance. Branford Counseling Center is the Youth Service Bureau for the Town as well as the Social Service department which addresses such needs as emergency housing, utility shut off assistance, emergency heating fuel assistance and emergency rental assistance.

Planning and Zoning Commission: The Town has a combined Planning and Zoning Commission, which processes 50-100 development related zoning and subdivision applications each year. The Planning and Zoning Department, in addition to its core role of providing staff and administrative support to the Planning and Zoning Commission, provides support to the Zoning Board of Appeals and two design review boards. The Department also coordinates with other departments, Boards, Commissions, and advocacy groups to support various planning studies and projects such as the Coastal Resilience Plan, and pedestrian and bicycle improvements such as the Shoreline Greenway Trail. A Small Cities program grant, which has garnered over four million dollars for Branford projects over a period of fifteen years, is administered by the Department.

Planning studies include a grant funded project completed in 2017 to develop a detailed Transit Oriented Development plan for the area extending from the Town Center commercial area including the adjoining historic residential area and older industrial uses near the Branford Shore Line East Train Station and the Branford River (tidal estuary). The goal of the study and its recommended streetscape improvements and zoning changes is to foster redevelopment/investment in the area (particularly on currently underutilized industrial sites). An update of the Town's Master Plan or Plan of Conservation and Development is currently underway which includes new policies and recommendations addressing sea level rise and coastal vulnerability, including potential impact on infrastructure and how to implement possible responses/projects proposed to address expected impacts.

Water: The South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority (the "Authority") provides water services to the Town and the New Haven region. Under the legislation creating the Authority, the Authority is required to pay the Town an annual payment in lieu of taxes ("PILOT") for the Authority's property within the Town boundaries. The assessed value of the Authority's property in Branford is \$17,826,746 on the Grand List of 10/01/24, generating a PILOT payment of \$381,492 for fiscal year 2025-26.

Electric: The Town is served by Eversource, a publicly owned utility.

EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

An elected nine member Board of Education is responsible for the operation of the six Branford Public Schools. The Town of Branford Public School system provides comprehensive educational programs to students in grades pre-kindergarten through grade twelve. It also provides a wide range of adult education courses as part of a regional collaboration to numerous and varied segments of the community.

The grade structure of the public school system is pre-kindergarten; kindergarten through grade 4; grades 5 through 8 (intermediate school); and grades 9 through 12 for high school. A complete program of basic skills is offered to all students. The public schools also offer comprehensive special education services. In addition, there is a wide variety of extracurricular activities including sports.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

Schools	Grades	Date Occupied	Additions / Renovations	Number of Classrooms	Enrollment 10/01/24	Capacity
Indian Neck.....	EYP (1)	1950		8	80	126
Mary T. Murphy.....	PreK-4	1960	1991	24	318	540
Mary R. Tisko.....	K-4	1960	1991	24	365	540
John B. Sliney.....	PreK-4	1928	1979	19	252	524
Walsh Intermediate.....	5-8	1972	2020	68	775	1,500
Branford High School.....	9-12	1958	1964, 1970, 1982, 1995, 1999	88	760	1,400
Total				231	2,550	4,630

(1) Early Years Program (EYP), Family Resource Center, School-Age Child Care Program and ACCESS Transitions Program.

Source: Central Administration - Branford Board of Education.

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT HISTORY AND PROJECTIONS

As of	PreK-4	5 - 8	9 - 12	Total (1)
October 1				
Actual				
2015	1,179	912	942	3,033
2016	1,164	869	920	2,953
2017	1,125	889	886	2,900
2018	1,111	871	854	2,836
2019	1,091	855	838	2,784
2020	941	825	806	2,572
2021	1,011	787	818	2,616
2022	1,036	767	833	2,636
2023	997	795	807	2,599
2024	1,074	833	855	2,762
Projected				
2025	1,077	800	853	2,730
2026	997	761	757	2,515
2027	1,016	734	769	2,519
2028	1,017	746	748	2,511

(1) Includes Pre-kindergarten students and special education; does not include tuition and non-graded students.

Source: Branford Board of Education and State of Connecticut Department of Education.

MUNICIPAL EMPLOYMENT (1)

Fiscal Year	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022
General Government (1)....	252	236	236	234	233
Board of Education (2).....	539	531	541	531	539
Totals	791	767	777	765	772

(1) Budgeted positions.

(2) Board of Education employee figures listed are full time equivalents ("FTEs").

Source: Town Officials

MUNICIPAL EMPLOYMENT BY CATEGORY

Department	Employee
<u>General Government Employees (1)</u>	
General Government	37
Public Safety.....	137
Public Works.....	44
Health & Welfare.....	23
Recreation.....	9
Libraries.....	2
Subtotal.....	252
<u>Board of Education Employees (2)</u>	
Administration and Principals.....	17
Teachers.....	279
Other.....	243
Subtotal.....	539
Total Town Employees.....	791

(1) Budgeted positions.

(2) Board of Education employee figures listed are full time equivalents ("FTEs").

Source: Town Officials.

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MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES BARGAINING ORGANIZATIONS

Employees	Union Representation	Employees Represented	Contract Expiration Date
<u>General Government</u> (1)			
Dispatchers.....	Connecticut Organization for Public Safety.....	10	6/30/2027
Municipal.....	United Public Services Employees Union.....	23	6/30/2026
Police Department.....	United Public Services Employees Union.....	54	6/30/2027
Fire Department.....	United Public Services Employees Union.....	58	6/30/2026
Recreation & Custodian.....	United Public Services Employees Union.....	10	6/30/2026
Public Works.....	Teamsters #443.....	20	6/30/2027
Treatment Plant.....	United Public Services Employees Union - Local #424, Unit #5...	13	6/30/2027
Town Employees.....	United Public Services Employees Union.....	23	6/30/2026
Town Supervisors.....	AFSCME 88-60.....	10	6/30/2028
	Total Organized.....	221	
	Non-Unionized.....	31	
	Sub-total General Government.....	252	
<u>Board of Education</u> (3)			
Support Staff.....	Branford Association of Support Staff.....	30	6/30/2025 (2)
Administrators.....	Branford Administrators Organization.....	15	6/30/2028
Certified Teachers.....	Branford Education Association.....	279	6/30/2027
Nurses.....	AFSCME AFL-CIO # 4 Local 1303-365.....	8	6/30/2027
Custodians.....	United Public Services Employees Union.....	34	6/30/2029
Paraprofessionals.....	UE Local 222, CILU/CIPU, CILU #88.....	125	6/30/2026
Security Guards.....	United Public Services Employees Union.....	18	New Unit (2)
	Total Organized.....	509	
	Non-Unionized.....	30	
	Sub-total Board of Education.....	539	
	Total Town Employees.....	791	

(1) Budgeted positions.

(2) In negotiations.

(3) Board of Education employee figures listed are full time equivalents ("FTEs").

Connecticut General Statutes Sections 7-473c, 7-474, and 10-153a to 10-153n provide a procedure for binding arbitration of collective bargaining agreements between municipal employers and organizations representing municipal employees, including certified teachers and certain other employees. The legislative body of a municipality may reject an arbitration panel's decision by a two-thirds majority vote. The State of Connecticut and the employee organization must be advised in writing of the reasons for rejection. The State then appoints a new panel of either one or three arbitrators to review the decisions on each of the rejected issues. The panel must accept the last best offer of either of the parties. In reaching its determination, the arbitration panel gives priority to the public interest and the financial capability of the municipal employer, including consideration of other demands on the financial capability of the municipal employer. For binding arbitration contracts, in assessing the financial capability of a municipal entity, there is an irrefutable presumption that a budget reserve of (i) 5% or less with respect to teachers' contracts, and (ii) 15% or less with respect to municipal employees, is not available for payment of the cost of any item subject to arbitration. In light of the employer's financial capability, the panel considers prior negotiations between the parties, the interests and welfare of the employee group, changes in the cost of living, existing employment conditions, and the wages, salaries, fringe benefits and other conditions of employment prevailing in the labor market, including developments in private sector wages and benefits.

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III. ECONOMIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

POPULATION TRENDS

Year	Town of Branford	New Haven County	South Central CT Planning Region (1)	State of Connecticut
1980	23,363	761,337	n/a	3,107,564
1990	27,603	804,219	n/a	3,287,116
2000	28,683	824,008	n/a	3,405,565
2010	28,026	862,447	n/a	3,475,097
2023	28,090	n/a	568,158	3,598,348

(1) Starting with the 2018-2022 American Community Survey data, the area was adjusted to reflect the South Central Planning Region. Prior to the 2022 Census data, New Haven County data is displayed.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and 2019-2023 American Community Survey.

AGE CHARACTERISTICS OF POPULATION

Age	Town of Branford		South Central CT Planning Region		State of Connecticut	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Under 5.....	812	2.9	28,336	5.0	181,240	5.0
5 - 9.....	1,176	4.2	28,509	5.0	195,390	5.4
10 - 14.....	1,192	4.2	32,419	5.7	217,297	6.0
15 - 19.....	1,221	4.3	39,901	7.0	238,145	6.6
20 - 24.....	966	3.4	39,981	7.0	233,423	6.5
25 - 34.....	2,781	9.9	74,615	13.1	449,771	12.5
35 - 44.....	2,700	9.6	70,860	12.5	451,461	12.5
45 - 54.....	3,499	12.5	67,377	11.9	462,543	12.9
55 - 59.....	2,616	9.3	33,575	5.9	260,758	7.2
60 - 64.....	3,049	10.9	43,737	7.7	257,548	7.2
65 - 74.....	4,660	16.6	62,469	11.0	376,023	10.4
75 - 84.....	2,492	8.9	32,308	5.7	187,378	5.2
Over 85.....	926	3.3	14,071	2.5	87,371	2.4
Total.....	28,090	100.0	568,158	100.0	3,598,348	100.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and 2019-2023 American Community Survey.

INCOME DISTRIBUTION

	Town of Branford		South Central CT Planning Region		State of Connecticut	
	Families	Percent	Families	Percent	Families	Percent
Less than \$10,000.....	101	1.3	5,467	3.9	22,973	2.5
\$10,000 to \$14,999.....	21	0.3	1,497	1.1	12,547	1.4
\$15,000 to \$24,999.....	211	2.7	4,734	3.4	29,893	3.3
\$25,000 to \$34,999.....	185	2.4	6,841	4.9	35,598	3.9
\$35,000 to \$49,999.....	396	5.1	11,400	8.1	61,793	6.7
\$50,000 to \$74,999.....	839	10.7	17,602	12.6	108,046	11.8
\$75,000 to \$99,999.....	1,027	13.1	18,845	13.4	108,216	11.8
\$100,000 to \$149,999...	1,486	19.0	26,749	19.1	185,242	20.2
\$150,000 to \$199,999...	1,525	19.5	18,757	13.4	128,574	14.0
\$200,000 or more.....	2,031	26.0	28,251	20.2	224,258	24.5
Total.....	7,822	100.0	140,143	100.0	917,140	100.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and 2019-2023 American Community Survey.

SELECTED WEALTH AND INCOME INDICATORS

	Median Family Income		Per Capita Income	
	(2000)	(2023)	(2000)	(2023)
Town of Branford.....	\$ 69,510	\$ 139,892	\$ 32,301	\$ 67,699
South Central CT Planning Region (1)....	n/a	104,757	n/a	45,854
Connecticut.....	65,521	120,011	28,766	54,409
United States.....	49,600	96,922	21,690	43,289

(1) Starting with the 2018-2022 American Community Survey data, the area was adjusted to reflect the South Central Planning Region. Prior to the 2022 Census data, New Haven County data is displayed.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and 2019-2023 American Community Survey.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Years of School Completed, Age 25 & Over

	Town of Branford		South Central CT Planning Region		State of Connecticut	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Less than 9th grade.....	259	1.1	14,954	3.8	101,530	4.0
9th to 12th grade.....	559	2.5	18,123	4.6	118,019	4.7
High School Graduate.....	5,269	23.2	110,944	28.0	647,094	25.5
Some College.....	3,530	15.5	61,963	15.6	410,591	16.2
Associate Degree.....	1,857	8.2	27,918	7.0	193,216	7.6
Bachelor Degree.....	5,992	26.4	84,323	21.2	581,935	23.0
Graduate or Professional Degree.....	5,257	23.1	78,700	19.8	480,468	19.0
Total.....	22,723	100.0	396,925	100.0	2,532,853	100.0
Total high school graduate or higher (%).....	96.4%		91.7%		91.3%	
Total bachelor degree or higher (%).....	49.5%		41.1%		41.9%	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and 2019-2023 American Community Survey.

MAJOR EMPLOYERS

Name of Employer	Nature of Entity	Estimated of Employees
Town of Branford.....	Municipality.....	791
Blakeslee Prestress.....	Manufacturing.....	249
Wal-Mart.....	Retail Store.....	240
Massey Plate Glass & Aluminum.....	Construction.....	226
Connecticut Hospice.....	Hospice.....	188
Cintas.....	Service.....	178
Stop & Shop.....	Retail Store.....	145
HarcoSemco.....	Aeronautic Engineering.....	137
Kohl's.....	Retail Store.....	132
Seton ID.....	Online Retailer.....	130
Harbor Chase / Hearth at Gardenside....	Health Care.....	120
Big Y.....	Retail Store.....	110
Blakeslee Arpaia Chapman.....	Construction.....	106
Premiere Auto Group.....	Retail / New Car Dealer.....	101

Source: Town of Branford.

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Employment Sector	Town of Branford		South Central CT Planning Region		State of Connecticut	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting & Mining.....	13	0.1	385	0.1	7,261	0.4
Construction.....	868	5.8	16,614	5.6	112,821	6.1
Manufacturing.....	1,343	8.9	27,994	9.4	195,355	10.6
Wholesale Trade.....	200	1.3	3,819	1.3	37,294	2.0
Retail Trade.....	1,650	11.0	27,619	9.3	192,535	10.5
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities.....	505	3.4	15,268	5.1	84,571	4.6
Information.....	372	2.5	5,936	2.0	36,631	2.0
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate.....	1,120	7.4	17,482	5.9	162,724	8.9
Professional, Scientific & Management.....	1,740	11.5	30,538	10.3	223,982	12.2
Educational Services & Health Care.....	5,040	33.4	110,011	37.0	490,839	26.7
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation & Food Services.....	1,111	7.4	21,860	7.4	145,445	7.9
Other Service (including nonprofit).....	522	3.5	11,834	4.0	78,662	4.3
Public Administration.....	584	3.9	7,978	2.7	67,335	3.7
Total.....	15,068	100.0	297,338	100.0	1,835,455	100.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and 2019-2023 American Community Survey.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE STATISTICS

Yearly Average	Percentage Unemployed			
	Town of Branford Percent	New Haven Labor Market Percent	State of Connecticut Percent	United States Percent
2015	5.2	5.8	5.7	5.3
2016	4.4	5.1	5.1	4.9
2017	3.9	4.4	4.4	4.4
2018	3.4	3.8	3.9	3.9
2019	3.2	3.5	3.6	3.7
2020	6.9	7.4	8.0	8.1
2021	5.4	6.1	6.4	5.4
2022	3.5	3.9	4.1	3.7
2023	3.3	3.5	3.8	3.6
2024	2.9	3.3	3.5	4.0

2025 Monthly				
January	3.3	3.9	4.0	4.4
February	3.7	4.3	4.5	4.5
March	3.6	4.0	4.1	4.2
April	3.0	3.4	3.4	3.9
May	3.3	3.9	3.9	4.0
June	2.8	3.4	3.4	4.4
July	3.6	4.3	4.2	4.6
August	3.2	3.9	3.8	4.5
September	3.5	3.8	3.8	4.3
October (1)	NA	NA	NA	NA
November	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.3

(1) Due to the Federal Government shut down, October employment figures are not available.

Source: State of Connecticut, Department of Labor; United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

CHARACTERISTICS OF HOUSING UNITS
(Owner Occupied)

Value of Owner Occupied Units	Town of Branford		South Central CT Planning Region		State of Connecticut	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Less than \$50,000.....	214	2.4	5,183	3.8	22,174	2.4
\$50,000 to \$99,999.....	75	0.9	1,317	1.0	15,116	1.6
\$100,000 to \$149,999.....	220	2.5	4,817	3.5	38,832	4.1
\$150,000 to \$199,999.....	537	6.1	7,429	5.4	77,152	8.2
\$200,000 to \$299,999.....	1,700	19.4	33,398	24.4	233,824	24.9
\$300,000 to \$499,999.....	3,130	35.7	54,017	39.4	319,703	34.0
\$500,000 to \$999,999.....	2,226	25.4	26,415	19.3	173,643	18.5
\$1,000,000 and over.....	657	7.5	4,414	3.2	59,468	6.3
Total.....	8,759	100.0	136,990	100.0	939,912	100.0
Median Value	\$388,300		\$349,200		\$343,200	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and 2019-2023 American Community Survey.

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSING

Year Structure Built	Town of Branford		South Central CT Planning Region		State of Connecticut	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1939 or earlier.....	2,774	19.4	59,848	24.0	313,434	20.4
1940 to 1949.....	604	4.2	16,045	6.4	95,842	6.2
1950 to 1959.....	1,564	10.9	40,082	16.1	221,879	14.4
1960 to 1969.....	1,714	12.0	28,203	11.3	198,807	12.9
1970 to 1979.....	2,232	15.6	31,196	12.5	210,611	13.7
1980 to 1989.....	2,850	19.9	33,030	13.3	197,533	12.9
1990 to 1999.....	1,517	10.6	15,512	6.2	116,617	7.6
2000 to 2009.....	681	4.8	14,232	5.7	108,430	7.1
2010 to 2019.....	366	2.6	9,256	3.7	66,546	4.3
2020 or later.....	32	0.2	1,696	0.7	6,350	0.4
Total.....	14,334	100.0	249,100	100.0	1,536,049	100.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and 2019-2023 American Community Survey.

NUMBER AND VALUE OF BUILDING PERMITS

Calendar Year	Single & Two Family		Commercial / Industrial		Other Construction		Total	
	Number of Permits	Value	Number of Permits	Value	Number of Permits	Value	Number of Permits	Value
2025 (1)	9	\$ 9,219,232	93	\$ 16,995,168	1,673	\$ 44,275,480	1,775	\$ 70,489,880
2024	17	10,545,485	87	12,104,192	2,125	56,836,447	2,229	79,486,124
2023	29	13,603,666	75	10,533,923	2,147	53,603,583	2,251	77,741,172
2022	41	14,468,059	104	15,020,416	2,242	61,098,232	2,387	90,586,707
2021	41	13,846,873	102	11,726,146	2,496	50,397,769	2,639	75,970,788
2020	30	8,912,300	4	5,102,419	1,795	41,198,566	1,829	55,213,285
2019	23	6,681,240	2	1,881,515	2,108	35,815,190	2,133	44,377,945
2018	23	6,146,778	2	4,176,664	2,538	129,220,750 (2)	2,563	139,544,192
2017	31	8,425,195	2	1,225,641	2,390	31,176,088	2,423	40,826,924
2016	30	11,870,651	1	3,605,615	2,482	25,873,502	2,513	41,349,768

(1) As of December 31, 2025.

(2) Includes building permit figures for the Walsh Intermediate School and Community Center Renovation projects.

Source: Building Department, Town of Branford.

IV. TAX BASE DATA

ASSESSMENT PRACTICES

The Town of Branford last revalued its real property effective October 1, 2024. Under Section 12-62 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Town must revalue all real estate by physical inspection no later than ten years following the preceding physical inspection. The Town must conduct a statistical revaluation no later than five years after the last physical inspection. The maintenance of an equitable tax base and the location and appraisal of all real and personal property within the Town for inclusion on the Grand List is the responsibility of the Assessor. The Grand List represents the total of assessed value for all taxable and tax exempt real and personal property located within the Town as of October 1. A Board of Assessment Appeals determines whether adjustments to the Assessor's list on assessments under appeal are warranted. Assessments are computed at seventy percent (70%) of market value at the time of the last general revaluation.

When a new structure or modification to an existing structure is undertaken, the Assessor's Office receives a copy of the permit issued by the Building Inspector. A physical appraisal is then completed and the structure classified and priced from a schedule developed as of the revaluation. Property depreciation and obsolescence factors are also considered when arriving at an equitable value.

Motor vehicle lists are furnished to the Town by the State of Connecticut and appraisals of motor vehicles are accomplished in accordance with an automotive price schedule as recommended by the State Office of Policy and Management and the Assessor. Section 12-71b of the Connecticut General Statutes provides that motor vehicles which are registered with the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles after the October 1 assessment date but before the next August 1 are subject to a property tax as if the motor vehicle had been included on the October 1 Grand List. The tax is prorated, and the pro-ratio is based on the number of months of ownership between October 1 and the following July 31. Cars purchased in August and September are not taxed until the next October 1 Grand list. If the motor vehicle replaces a motor vehicle that was taxed on the October Grand List, the taxpayer is entitled to certain credits.

All business personal property (furniture, fixtures, equipment, machinery and leased equipment) is assessed annually. An assessor's clerk and audit is completed periodically. Assessments for both personal property and motor vehicles are computed at seventy (70%) of present market value.

Section 12-124a of the Connecticut General Statutes permits a municipality, upon approval of its legislative body, to abate property taxes on owner-occupied residences to the extent that the taxes exceed eight percent of the owner's total income, from any source, adjusted for self-employed persons to reflect expenses allowed in determining adjusted gross income. The owner must agree to pay the amount of taxes abated with interest at 6% per annum, or at such rate approved by the legislative body, at such time that the residence is sold or transferred or on the death of the last surviving owner. A lien for such amounts is recorded in the land records but does not take precedence over any mortgage recorded before the lien. The Town has approved the use of this abatement provision. See "Global Health Emergency Risk – The COVID-19 Outbreak – Municipal Tax Relief Program" herein.

PROPERTY TAX COLLECTION PROCEDURES

Taxes for the fiscal year are paid on the grand list of the prior October 1, and are due July 1, payable in two installments, July 1 and January 1. Payments not received one month after the due date become delinquent, with interest charged at the rate of 1.5% per month. Real estate is liened for delinquent taxes within one year after the tax due date.

The Town makes available to its qualifying residential property owners certain tax deferral and relief programs as authorized by the general statutes.

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MOTOR VEHICLE PROPERTY TAX RATE

Section 12-71e(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes (the “General Statutes”) has been amended whereby the mill rate for motor vehicles shall not exceed 32.46 mills for the assessment year commencing October 1, 2021, and each assessment year thereafter. Section 12-71e(b) of the General Statutes has been amended to state that no district or borough may set a motor vehicle mill rate that if combined with the motor vehicle mill rate of the town, city, consolidated town and city or consolidated town and borough in which such district or borough is located would result in a combined motor vehicle mill rate above 32.46 mills for the assessment year commencing October 1, 2021, and each assessment year thereafter. Section 4-66f of the General Statutes diverts a portion of State collected sales tax revenue to provide funding to municipalities to mitigate the revenue loss attributed to the motor vehicle property tax cap. The Town’s mill rate for motor vehicles for the assessment year commencing October 1, 2024 (the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026) is 21.40 mills.

PROPERTY TAX LEVIES AND COLLECTIONS

FY Ending 6/30	Net Taxable Grand List (1)	Total Tax Rate (In Mills)	Adjusted Tax Levy	%	Uncollected Taxes	
					End of Each Fiscal Year	As of 6/30/2024
2026* (1)	\$5,725,554,166	21.40	\$118,272,019	N/A	N/A	N/A
2025 (1)	3,907,467,423	30.48	116,280,657	N/A	N/A	N/A
2024	3,895,105,949	29.89	117,126,321	99.2	\$ 964,125	\$ 964,125
2023	3,828,655,341	29.45	113,568,189	99.0	1,118,191	496,223
2022	3,712,383,391	29.45	110,397,188	98.5	1,601,087	377,837
2021*	3,685,043,062	28.92	107,327,367	98.2	1,983,236	314,247
2020	3,583,125,596	29.02	105,028,822	98.1	1,953,323	221,400
2019	3,569,991,255	28.64	102,814,929	98.5	1,554,966	138,976
2018	3,537,873,236	28.47	101,116,747	98.3	1,697,731	78,970
2017	3,505,790,076	27.41	96,604,655	98.3	1,632,574	119,849

(1) Fiscal years 2024-25 and 2025-26 adopted budgets.

* Indicates years of revaluations.

Source: Tax Collector's Office, Town of Branford.

TAXABLE GRAND LIST

Grand List Dated	(%)					Gross Taxable Grand List	Less Exemptions	Net Taxable Grand List
	Residentia Property	Industrial Property	(%) Land	(%) Motor Vehicles	(%) Personal Property			
10/01/24*	75.5	14.2	0.3	5.0	5.0	\$5,787,429,084	\$61,874,918	\$5,725,554,166
10/01/23	69.4	15.4	0.6	8.4	6.2	3,950,326,426	42,859,003	3,907,467,423
10/01/22	69.3	15.1	0.5	9.1	6.0	3,941,341,380	46,235,431	3,895,105,949
10/01/21	70.1	15.1	0.6	8.9	5.3	3,874,934,214	46,278,873	3,828,655,341
10/01/20	71.9	15.1	0.6	7.3	5.1	3,759,976,426	47,593,035	3,712,383,391
10/01/19*	72.3	15.2	0.6	7.0	4.9	3,732,219,812	47,176,750	3,685,043,062
10/01/18	73.0	14.7	0.6	6.9	4.8	3,629,131,544	46,005,948	3,583,125,596
10/01/17	73.1	14.8	0.6	6.7	4.8	3,603,129,331	33,138,076	3,569,991,255
10/01/16	73.5	14.8	0.6	6.6	4.5	3,566,371,702	28,498,466	3,537,873,236
10/01/15	73.9	14.8	0.6	6.5	4.2	3,534,071,689	28,281,613	3,505,790,076

* Indicates years of revaluations.

Source: Assessor's office, Town of Branford.

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LARGEST TAXPAYERS

Name of Taxpayer	Nature of Property	Assessment Valuation as of 10/1/2024	Rank	Percent of Total
Vigliotti Alex Etal.....	Residential/Commercial.....	\$ 70,725,020	1	1.24%
Eversource.....	Utility.....	53,897,120	2	0.94%
Southern Gas Company.....	Utility.....	34,940,740	3	0.61%
Metro 375 LLC.....	Residential & Rental.....	25,301,390	4	0.44%
Rogers Island LLC.....	Residential.....	24,006,800	5	0.42%
Kiop Branford LLC.....	Shopping Plaza.....	17,169,400	6	0.30%
Mariner's Landing LLC.....	Residential & Rental.....	15,348,600	7	0.27%
Business Park Reality & C. Weber, Jr. Etals...	Commercial & Industrial.....	13,378,500	8	0.23%
Bruce & Johnsons BFD Marina Inc.	Marinas.....	12,512,130	9	0.22%
Nationwide Health Properties	Assisted Living.....	11,049,670	10	0.19%
Total.....		<u>\$278,329,370</u>		<u>4.86%</u>

Note: South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority (the "Authority") is required to make annual payments to the Town equivalent to the taxes which would otherwise be due for the property of the Authority in such municipality excluding any improvements to or construction on any such real property by the Authority. The Authority makes payments in lieu of taxes ("PILOT") at the current mill rate for fiscal year 2025-26 on personal and real property assessed at \$17,826,746 amounting to \$381,492. Exempt property acquired after the transfer day is not subject to taxation. Payments to the Town are not treated as taxes for accounting purposes; therefore the Authority is not considered a taxpayer.

Source: Assessor's Office, Town of Branford.

EQUALIZED NET GRAND LIST

Grand List of 10/1	Equalized Net Grand List	% Growth
2023	\$ 8,906,622,967	9.68%
2022	8,120,712,118	9.51%
2021	7,415,736,412	15.75%
2020	6,406,841,214	21.65%
2019*	5,266,404,324	-2.91%
2018	5,424,165,983	-0.17%
2017	5,433,604,019	2.52%
2016	5,299,801,671	2.20%
2015	5,185,659,055	4.10%
2014*	4,981,495,540	0.15%

* Years of revaluation. In the year of revaluation, the methodology utilized by the State of Connecticut to estimate the Equalized Net Grand List does include developing a ratio of actual property sale values to their individual assessed values as it does in non-revaluation years.

Source: Town of Branford, Assessor's Office.

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V. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

FISCAL YEAR

The Town's fiscal year begins July 1 and ends June 30.

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Town's accounting policies are summarized in Note 1 "Summary of Significant Accounting Policies" in the Notes to Financial Statements.

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

See Note 1 "Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation" in the Notes to Financial Statements (Appendix A).

ANNUAL AUDIT

Pursuant to the provisions as delineated in the Municipal Auditing Act (Chapter 111 of the Connecticut General Statutes), the Town is obligated to undergo an annual examination by an independent certified public accountant. The firm of Clifton Larson Allen LLP, is the auditors, and is required to conduct an examination under the guidelines issued by the State of Connecticut, Office of Policy & Management, who receive a copy of said audit report when completed.

The most recent annual audit covers the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, a portion of which is included in this document and made a part hereof as Appendix A. Included in Appendix A are Independent Auditor's Report, Management's Discussion and Analysis, the Town's Basic Financial Statements and the Notes to the Financial Statements, together with the report of the independent auditor as prepared by CliftonLarsonAllen LLP, Independent Certified Public Accountants. The information contained in "Appendix A" is not the whole audit report. A full report is available from the Finance Director, Town of Branford, upon request.

BUDGETARY PROCEDURES

The Branford Town Charter defines in Section 5 the Town's budgetary policy. The following is the budgetary sequence and time schedule generally followed by the Town:

<u>By the last week of February</u>	All boards, commissions and department heads (including the Board of Education) submit their revenue and expenditure estimates for the annual budget to the First Selectman.
<u>By the second week of March</u>	The First Selectman presents budget estimates to the Board of Finance. The Board of Finance holds public and departmental hearings.
<u>By the second week of April</u>	The Board of Finance presents its recommended budget to the Representative Town Meeting. The budget is published in book form and in newspaper legal notices.
<u>During the month of April</u>	The Representative Town Meeting holds departmental and public hearings.
<u>The second Tuesday of May</u>	The Representative Town Meeting holds the annual budget meeting.
<u>The second Thursday of May</u>	The Board of Finance sets the mill rate for the new budget.

All unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end, except those for the Capital Projects Fund and certain specific revenue funds. Appropriations for Capital Projects are continued until completion, even when projects extend beyond one or more fiscal years.

The Town's budget process must also anticipate the impact of the State's budget which proceeds simultaneously with the Town's.

EMPLOYEE PENSION SYSTEMS

Town full-time employees, with the exception of the Police Department employees, Volunteer Firemen and certified teachers and administrators, participate in the State of Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement Fund, a multiple-employer public employee retirement system. Certified teachers and administrators are members of the State of Connecticut Teachers Retirement Board. The Police and Volunteer Firemen's Retirement Plans are single-employer, contributory, defined benefit, public employee retirement systems ("PERS") established and administered by the Town. For further details on the Plans, see Appendix A, page 46, "Notes to General Purpose Financial Statements".

The Town has implemented Government Accounting Standards Board's ("GASB") Statement No. 67 effective Fiscal Year 2014. Net position is based on fair market value as of June 30 and the Total Pension Liability is based on the actuarial assumptions in the July 1, 2021 and January 1, 2023, for the Police employee's retirement plan and the volunteer fire department pension plan actuarial valuations, respectively.

In accordance with GASB Statement No. 67, the components of the net pension liability of the Town as of June 30 were as follows:

Police Employees Pension Plan					
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Total pension liability.....	\$ 42,658,400	\$ 40,462,596	\$ 39,624,189	\$ 37,281,216	\$ 37,017,523
Plan fiduciary net position.....	29,603,939	27,665,079	26,299,899	30,141,970	25,221,496
Net pension liability.....	<u>\$ 13,054,461</u>	<u>\$ 12,797,517</u>	<u>\$ 13,324,290</u>	<u>\$ 7,139,246</u>	<u>\$ 11,796,027</u>
Plan fiduciary net position as a % of total pension liability.....	69.4%	68.4%	66.4%	80.9%	68.1%

Volunteer Fire Department Pension Plan					
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Total pension liability.....	\$ 1,789,763	\$ 1,700,515	\$ 1,646,220	\$ 1,552,746	\$ 1,539,774
Plan fiduciary net position.....	1,722,891	1,518,112	1,361,893	1,494,993	1,160,141
Net pension liability.....	<u>\$ 66,872</u>	<u>\$ 182,403</u>	<u>\$ 284,327</u>	<u>\$ 57,753</u>	<u>\$ 379,633</u>
Plan fiduciary net position as a % of total pension liability.....	96.3%	89.3%	82.7%	96.3%	75.3%

The following represents the net pension liability of the Town, calculated using the discount rate of 6.5% as well as what the Town's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (5.5%) or 1 percentage point higher (7.50%) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease 5.50%	Current Discount Rate 6.50%	1% Increase 7.50%
Plan Net Position - Police Employees.	\$ 18,037,018	\$ 13,054,461	\$ 8,886,171

	1% Decrease 5.50%	Current Discount Rate 6.50%	1% Increase 7.50%
Plan Net Position - Volunteer Fire.....	\$ 343,380	\$ 66,872	\$ (159,435)

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Based upon July 1, 2023 and January 1, 2023, for the Police employee's retirement plan and the volunteer fire department pension plan actuarial valuations, respectively. The actuarial value of assets and actuarial liabilities for the PERS plan were as follows:

Schedule of Funding Progress – Police Employees

Actuarial Valuation July 1	Actuarial Value of Assets (a)	Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) (b)	Unfunded AAL (b-a)	Funded Ratio (a/b)
2015	\$ 22,410,598	\$ 28,755,887	\$ 6,345,289	77.93%
2017	23,628,522	33,549,471	9,920,949	70.43%
2019	26,754,408	35,994,736	9,240,328	74.33%
2021	28,108,243	38,588,327	10,480,084	72.84%
2023	29,415,703	41,725,616	12,309,913	70.50%

Schedule of Funding Progress – Volunteer Fire

Actuarial Valuation January 1	Actuarial Value of Assets (a)	Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) (b)	Unfunded AAL (b-a)	Funded Ratio (a/b)
2015	\$ 540,595	\$ 1,120,645	\$ 580,050	48.24%
2017	954,218	1,256,486	302,268	75.94%
2019	1,129,186	1,420,301	291,115	79.50%
2021	1,365,503	1,509,644	144,141	90.45%
2023	1,627,237	1,656,034	28,797	98.26%

Schedule of Employer Contributions – Police Employees

Year Ended June 30	Actuarially Determined Contribution	Actual Contribution	Percentage Contributed
2022	\$ 1,187,630	\$ 1,640,000	138.1%
2023	1,424,960	1,424,960	100.0%
2024	1,434,980	1,719,980	119.9%
2025 (1)	1,706,170	8,206,170	481.0%
2026 (2)	1,716,620	1,535,553	89.5%

(1) The Town is no longer self-insured for medical and pharmacy claims. As a result, the Town was able to transfer an additional \$6.5 million into the pension fund in FY 2025 resulting in a lower contribution for FY 2026.

(2) Fiscal year 2025-26 adopted budget.

Schedule of Employer Contributions – Volunteer Fire

Year Ended June 30	Actuarially Determined Contribution	Actual Contribution	Percentage Contributed
2022	\$ 65,970	\$ 87,000	131.9%
2023	50,840	87,000	171.1%
2024	51,430	87,000	169.2%
2025	38,980	40,000	102.6%
2026 (1)	39,550	40,000	101.1%

(1) Fiscal year 2025-26 adopted budget.

Defined Benefit Plans – The Town maintains and administers two defined benefit plans for police and volunteer fire fighters. The Police and Volunteer Firemen’s Retirement Plans are single employer, contributory, public employee retirement systems (“PERS”). For further details on the Plans, see Appendix A, pages 46-65, Notes to the Financial Statements.

Municipal Employees’ Retirement System – All Town of Branford full-time employees, except the Police Department employees, elected officials and certified teachers and administrators, participate in the Municipal Employee’s Retirement System (“MERS”). MERS is a cost sharing multiple-employer public employee retirement system established by the State of Connecticut and administered by the State Retirement Commission to provide pension benefits to employees of participating municipalities. Chapters 7-425 to 7-451 of the State of Connecticut General Statutes, which can be amended by legislative action, establishes MERS benefits, member contribution rates, and other plan provisions. MERS is considered to be a part of the Connecticut’s financial reporting entity and is included in the Connecticut’s financial reports as a pension trust fund. Those reports may be obtained at www.ct.gov.

Funding Policy – Plan members are required by State Statute to contribute 2.25% of earnings upon which Social Security tax is paid plus 5% of earnings on which no Social Security tax is paid. Effective July 1, 2019, member contribution rates are set to increase by 0.5% of compensation each year for six years. Each participating municipality is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The Town’s required contribution rate for the year ending June 30, 2024, was 23.28% of annual payroll. The contribution requirements of the Town are established and may be amended by the State Retirement Commission. The Town’s contributions to MERS for the years ended June 30, 2023, 2024 and 2025 were \$4,412,546 \$4,313,779, and \$4,775,946 respectively equal to the required contributions for each year.

For further details on the plans, see Appendix A, pages 46 -65 "Notes to Financial Statements".

OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The Town provides health insurance, life insurance, and lump sum benefits in accordance with union contracts for members and non-union employees. The Town has retained Hooker & Holcombe, Inc. to perform an actuarial valuation of this liability in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB") Statements 43 and 45 requirements effective for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2010, which require municipalities and other governmental entities to undertake an actuarial evaluation of their Other Post-Employment Benefits ("OPEB") plans and include information concerning the valuation of such plans in their financial statements. As part of the OPEB valuation, Hooker & Holcombe, Inc. determined a direct and implicit rate subsidy for the Town's and an implicit rate subsidy for the Board of Education's Postretirement Medical Plan. The Town currently finances the cost of these benefits on a pay-as-you-go basis, and has established an OPEB Trust Fund for the accumulation of assets with which to pay such benefits in future years.

For fiscal year 2016-17, the Town and Board of Education implemented Government Accounting Standards Board's ("GASB") Statement No. 74. In accordance with GASB Statement No. 74, the net position is based on the fair market value as of the end of the fiscal year and the total OPEB liability is based on the actuarial assumptions as of the prior valuation date updated to the end of the fiscal year. The components of the net OPEB liability of the Town and Board of Education as of June 30 were as follows:

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Total OPEB liability.....	\$ 25,882,765	\$ 24,783,945	\$ 28,452,096	\$ 27,172,063	\$ 32,208,476
Plan fiduciary net position.....	40,293,861	39,006,230	35,675,801	37,497,545	31,913,829
Net OPEB liability.....	<u>\$ (14,411,096)</u>	<u>\$ (14,222,285)</u>	<u>\$ (7,223,705)</u>	<u>\$ (10,325,482)</u>	<u>\$ 294,647</u>
Plan fiduciary net position as a % of total OPEB liability.....	155.68%	157.39%	125.39%	138.00%	99.09%

The following represents the net OPEB liability of the Town and Board of Education, calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower or 1 percentage point higher than the current healthcare cost trend rate:

	1% Decrease (5.50%)	Current Rate (6.50%)	1% Increase (7.50%)
Net OPEB Liability.....	\$ (10,770,426)	\$ (14,411,096)	\$ (17,390,442)

Based upon a July 1, 2024 actuarial valuation, the actuarial value of assets and actuarial liabilities for the Town and Board of Education employees plan were as follows:

Schedule of Funding Progress

Actuarial Valuation Date	Actuarial Value of Assets (a)	Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) (b)	Unfunded AAL (UAAL) (b) - (a)	Funded Ratio (a) / (b)
7/1/2016	\$ 11,934,160	\$ 27,035,934	\$ 15,101,774	44.1%
7/1/2018	16,106,492	28,287,517	12,181,025	56.9%
7/1/2020	31,913,829	25,885,442	(6,028,387)	123.3%
7/1/2022	38,465,160	23,692,215	(14,772,945)	162.4%
7/1/2024	41,847,122	27,933,868	(13,913,254)	149.8%

Schedule of Employer Contributions

Year Ended June 30	Actuarially Determined Contribution	Actual Contribution	Percentage Contributed
2022	\$ 298,455	\$2,589,512	867.6%
2023	326,473	2,290,899	701.7%
2024	7,677	237,812	3097.7%
2025	9,736	9,736	100.0%
2026 (1)	18,055	18,055	100.0%

(1) Fiscal year 2025-26 adopted budget.

For further details, see Appendix A, pages 65-78, "Notes to Financial Statements".

INVESTMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Under Connecticut General Statutes Section 7-400, 7-401 and 7-402, the Town may invest in (a) obligations of the United States of America, including joint and several obligations of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Association, the Federal National Mortgage Association, the Federal Government National Mortgage Association, the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation, obligations of the United States Postal Service, all the federal home loan banks, all federal land banks, the Tennessee Valley Authority, or any other agency of the United States government (b) money market and mutual funds investing in such obligations or repurchase agreements fully collateralized by such obligations and (c) certain state and municipal bonds and notes, and may make deposits with certain "qualified public depositories".

The Town's investment practices have been to invest in certificates of deposit, short-term repurchase agreements, demand accounts and the State of Connecticut Short-Term Investment Fund. The Town does not invest in derivative investment products.

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PROPERTY TAX REVENUES

Fiscal Year	General Fund Revenues	Property Tax Revenues	Property Tax As a % of General Fund
2026 (Adopted Budget)	\$140,436,939	\$118,272,019	84.2
2025 (Estimated Actuals)	137,743,129	120,741,837	87.7
2024	145,279,046	118,259,540	81.4
2023	139,500,323	114,973,418	82.4
2022	132,571,425	112,434,511	84.8
2021	127,172,332	108,177,390	85.1
2020	124,361,761	104,762,381	84.2
2019	117,781,260	103,143,178	87.6
2018	122,093,385	101,530,521	83.2
2017	117,075,713	96,604,984	82.5

Source: Annual audited financial statements, adopted budget for fiscal years 2025-26 and estimated actuals for fiscal year 2025-26. Fiscal years 2024-25 and 2025-26 do not include on-behalf payments for state teachers' retirement.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUES

Fiscal Year	General Fund Revenues	Intergovernmental Revenues	Aid As a % of General Fund
2026 (Adopted Budget)	\$140,436,939	\$ 5,047,364	3.6
2025 (Estimated Actuals)	137,743,129	5,150,212	3.7
2024	145,279,046	14,836,944	10.2
2023	139,500,323	13,367,010	9.6
2022	132,571,425	12,169,561	9.2
2021	127,172,332	11,654,134	9.2
2020	124,361,761	12,289,534	9.9
2019	117,781,260	7,393,145	6.3
2018	122,093,385	14,347,991	11.8
2017	117,075,713	13,980,773	11.9

Source: Annual audited financial statements, adopted budget for fiscal years 2025-26 and estimated actuals for fiscal year 2025-26. Fiscal years 2024-25 and 2025-26 do not include on-behalf payments for state teachers' retirement.

EXPENDITURES

Fiscal Year	Education %	Public %	Pension & Insurance %	Public %	Debt %	General Governmen %
2026 (Adopted Budget)	50.6	14.0	12.2	6.8	6.6	5.3
2025 (Estimated Actuals)	48.7	13.4	15.8	6.5	6.4	4.9
2024	55.8	11.9	11.1	5.9	7.0	4.7
2023	55.8	11.8	11.6	5.1	7.5	4.8
2022	55.8	11.9	11.8	5.0	7.8	4.5
2021	56.8	12.0	12.1	5.1	6.6	4.4
2020	56.1	11.9	11.8	4.8	8.0	4.4
2019	55.2	11.9	12.5	5.3	7.4	4.4
2018	58.5	10.6	12.0	4.5	7.0	4.4
2017	58.8	10.8	11.4	4.5	7.3	4.3

Source: Annual audited financial statements, adopted budget for fiscal years 2025-26 and estimated actuals for fiscal year 2025-26. Fiscal years 2024-25 and 2025-26 do not include on-behalf payments for state teachers' retirement.

MUNICIPAL BUDGET EXPENDITURES CAP

Connecticut General Statutes Section 4-661 creates a cap on adopted general budget expenditures for municipalities in Connecticut in order for municipalities to be eligible to receive the full amount of the State's municipal revenue sharing grant. Beginning in fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and in each fiscal year thereafter, the Office of Policy and Management ("OPM") must reduce the municipal revenue sharing grant amount for those municipalities whose adopted general budget expenditures (with certain exceptions including but not limited to debt service, special education, implementation of court orders or arbitration awards, budgeting for an audited deficit, nonrecurring grants, capital expenditures of \$100,000 or more, or payments on unfunded pension liabilities, and certain major disaster or emergency expenditures) exceeds the spending limits specified in the statute. For each applicable fiscal year, OPM must determine the municipality's percentage growth in general budget expenditures over the prior fiscal year and reduce the grant if the growth rate is equal to or greater than 2.5% or the inflation rate, whichever is greater, each of those amounts adjusted by an amount proportionate to any increase in the municipality's population from the previous fiscal year. The reduction is generally equal to 50 cents for every dollar the municipality spends over this cap. Each municipality must annually certify to the Secretary of the OPM whether such municipality has exceeded the cap set forth in the statute and if so the amount by which the cap was exceeded.

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COMPARATIVE GENERAL FUND OPERATING STATEMENT
Budget and Actual (Budgetary Basis)

	Fiscal Year 2023-24			2024-25	2025-26
	Final Budget	Actual Operations	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Estimated Actuals	Adopted Budget
REVENUES					
Property taxes.....	\$115,509,623	\$ 118,259,540	\$ 2,749,917	\$ 120,741,837	\$ 120,456,858
Intergovernmental revenue.....	3,594,652	5,273,542	1,678,890	5,150,212	5,047,364
Interest income.....	1,561,667	4,715,043	3,153,376	4,271,468	2,262,807
Licenses, permits and fees.....	4,107,798	5,036,389	928,591	7,579,612	4,655,410
Fund balance brought forward.....	-	-	-	-	6,446,000
Other.....	1,594,993	2,474,054	879,061	-	1,568,500
TOTAL REVENUES.....	126,368,733	135,758,568	9,389,835	137,743,129	140,436,939
EXPENDITURES					
Current:					
General government.....	6,784,800	6,044,490	(740,310)	6,564,001	7,307,115
Public safety.....	15,749,011	15,339,478	(409,533)	18,051,011	19,141,349
Public works.....	8,043,873	7,574,248	(469,625)	8,721,303	9,231,957
Recreation.....	1,402,851	1,374,442	(28,409)	1,379,387	1,482,392
Libraries.....	1,973,296	1,967,413	(5,883)	2,034,137	2,091,459
Health and welfare.....	851,518	718,905	(132,613)	1,995,123	2,098,379
Education.....	62,911,644	61,870,726	(1,040,918)	65,528,111	69,164,640
Pension and insurance.....	16,252,205	14,185,271	(2,066,934)	21,244,740	16,647,851
Contingency.....	352,022	-	(352,022)	471,084	509,761
Debt service.....	9,378,646	8,989,847	(388,799)	8,637,765	9,080,106
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	123,699,866	118,064,820	(5,635,046)	134,626,662	136,755,009
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures.....	2,668,867	17,693,748	15,024,881	3,116,467	3,681,930
Other financing sources (uses):					
Operating transfers in.....	791,035	791,370	335	9,286,564	761,734
Operating transfers out:					
Special revenue fund.....	(2,595,480)	(2,595,480)	-	-	-
Coastal resiliency fund.....	(310,000)	(310,000)	-	(1,060,000)	(225,000)
Lease fund.....	-	-	-	(525,000)	(340,000)
Police technology fund.....	-	-	-	(475,000)	-
Capital projects fund.....	(4,433,157)	(4,433,157)	-	(3,796,043)	(3,878,664)
Board of Education capital.....	-	-	-	(1,000,000)	-
Townwide energy improvements.....	-	-	-	(1,500,000)	-
Total other financing sources (uses).....	(6,547,602)	(6,547,267)	335	930,521	(3,681,930)
Excess of Revenues and other financing sources over expenditures and other financing uses.....	\$ (3,878,735)	\$ 11,146,481	\$15,025,216	\$ 4,046,988	\$ -

Source: Annual audited financial statements, fiscal year 2023-24, estimated actuals for fiscal year 2024-25 and adopted budget for fiscal year 2025-26.

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COMPARATIVE GENERAL FUND BALANCE SHEET
Summary of Assets and Liabilities
(GAAP Basis)

FISCAL YEAR ENDED:	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
ASSETS					
Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$51,196,678	\$62,549,449	\$58,548,291	\$82,154,713	\$91,026,244
Investments.....	1,551,276	-	-	-	1,236,387
Receivables, net.....	8,178,370	8,859,501	7,601,723	5,466,395	5,119,469
Due from other funds.....	-	-	33,749	13,199	-
Other assets.....	17,970	234,221	1,478,987	2,092,416	1,368,438
TOTAL ASSETS.....	\$60,944,294	\$71,643,171	\$67,662,750	\$89,726,723	\$98,750,538
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES					
Liabilities:					
Accounts and other payables.....	\$ 4,720,547	\$ 5,938,758	\$ 6,991,453	\$ 7,754,994	\$ 8,079,083
Due to other funds.....	4,809,031	4,791,314	2,929,871	5,626,482	10,892,088
Unearned revenue.....	753,325	883,440	1,023,240	1,020,281	705,249
Other.....	112,293	81,699	78,699	78,701	78,701
Total Liabilities.....	10,395,196	11,695,211	11,023,263	14,480,458	19,755,121
Deferred Inflows of Resources:					
Unavailable revenue:					
Property taxes.....	4,812,011	5,123,990	4,361,895	3,190,696	2,965,370
Interest on property taxes.....	2,134,277	2,523,942	2,019,898	1,249,463	1,161,860
School building grants.....	-	-	-	-	-
Advance property tax collections....	6,350,540	10,635,310	2,738,036	14,195,497	6,681,550
Total deferred inflows of resources.....	13,296,828	18,283,242	9,119,829	18,635,656	10,808,780
Fund Balances:					
Nonspendable.....	17,970	234,221	1,478,987	2,092,416	1,368,438
Committed.....	359,748	482,584	423,690	343,140	693,962
Assigned.....	7,880,553	4,802,618	4,647,673	4,638,885	4,272,028
Unassigned.....	28,993,999	36,145,295	40,969,308	49,536,168	61,852,209
Total fund balances.....	37,252,270	41,664,718	47,519,658	56,610,609	68,186,637
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances.....	\$60,944,294	\$71,643,171	\$67,662,750	\$89,726,723	\$98,750,538

Source: Annual audited financial statements.

ANALYSIS OF GENERAL FUND EQUITY
(GAAP BASIS)

	Actual 2019-20	Actual 2020-21	Actual 2021-22	Actual 2022-23	Actual 2023-24
Nonspendable.....	\$ 17,970	\$ 234,221	\$ 1,478,987	\$ 2,092,416	\$ 1,368,438
Committed.....	359,748	482,584	423,690	343,140	693,962
Assigned.....	7,880,553	4,802,618	4,647,673	4,638,885	4,272,028
Unassigned.....	28,993,999	36,145,295	40,969,308	49,536,168	61,852,209
Total Fund Balance.....	\$ 37,252,270	\$ 41,664,718	\$ 47,519,658	\$ 56,610,609	\$ 68,186,637
Unassigned Fund Balance as % of					
Total Expenditures & Transfers.....	23.87%	29.12%	32.11%	37.63%	45.83%

Source: Annual audited financial statements.

COMPARATIVE GENERAL FUND REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
Summary of Audited Revenues and Expenditures
(GAAP Basis)

FISCAL YEAR ENDED:	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
REVENUES					
Property taxes.....	\$104,762,381	\$108,177,390	\$112,434,511	\$114,973,418	\$118,259,540
Intergovernmental.....	12,289,534	11,654,134	12,169,561	13,367,010	14,836,944
Charges for services.....	4,844,290	5,110,647	5,962,236	5,580,640	5,036,389
Interest on investments.....	943,520	80,884	159,643	3,150,130	4,715,043
Miscellaneous.....	1,522,036	2,149,277	1,845,474	2,429,125	2,431,130
TOTAL REVENUES.....	124,361,761	127,172,332	132,571,425	139,500,323	145,279,046
EXPENDITURES					
General government.....	5,085,899	5,169,712	5,517,858	5,950,671	6,056,523
Public safety.....	13,751,069	13,965,539	14,586,539	14,769,090	15,318,713
Public works and highway.....	5,596,745	5,925,153	6,173,092	6,375,144	7,610,109
Health and human services.....	631,716	630,322	709,843	749,516	718,736
Parks, recreation and libraries.....	2,875,863	2,848,490	3,111,663	3,167,284	3,333,952
Pension and insurance.....	13,708,168	14,163,868	14,455,919	14,496,825	14,185,272
Education.....	65,141,599	66,229,226	68,417,304	69,784,077	71,642,334
Capital outlay.....	-	-	-	390,711	461,801
Debt service.....	9,233,555	7,690,465	9,585,377	9,348,433	8,989,847
TOTAL EXPENDITURES.....	116,024,614	116,622,775	122,557,595	125,031,751	128,317,287
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures.....	8,337,147	10,549,557	10,013,830	14,468,572	16,961,759
Other financing sources (uses)					
Operating transfers in.....	694,225	1,325,079	730,691	854,203	791,370
Operating transfers (out).....	(5,426,655)	(7,520,768)	(5,033,078)	(6,622,535)	(6,638,902)
Bond premiums.....	1,048,286	-	-	-	-
Refunding bond premiums.....	-	558,607	-	-	-
Issuance of refunding bonds.....	-	5,400,000	14,080,000	-	-
Payment to escrow agent.....	-	(5,900,027)	(13,936,503)	-	-
Lease issuances.....	-	-	-	390,711	461,801
Total other financing sources (uses).....	(3,684,144)	(6,137,109)	(4,158,890)	(5,377,621)	(5,385,731)
Net change in fund balances.....	4,653,003	4,412,448	5,854,940	9,090,951	11,576,028
Fund Balance - July 1.....	32,599,267	37,252,270	41,664,718	47,519,658	56,610,609
Fund Balance - June 30.....	<u>\$ 37,252,270</u>	<u>\$ 41,664,718</u>	<u>\$ 47,519,658</u>	<u>\$ 56,610,609</u>	<u>\$ 68,186,637</u>

Source: Annual audited financial statements.

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VI. DEBT SUMMARY

PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF INDEBTEDNESS

As of March 12, 2026 (Pro Forma)

Long-Term Debt: Bonds

<u>Date of Issue</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Rate %</u>	<u>Original Issue Amount</u>	<u>Principal Outstanding as of 3/12/2026</u>	<u>Fiscal Year of Final Maturity</u>
<u>General Purpose</u>					
09/15/17	General Purpose.....	2.00 - 4.00	\$ 4,975,000	\$ 2,140,000	2033
10/24/19	General Purpose.....	2.00 - 5.00	6,000,000	4,720,000	2040
07/02/20	General Purpose.....	1.00 - 5.00	2,360,000	1,980,000	2038
11/15/21	Refunding - General Purpose...	0.50 - 2.00	4,359,000	2,991,000	2032
11/05/24	General Purpose.....	4.00 - 5.00	12,800,000	12,150,000	2043
11/03/25	General Purpose.....	4.00 - 5.00	8,900,000	8,900,000	2044
			<u>\$ 39,394,000</u>	<u>\$ 32,881,000</u>	
<u>Schools</u>					
09/15/17	Schools.....	2.00 - 4.00	\$ 9,125,000	\$ 3,490,000	2033
10/24/19	Schools.....	2.00 - 5.00	39,000,000	31,080,000	2040
07/02/20	Schools.....	1.00 - 5.00	2,925,000	2,460,000	2038
11/15/21	Refunding - Schools.....	0.50 - 2.00	9,721,000	6,669,000	2032
11/05/24	Schools.....	4.00 - 5.00	5,200,000	4,850,000	2043
11/03/25	Schools.....	4.00 - 5.00	600,000	600,000	2044
			<u>\$ 66,571,000</u>	<u>\$ 49,149,000</u>	
<u>Sewers</u>					
09/15/17	Sewers.....	2.00 - 4.00	\$ 900,000	\$ 420,000	2033
07/02/20	Sewers.....	1.00 - 5.00	2,420,000	2,045,000	2038
07/02/20	Refunding - Sewers.....	1.00 - 5.00	5,400,000	-	2025
			<u>\$ 8,720,000</u>	<u>\$ 2,465,000</u>	
	Total.....		<u>\$ 114,685,000</u>	<u>\$ 84,495,000</u>	

Short-Term Debt: The Notes

<u>Date of Issue</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Rate %</u>	<u>Original Issue Amount</u>	<u>Principal Outstanding as of 3/12/26</u>	<u>Date of Fiscal Year Maturity</u>
<u>General Purpose</u>					
3/12/2026	General Purpose (This Issue).....	TBD	\$ 10,800,000	\$ 10,800,000	11/24/2026
			<u>\$ 10,800,000</u>	<u>\$ 10,800,000</u>	

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COMBINED SCHEDULE OF LONG-TERM DEBT THROUGH MATURITY

As of March 12, 2026

(Pro Forma)

Fiscal Year	Existing Indebtedness		
	Principal Payments (1)	Interest Payments	Total Debt Service (1)
2026 (1)	\$ 6,640,000	\$ 2,342,105	\$ 8,982,105
2027	7,240,000	2,399,538	9,639,538
2028	7,530,000	2,197,788	9,727,788
2029	7,570,000	1,987,775	9,557,775
2030	7,470,000	1,777,713	9,247,713
2031	7,470,000	1,566,856	9,036,856
2032	7,370,000	1,357,288	8,727,288
2033	5,170,000	1,177,113	6,347,113
2034	4,815,000	1,027,288	5,842,288
2035	4,815,000	885,638	5,700,638
2036	4,815,000	745,094	5,560,094
2037	4,715,000	604,019	5,319,019
2038	4,515,000	465,475	4,980,475
2039	3,000,000	348,125	3,348,125
2040	3,000,000	249,688	3,249,688
2041	1,500,000	170,000	1,670,000
2042	1,500,000	110,000	1,610,000
2043	1,500,000	50,000	1,550,000
2044	500,000	10,000	510,000
	<u>\$ 91,135,000</u>	<u>\$ 19,471,503</u>	<u>\$ 110,606,503</u>

(1) Does not reflect \$6,640,000 in principal payments made as of March 12, 2026.

Source: Town of Branford.

THE TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT HAS NEVER DEFAULTED IN THE PAYMENT OF PRINCIPAL OR INTEREST ON ITS BONDS OR NOTES.

OVERLAPPING AND UNDERLYING INDEBTEDNESS

The Town has no material overlapping indebtedness. Other political subdivisions with power to issue underlying indebtedness or cause taxes to be levied on taxable property in the Town are numerous tax districts and other associations. There is no outstanding indebtedness of these districts as of March 12, 2026. (See "Computation of Statutory Debt Limit" footnote (1) herein).

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DEBT STATEMENT

As of March 12, 2026

(Pro Forma)

Long-Term Indebtedness (1)

General Purpose.....	\$ 32,881,000
Schools.....	49,149,000
Sewers.....	2,465,000
Total Long-Term Indebtedness.....	84,495,000

Short-Term Indebtedness

The Notes (This Issue).....	10,800,000
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Total Direct Indebtedness

95,295,000

Exclusions:

(30,030)

Net Direct Indebtedness.....

\$ 95,264,970

(1) Does not include authorized but unissued debt of \$41,660,320. (See "Authorized but Unissued Debt" herein).

Source: Town Officials.

CURRENT DEBT RATIOS

As of March 12, 2026

(Pro Forma)

Total Direct Indebtedness.....	\$ 95,295,000
Total Net Direct Indebtedness.....	\$ 95,264,970

Population (1)	28,090
Net Taxable Grand List (10/1/24).....	\$ 5,725,554,166
Estimated Full Value.....	\$ 8,179,363,094
Equalized Net Taxable Grand List (2023) (2).....	\$ 8,906,622,967
Per Capita Income(1).....	\$ 67,699

Total Direct Indebtedness:

Per Capita.....	\$ 3,392.49
To Net Taxable Grand List	1.66%
To Estimated Full Value	1.17%
To Equalized Net Taxable Grand List.....	1.07%
Per Capita to Per Capita Income.....	5.01%

Total Net Direct Indebtedness:

Per Capita.....	\$ 3,391.42
To Net Taxable Grand List.....	1.66%
To Estimated Full Value.....	1.16%
To Equalized Net Taxable Grand List.....	1.07%
Per Capita to Per Capita Income.....	5.01%

(1) U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2019-2023.

(2) Office of Policy and Management, State of Connecticut.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR APPROVAL OF BORROWING

Under Sections 2, 7 and 11 of the Town Charter, bond authorizations are accomplished through the passage of an appropriation and bonding authorization by the Representative Town Meeting (the "RTM"). An appropriation, introduced by the requesting authority, is first introduced to the Board of Finance. The Board of Finance must approve the authorization and recommend the proposal to the RTM. The RTM, after appropriate public notice, votes to approve or disapprove the proposal and appropriate the required funds and authorize the issuance of bonds or notes to meet the appropriation. Such RTM action is subject to referendum approval if a sufficient petition is filed within 15 days of the RTM's adjournment.

TEMPORARY FINANCING

When general obligation bonds have been authorized, bond anticipation notes may be issued maturing in not more than two years (CGS Sec. 7-378). Temporary notes may be renewed up to ten years from their original date of issue as long as all project grant payments are applied toward payment of project costs or temporary notes when they become due and payable, and the legislative body schedules principal reductions by the end of the third year and for each subsequent year during which such temporary notes remain outstanding, in an amount equal to a minimum of 1/20th (1/30th for sewer projects and certain school projects) of the estimated net project cost (CGS Sec. 7-378a). The term of the bond issue is reduced by the amount of time temporary financing exceeds two years.

Temporary notes may be funded beyond ten years from their initial borrowing if written commitment exists for State and/or Federal grants, for terms not to exceed six months until such time that the final grant payments are received (CGS Sec. 7-378b).

Temporary notes may also be issued for up to 15 years for certain capital projects associated with the operation of a waterworks system (CGS Sec. 7-244a) or a sewage system (CGS Sec. 7-264a). In the first year following the completion of the project(s), or in the sixth year following the original date of issue (whichever is sooner), and in each year thereafter, the notes must be reduced by 1/15th of the total amount of the notes issued by funds derived from sources of payment specified by statute. Temporary notes may be issued in one-year maturities for up to 15 years in anticipation of sewer assessments receivable, such notes to be reduced annually by the amount of assessments received during the preceding year (CGS Sec. 7-269a).

SCHOOL BUILDING GRANT REIMBURSEMENTS

The State of Connecticut provides proportional progress payments for eligible school construction expenses on projects approved after July 1, 1996. Under the current program, the State will make proportional progress payments for eligible construction costs during construction.

Project	Amount of Total Authorization	Estimated Eligible Cost For Reimbursement	Reimbursement Rate (%)	Estimated Grant (1)
Walsh Intermediate School Project.....	\$ 88,200,000	\$ 73,876,558	35.36	\$26,122,751

(1) Estimated grants receivable are based on eligibility of project costs for this project. Eligible costs to be determined at completion of the project.

LIMITATION OF INDEBTEDNESS

Municipalities shall not incur indebtedness through the issuance of bonds or notes which will cause aggregate indebtedness by class to exceed the following:

General Purposes:	2.25 times annual receipts from taxation
School Purposes:	4.50 times annual receipts from taxation
Sewer Purposes:	3.75 times annual receipts from taxation
Urban Renewal Purposes:	3.25 times annual receipts from taxation
Unfunded Pension Liability Purposes:	3.00 times annual receipts from taxation

In no case however, shall total indebtedness exceed seven times the base. "Annual receipts from taxation," (the "base") are defined as total tax collections including interest, penalties and late payment of taxes and state payments for revenue loss under Connecticut General Statutes Sections 12-129d and 7-528.

Section 7-374 of the Connecticut General Statutes also provides for exclusion from the debt limit calculation debt; (i) issued in anticipation of taxes; (ii) issued for the supply of water, gas, electricity, electric demand response, conservation and load management, distributed generation and renewable energy projects, for the construction of subways for cables, wires and pipes, for the construction of underground conduits for cables, wires and pipes, for the construction and operation of a municipal community antenna television system and for two or more of such purposes; (iii) issued in anticipation of the receipt of proceeds from assessments levied upon property benefited by any public improvement; (iv) issued in anticipation of the receipt of proceeds from any state or federal grants for which the Town or municipality has received a written commitment or for which allocation has been approved by the State Bond Commission or from a contract with the state, a state agency or another municipality providing for the reimbursement of capital costs but only to the extent such indebtedness can be paid from such proceeds; (v) issued for certain water pollution control projects; and (vi) upon placement in an escrow of the proceeds of refunding bonds, notes or other obligations or other funds of the municipality in an amount sufficient to provide for the payment when due of principal of and interest on such bond, note or other evidence of indebtedness.

STATEMENT OF STATUTORY DEBT LIMITATION

As of March 12, 2026

(Pro Forma)

Total tax collections (including interest and lien fees)(Thousands)	\$ 115,826,000
Coterminous Municipalities (1)	<u>1,942,000</u>
Base for Establishing Debt Limit (Thousands)	<u>\$ 117,768,000</u>

Debt Limitation	General Purpose	Schools	Sewers	Urban Renewal	Past Pension	Total Debt
(2.25 times base).....	\$264,978,000					
(4.50 times base).....		\$529,956,000				
(3.75 times base).....			\$441,630,000			
(3.25 times base).....				\$382,746,000		
(3.00 times base).....					\$353,304,000	
(7.00 times base).....						\$ 824,376,000
Indebtedness (Including the Notes)						
Bonds Payable.....	\$ 32,881,000	\$ 49,149,000	\$ 2,465,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 84,495,000
The Notes (This Issue).....	10,800,000	-	-	-	-	10,800,000
Authorized but Unissued Debt.....	22,863,710	17,686,610	1,110,000	-	-	41,660,320
Total Indebtedness.....	66,544,710	66,835,610	3,575,000	-	-	136,955,320
Less:						
School grants receivable (2).....	-	(2,128,780)	-	-	-	(2,128,780)
Total Net Indebtedness.....	66,544,710	64,706,830	3,575,000	-	-	134,826,540
Excess of Limit Over						
Outstanding and						
Authorized Debt.....	<u>\$198,433,290</u>	<u>\$465,249,170</u>	<u>\$438,055,000</u>	<u>\$382,746,000</u>	<u>\$353,304,000</u>	<u>\$ 689,549,460</u>

- (1) Other political subdivisions with power to cause taxes to be levied on taxable property in the Town are numerous tax districts and other associations (hereafter, "Districts"). There is no material outstanding indebtedness of these Districts as of March 12, 2026, of which the Town is aware. Under State Statutes the districts are required to file annual audits and to notify the Town when debt is issued. Information regarding the districts relies upon compliance with the filing requirements.
- (2) It is estimated that the Town will receive State of Connecticut School Construction grant progress payments in the amount of \$26,122,751 during the construction of the project. As of March 12, 2026, the Town has received \$23,993,971 in progress payments. (See "School Building Grants Reimbursements" herein).

Source: Town Officials

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AUTHORIZED BUT UNISSUED DEBT

Projects	Original Amount Authorized	Revised Amount Authorized	Prior Financings	Paydowns/ Grants	The Notes (This Issue)	Authorized But Unissued
Main Street Improvements.....	\$ 2,750,000	\$ 15,050,000	\$ 1,088,340	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,961,660 (1)
Linden Avenue Stabilization.....	1,220,000	1,220,000	275,000	-	-	945,000 (2)
Walsh Intermediate School Project.....	88,200,000	88,200,000	59,000,000	24,188,155 (3)	-	5,011,845 (3)
Sewer System Improvements (2019).....	3,975,000	3,975,000	1,865,000	1,000,000	-	1,110,000
East Industrial Road Reconstruction.....	1,750,000	1,750,000	1,495,000	-	-	255,000
Town Wide Drainage Improvements.....	500,000	500,000	452,327	-	-	47,673
Dan Cosgrove Animal Shelter.....	2,895,000	4,595,000	2,395,000	2,195,623	-	4,377
Supply Pond Bridge Project.....	2,250,000	2,250,000	-	-	-	2,250,000
Fleet Fueling Station Project.....	1,100,000	1,100,000	300,000	700,000	-	100,000
Police Headquarters Renovation Project.....	325,000	20,325,000	20,325,000	-	-	-
Branford High School Infrastructure Improvement Project.....	600,000	11,500,000	1,275,235	-	-	10,224,765
WIS Field Improvement Project.....	7,650,000	7,650,000	5,200,000	-	-	2,450,000
Fire Equipment.....	5,300,000	5,300,000	-	-	-	5,300,000
East Industrial Road Real Property Acquisition.....	10,800,000	10,800,000	-	-	10,800,000	-
Total.....	\$ 129,315,000	\$ 174,215,000	\$ 93,670,902	\$ 28,083,778	\$ 10,800,000	\$ 41,660,320

- (1) The Town estimates \$11,800,000 in State grants for this project.
- (2) The Town applied for a federal grant in February of 2025 and estimates the local share to be \$1,040,000. The Town will review the authorization pending the results of their application.
- (3) It is estimated that the Town will receive State of Connecticut School Construction grant progress payments in the amount of \$26,122,751 during the construction of the project. As of March 12, 2026, the Town has received \$23,993,971 in progress payments and \$194,184 in utility rebates. (See "School Building Grants Reimbursements" herein).

HISTORICAL DEBT STATEMENT

	2024-25 (1)	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
Population (2).....	28,090	28,090	28,090	28,090	28,090
Net taxable grand list.....	\$3,907,467,423	\$3,895,105,949	\$3,828,655,341	\$3,712,383,391	\$3,685,043,062
Estimated full value.....	\$5,582,096,319	\$5,564,437,070	\$5,469,507,630	\$5,303,404,844	\$5,264,347,231
Equalized net taxable grand list (3)...	\$8,906,622,967	\$8,120,712,118	\$7,415,736,412	\$6,406,841,214	\$5,266,404,324
Per capita income (2).....	\$ 67,699	\$ 67,699	\$ 67,699	\$ 67,699	\$ 67,699
Short-term debt.....	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Long-term debt.....	\$ 81,635,000	\$ 70,025,000	\$ 77,160,000	\$ 84,370,000	\$ 90,355,000
Total Direct Indebtedness.....	\$ 81,635,000	\$ 70,025,000	\$ 77,160,000	\$ 84,370,000	\$ 90,355,000
Net Direct Indebtedness.....	\$ 81,604,970	\$ 69,407,533	\$ 76,603,077	\$ 83,974,251	\$ 89,856,162

- (1) Unaudited estimates.
- (2) U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2019-2023.
- (3) Office of Policy and Management, State of Connecticut, Grand List Year.

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HISTORICAL DEBT RATIOS

	2024-25 (1)	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
Total Direct Indebtedness:					
Per capita.....	\$2,906.19	\$2,492.88	\$2,746.89	\$3,003.56	\$3,216.63
To net taxable grand list.....	2.09%	1.80%	2.02%	2.27%	2.45%
To estimated full value.....	1.46%	1.26%	1.41%	1.59%	1.72%
To equalized net taxable grand list.....	0.92%	0.86%	1.04%	1.32%	1.72%
Debt per capita to per capita income.....	4.29%	3.68%	4.06%	4.44%	4.75%
Net Direct Indebtedness:					
Per capita.....	\$2,905.13	\$2,470.90	\$2,727.06	\$2,989.47	\$3,198.87
To net taxable grand list.....	2.09%	1.78%	2.00%	2.26%	2.44%
To estimated full value.....	1.46%	1.25%	1.40%	1.58%	1.71%
To equalized net taxable grand list.....	0.92%	0.85%	1.03%	1.31%	1.71%
Debt per capita to per capita income.....	4.29%	3.65%	4.03%	4.42%	4.73%

(1) Unaudited estimates.

RATIO OF ANNUAL DEBT SERVICE EXPENDITURES TO TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES AND TRANSFERS OUT

Fiscal Year Ended 6/30	Annual Debt Service	Total General Fund Expenditures and Transfers out	Ratio of General Fund Debt Service to Total General Fund Expenditures and Transfers Out %
2026 (1)	\$ 9,080,106	\$ 141,198,673	6.43%
2025 (1)	8,637,765	142,982,705	6.04%
2024	8,989,847	134,956,189	6.66%
2023	9,348,433	131,654,286	7.10%
2022	9,585,377	127,590,673	7.51%
2021	7,690,465	124,143,543	6.19%
2020	9,233,555	121,451,269	7.60%
2019	8,174,355	116,653,430	7.01%
2018	8,086,493	120,134,117	6.73%
2017	8,039,014	114,357,603	7.03%

(1) Adopted budget for fiscal years 2025-26 and estimated actuals for fiscal year 2024-25.

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VII. LEGAL AND OTHER LITIGATION

LITIGATION

The Town of Branford, its officers, employees, boards and commissions are defendants in various lawsuits. Following consultation with attorneys advising the Town and other officials, Town officials are of the opinion that all pending litigation will not be finally determined so as to result individually or in the aggregate in a final judgment against the Town which would materially adversely affect its financial position.

MUNICIPAL ADVISOR

The Town has retained Munistat Services, Inc. (the “Municipal Advisor”) to serve as its municipal advisor in connection with the issuance of the Notes. The Municipal Advisor has not independently verified any of the information contained in this Official Statement and makes no guarantee as to its completeness or accuracy.

DOCUMENTS ACCOMPANYING DELIVERY OF THE NOTES

Upon delivery of the Notes, the winning bidder(s) will be furnished with the following:

1. A Signature and No Litigation Certificate stating that at the time of delivery no litigation is pending or threatened affecting the validity of the Notes or the levy or collection of taxes to pay them;
2. A certificate on behalf of the Town signed by the First Selectman, Town Treasurer, and the Finance Director, which will be dated the date of delivery, which will certify to the best of said officials' knowledge and belief, that at the time the bids were accepted on the Notes, the descriptions and statements in the Official Statement relating to the Town and its finances were true and correct in all material respects and did not contain any untrue statements of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statement therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, and that there has been no material adverse change in the financial condition of the Town from that set forth in or contemplated by the Official Statement;
3. A Receipt for the purchase price of the Notes;
4. The approving opinion of Pullman & Comley, LLC, of Hartford, Connecticut substantially in the form attached to this Official Statement as Appendix B;
5. An executed Continuing Disclosure Agreement for the Notes in substantially the form attached to this Official Statement as Appendix C; and
6. Within seven business days of the bid opening, the Town will furnish the winning bidder(s) of the Notes a reasonable number of copies of the Official Statement, as prepared by the Town.

A record of the proceedings taken by the Town in authorizing Notes will be kept on file at the principal office of U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, CityPlace I, 185 Asylum St., 27th Floor, Hartford, Connecticut, and will be available for examination upon reasonable request.

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CONCLUDING STATEMENT

Additional information may be obtained upon request from the Office of the Finance Director at (203) 315-0663 or from the Municipal Advisor at (203) 421-2087.

Any statements in this Official Statement involving matters of opinion or estimates, whether or not expressly so stated, are intended as such and not as representations of fact. No representation is made that any of such statements will be realized. This Official Statement is not to be constructed as a contract or agreement between the Town and the purchasers or holders of any of the Notes.

This Official Statement is submitted only in connection with the sale of the Notes by the Town and may not be reproduced or used in whole or part for any other purpose.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT

BY: _____
Joshua Brooks
First Selectman

BY: _____
Kurt M. Schwanfelder
Town Treasurer

BY: _____
James P. Finch, Jr.
Finance Director

Dated: February __, 2026

APPENDIX A - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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JUNE 30, 2024

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Appendix A - Financial Statements - is taken from the Annual Financial Report of the Town of Branford for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2024 as presented by the Auditors and does not include all of the schedules or management letter made in such report. A copy of the complete report is available upon request to the Finance Director, Town of Branford, Connecticut.



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Board of Finance
Town of Branford, Connecticut

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Branford, Connecticut, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town of Branford, Connecticut's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Branford, Connecticut, as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position, and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Town of Branford, Connecticut and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Town of Branford, Connecticut's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and, therefore, is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Town of Branford, Connecticut's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Town of Branford, Connecticut's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, the budgetary comparison information and the pension and OPEB schedules, as listed in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with GAAS, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Branford, Connecticut's basic financial statements. The combining and individual fund financial statements and schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. In our opinion, the accompanying combining and individual fund financial statements and schedules are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

We also previously audited, in accordance with GAAS, the basic financial statements of the Town of Branford, Connecticut as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023 (not presented herein), and have issued our report thereon dated August 12, 2024, which contained unmodified opinions on the respective financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information. The General Fund Balance Sheet for the year ended June 30, 2023, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and related directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the 2023 basic financial statements. The information was subjected to the audit procedures applied in the audit of the 2023 basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare those financial statements or to those financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. In our opinion, the General Fund Balance Sheet is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole for the year ended June 30, 2023.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 31, 2025, on our consideration of the Town of Branford, Connecticut's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of Branford, Connecticut's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Town of Branford, Connecticut's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

West Hartford, Connecticut
July 31, 2025

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (UNAUDITED)
JUNE 30, 2024**

This discussion and analysis of Branford's (the Town) financial performance is provided by management to provide an overview of the Town's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. Please read this MD&A in conjunction with the Town's financial statements, Exhibits I to IX. All amounts in this MD&A are expressed in thousands unless otherwise noted.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Net position of our governmental activities increased by \$20,017.
- During the year, the Town had expenses that were \$20,017 less than the \$165,026 generated in tax and other revenues for governmental programs.
- Total cost of all the Town's programs was \$145,009. The General Fund reported a fund balance this year of \$68,187.
- The resources available for appropriation were \$9,390 more than budgeted for the General Fund. Expenditures were \$5,635 less than budgeted.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The statement of net position and the statement of activities (Exhibits I and II, respectively) provide information about the activities of the Town as a whole and present a longer-term view of the Town's finances. Fund financial statements are presented in Exhibits III to IX. For governmental activities, these statements tell how these services were financed in the short term, as well as what remains for future spending. Fund financial statements also report the Town's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements by providing information about the Town's most significant funds. The remaining statements provide financial information about activities for which the Town acts solely as a trustee or agent for the benefit of those outside of the government.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The analysis of the Town begins on Exhibits I and II. The statement of net position and the statement of activities report information about the Town as a whole and about its activities for the current period. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private sector companies. All the current year's revenues and expenses are considered regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the Town's net position and changes in them. The Town's net position, the difference between assets and liabilities, are one way to measure the Town's financial health or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the Town's net position are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. The reader needs to consider other non-financial factors, however, such as changes in the Town's property tax base and the condition of the Town's capital assets, to assess the overall health of the Town.

In the statement of net position and the statement of activities, the Town reports its activities:

Governmental Activities

The Town's basic services are reported here, including education, public safety, public works and highway, parks, recreation and libraries, health and human services, pension and insurance, and general administration. Property taxes, charges for services, interest income and state and federal grants finance most of these activities.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (UNAUDITED)
JUNE 30, 2024**

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements begin with Exhibit III and provide detailed information about the most significant funds – not the Town as a whole. Some funds are required to be established by Charter. However, the Town establishes many other funds to help control and manage financial activities for purposes (like the Sewer Assessment Fund) or to show that it is meeting legal responsibilities for using grants and other money (like grants received from the State of Connecticut). The Town's funds are divided into three categories: governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary.

Governmental Funds (Exhibits III and IV)

Most of the Town's basic services are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted into cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the Town's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the Town's programs. The relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the statement of net position and the statement of activities) and governmental funds is described in a reconciliation at the bottom of the fund financial statements.

Proprietary Funds (Exhibits V, VI, and VII)

When the Town charges customers for the services it provides, whether to outside customers or to other units of the Town, these services are generally reported in proprietary funds. Proprietary funds are reported in the same way that all activities are reported in the statement of net position and the statement of activities. Internal service funds (a component of proprietary funds) are used to report activities that provide supplies and services for the Town's other programs and activities – such as the Town's Workers' Compensation Fund, Heart and Hypertension Fund, and Medical Fund.

Fiduciary Funds (Exhibits VIII and IX)

The Town is the trustee, or fiduciary, for its employees' pension plan. It is also responsible for other assets that, because of a trust arrangement, can be used only for trust beneficiaries. All the Town's fiduciary activities are reported in separate statements of fiduciary net position and changes in fiduciary net position. These activities are excluded from the Town's other financial statements because the Town cannot use these assets to finance its operations. The Town is responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used for their intended purposes.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (UNAUDITED)
JUNE 30, 2024**

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

The Town's combined net position increased from a year ago, increasing from \$219,074 to \$239,091. The analysis below focuses on the net position (Table 1) and changes in net position (Table 2) of the Town's governmental activities.

**TABLE 1
NET POSITION**

	Governmental Activities	
	2024	2023
Assets:		
Current Assets	\$ 176,852	\$ 174,840
Capital Assets, Net of Accumulated Depreciation	209,579	210,885
Total Assets	386,431	385,725
Deferred Outflows of Resources	22,189	23,887
Liabilities:		
Long-Term Debt Outstanding	15,826	19,119
Other Liabilities	134,253	143,396
Total Liabilities	150,079	162,515
Deferred Inflows of Resources	19,450	28,023
Net Position:		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	146,103	137,717
Restricted	43,826	46,049
Unrestricted	49,162	35,308
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 239,091</u>	<u>\$ 219,074</u>

The Town experienced an increase in net position of its governmental activities of 9.1% as compared to the prior year. Unrestricted net position – the part of net position that can be used to finance day to day operations without constraints established by debt covenants, enabling legislation, or other legal requirements – changed from \$35,308 on June 30, 2023, to \$49,327 at the end of this year.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (UNAUDITED)
JUNE 30, 2024**

**TABLE 2
CHANGE IN NET POSITION**

	Governmental Activities	
	2024	2023
Revenues:		
Program Revenues:		
Charges for Services	\$ 12,917	\$ 13,216
Operating Grants and Contributions	22,146	25,298
Capital Grants and Contributions	123	206
General Revenues:		
Property Taxes	117,947	113,032
Grants and Contributions Not Restricted to Specific Programs	1,546	1,338
Unrestricted Investment Earnings	6,940	4,456
Other General Revenues	3,407	3,274
Total Revenues	165,026	160,820
Program Expenses:		
General Government	8,810	9,843
Public Safety	25,179	26,321
Public Works and Highway	17,619	16,003
Parks, Recreation and Libraries	5,442	5,127
Health and Human Services	3,674	3,292
Education	83,201	85,921
Interest Debt Service	1,084	1,205
Total Program Expenses	145,009	147,712
Increase in Net Position	\$ 20,017	\$ 13,108

The Town's total revenues were \$165,026 while the cost of all programs and services totaled \$145,009. An analysis, which follows, considers the operations of governmental activities.

Governmental Activities

The largest single component of governmental activity is the General Fund. Total revenues were \$9,390 higher than budgeted. Of this amount, \$2,750 resulted from strong current and moderate delinquent property tax collections from prior levies that include interest and penalties. The taxes on the current levy exceeded the budget by \$2,749. The town's conservative estimate on state assistance programs resulted in a positive balance for intergovernmental revenue of \$1,679. In addition, revenues from licenses, permits and fees exceeded the budget by \$929 primarily due to transfer station receipts, building permits, and ambulance revenues. Other income exceeded the budget by \$879 primarily due to cannabis receipts, proceeds from a settlement agreement and payments in lieu of taxes from the regional water authority. Finally, initial projections for a meaningful reduction in interest rates did not materialize, resulting in interest income exceeding the budget by \$3,153 million.

Expenditures were \$5,635 less than anticipated. Specific functional areas that realized large unexpended balances include education, police and public works. Finally, unsettled union contracts, vacancies in various departments resulted in savings across various functional areas while reducing pension and Social Security requirements.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (UNAUDITED)
JUNE 30, 2024**

Table 3 presents the cost of each of the Town's five largest programs – police, fire, public works, education, and parks and recreation – as well as each program's net cost (total cost less revenues generated by the activities). The net cost shows the financial burden that was placed on the Town's taxpayers by each of these functions.

**TABLE 3
GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES**

	Total Cost of Services		Net Cost of Services	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
General Government	\$ 8,810	\$ 9,843	\$ 4,551	\$ 5,877
Public Safety	25,179	26,321	21,860	23,002
Public Works and Highway	17,619	16,003	11,067	9,420
Parks, Recreation and Libraries	5,442	5,127	4,777	4,592
Health and Human Services	3,674	3,292	2,958	2,288
Education	83,201	85,921	63,525	62,609
Interest and Debt Service	1,084	1,205	1,084	1,205
Total	<u>\$ 145,009</u>	<u>\$ 147,712</u>	<u>\$ 109,822</u>	<u>\$ 108,993</u>

TOWN FUNDS FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

Governmental Funds

As the Town completed the year, its governmental funds (as presented in the balance sheet – Exhibit III) reported a combined fund balance of \$110,088, which is an increase from last year's total of \$95,078. This increase of approximately 15.8% reflects reductions in liabilities associated with bonds payable).

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The Town's General Fund expenditures plus encumbrances totaled \$125,403. Unexpended appropriations in general government, public safety, public works, debt service on new issues, pension and insurance coupled with smaller unexpended balances from other areas produced a favorable variance of \$5,635. Revenues were \$9,390 higher, due to relatively strong tax collections, favorable nontax revenue experience, conservative estimates, and higher than anticipated special education grant revenue and interest income.

The Town's General Fund balance of \$68,187 reported on Exhibit IV is comprised of four categories: Nonspendable, Committed, Assigned, and Unassigned. Please refer to Exhibit A-1 for the complete breakdown.

CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets

On June 30, 2024, the Town had \$209,579 invested in a broad range of capital assets, including land, buildings, park facilities, vehicles and equipment – Table 4. This amount represents a net decrease (including additions and deductions) of \$1,306 or (0.6%), less than last year. This decrease primarily reflects depreciation and minor asset dispositions.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (UNAUDITED)
JUNE 30, 2024**

**TABLE 4
CAPITAL ASSETS AT YEAR-END (Net of Depreciation)**

	Governmental Activities	
	2024	2023
Land	\$ 17,431	\$ 17,431
Intangible Assets	597	597
Land Improvements	5,613	5,581
Buildings	143,765	147,990
Machinery and Equipment	10,783	10,021
Right to Use Equipment	602	568
Construction in Progress	4,310	2,196
Infrastructure	26,478	26,501
Total	\$ 209,579	\$ 210,885

The Town has implemented the provisions of the GASB Statement No. 34, which require the reporting of infrastructure assets acquired prior to July 1, 2002.

Currently, the Town is leasing space for the public works operation while upgrades to the police headquarters, sewer system and athletic fields are ongoing. The town continues to contemplate a fire station at the eastern end of town and improvements to the green and town center should commence in FY 2026. The Board of Education is planning to launch a study of school facilities to assess the needs and maintenance requirements of the district. More detailed information about the Town's capital assets is presented in Note 1 and Note 5 to the financial statements.

Long-Term Debt

On June 30, 2024, the Town had \$70,025 in bonds and notes outstanding versus \$77,160 last year – a decrease of \$7,135 or approximately 9.3 %. The Town anticipates an increase in bonded debt in FY 24-25 as the amount of debt issued for the previously mentioned capital needs will exceed the cumulative debt retirements.

The Town's rating from Standard & Poor's remains at AAA. The State limits the amount of general obligation debt that cities can issue based on a formula determined under State Statutes based on type of debt and tax base. The Town's outstanding general obligation debt is significantly below this state imposed limit.

Other obligations include net pension liability, risk management claims, capital leases, accrued vacation pay, and sick leave (compensated absences). More detailed information about the Town's long-term liabilities is presented in Note 7 to the financial statements.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (UNAUDITED)
JUNE 30, 2024**

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND RATES

As in past years, town officials remained committed to their fundamental budget guidelines as a basis for many of the budgetary decisions: maintain the current level of existing services while refraining from adding new programs; fund current and future liabilities; preserve the undesignated fund balance continue to invest in new vehicles and equipment to ensure continued service delivery; preserve the Town's investment in its properties and buildings; and to continue to fund many capital items on a pay-as-you-go basis so as to limit the amount of outstanding debt. The town increased funding for the fire department by adding 16 new EMT's while at the same time remaining cognizant that FY 2026 would present significant challenges due to the planned property revaluation. The addition of these positions is part of the department's plan to address increases in service demands while also experiencing a decrease in the number of volunteers.

As a result of these efforts and adherence to the above guidelines, the Town adopted a General Fund budget of \$135,311,096 for 2024-2025, which represents an increase of 3.6% as compared to the 2023-2024 amended budget. Increased property taxes of \$2,867,233 coupled with an increase in appropriations from fund balance of \$405,000 combined with non-tax revenue will fund the increase.

CONTACTING THE TOWN'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide citizens, taxpayers, customers, investors, and creditors with a general overview of the Town's finances and to show the Town's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Finance Department, Town of Branford, P.O. Box 150, and 1019 Main Street, Branford, Connecticut 06405, or visit Branford's website at www.Branford-ct.gov.

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2024

	Governmental Activities
ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 144,307,256
Investments	4,543,069
Receivables, Net	12,089,344
Inventory	32,752
Prepaid Items	1,468,438
Net OPEB Asset	14,411,096
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated	22,337,281
Capital Assets Being Depreciated/Amortized, Net	187,241,698
Total Assets	<u>386,430,934</u>
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Deferred Outflows - Pensions	18,773,291
Deferred Outflows - OPEB	2,997,994
Deferred Charge on Refunding	417,393
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>22,188,678</u>
LIABILITIES	
Accounts and Other Payables	11,377,134
Unearned Revenue	4,370,325
Other	78,701
Noncurrent Liabilities:	
Due Within One Year	6,900,684
Due in More Than One Year	127,352,389
Total Liabilities	<u>150,079,233</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Deferred Inflows - Pensions	2,703,439
Deferred Inflows - OPEB	9,992,514
Lessor Receivable	72,176
Advance Property Tax Collections	6,681,550
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>19,449,679</u>
NET POSITION	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	146,102,833
Restricted:	
Capital Projects	27,227,452
Education Purposes	1,010,012
Housing Loans	215,694
Sewer Assessments	617,467
OPEB Assets	14,411,096
Expendable	243,634
Nonexpendable	100,730
Unrestricted	49,161,782
Total Net Position	<u><u>\$ 239,090,700</u></u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues			Net Revenue (Expense) and Changes in Net Position
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES					
General Government	\$ 8,810,271	\$ 1,311,584	\$ 2,947,920	\$ -	\$ (4,550,767)
Public Safety	25,178,591	3,108,375	210,383	-	(21,859,833)
Public Works and Highway	17,618,765	5,073,236	1,478,070	-	(11,067,459)
Parks, Recreation, and Libraries	5,442,033	623,868	41,010	-	(4,777,155)
Health and Human Services	3,673,613	684,057	31,935	-	(2,957,621)
Education	83,201,177	2,116,152	17,436,696	122,968	(63,525,361)
Interest Expense	1,083,661	-	-	-	(1,083,661)
Total	<u>\$ 145,008,111</u>	<u>\$ 12,917,272</u>	<u>\$ 22,146,014</u>	<u>\$ 122,968</u>	(109,821,857)
GENERAL REVENUES					
Property Taxes					117,946,611
Grants and Contributions Not Restricted to Specific Programs					1,545,394
Unrestricted Investment Earnings					6,939,561
Miscellaneous					3,407,327
Total General Revenues					<u>129,838,893</u>
CHANGE IN NET POSITION					20,017,036
Net Position - Beginning of Year					<u>219,073,664</u>
NET POSITION - END OF YEAR					<u>\$ 239,090,700</u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2024**

	General	Capital Projects	ARPA Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS					
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 91,026,244	\$ 8,101,122	\$ 4,382,321	\$ 21,229,787	\$ 124,739,474
Investments	1,236,387	2,573,335	-	733,347	4,543,069
Receivables, Net	5,119,469	5,341,681	-	1,588,596	12,049,746
Due from Other Funds	-	9,480,442	-	3,383,560	12,864,002
Inventories	-	-	-	32,752	32,752
Other Assets	1,368,438	-	-	-	1,368,438
Total Assets	<u>\$ 98,750,538</u>	<u>\$ 25,496,580</u>	<u>\$ 4,382,321</u>	<u>\$ 26,968,042</u>	<u>\$ 155,597,481</u>
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND FUND BALANCES					
LIABILITIES					
Accounts and Other Payables	\$ 8,079,083	\$ 691,759	\$ 971,088	\$ 1,029,144	\$ 10,771,074
Due to Other Funds	10,892,088	-	186,960	1,945,000	13,024,048
Unearned Revenue	705,249	-	3,224,273	440,803	4,370,325
Other	78,701	-	-	-	78,701
Total Liabilities	<u>19,755,121</u>	<u>691,759</u>	<u>4,382,321</u>	<u>3,414,947</u>	<u>28,244,148</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES					
Unavailable Revenue - Property Taxes	2,965,370	-	-	-	2,965,370
Unavailable Revenue - Interest on Property Taxes	1,161,860	-	-	-	1,161,860
Unavailable Revenue - Special Assessments	-	-	-	617,467	617,467
Unavailable Revenue - Grants Receivable	-	5,011,851	-	305,743	5,317,594
Unavailable Revenue - Fees Receivable	-	-	-	233,404	233,404
Unavailable Revenue - Lessor Receivable	-	72,176	-	-	72,176
Unavailable Revenue - Loans Receivable	-	-	-	215,694	215,694
Advance Property Tax Collections	6,681,550	-	-	-	6,681,550
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>10,808,780</u>	<u>5,084,027</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,372,308</u>	<u>17,265,115</u>
FUND BALANCES					
Nonspendable	1,368,438	-	-	133,482	1,501,920
Restricted	-	19,720,794	-	12,554,951	32,275,745
Committed	693,962	-	-	9,492,354	10,186,316
Assigned	4,272,028	-	-	-	4,272,028
Unassigned	61,852,209	-	-	-	61,852,209
Total Fund Balances	<u>68,186,637</u>	<u>19,720,794</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,180,787</u>	<u>110,088,218</u>
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances	<u>\$ 98,750,538</u>	<u>\$ 25,496,580</u>	<u>\$ 4,382,321</u>	<u>\$ 26,968,042</u>	<u>\$ 155,597,481</u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS (CONTINUED)
JUNE 30, 2024**

RECONCILIATION TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

Total Fund Balances - Governmental Funds (Exhibit III) \$ 110,088,218

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position (Exhibit I) are different because of the following:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds:

Governmental Capital Assets	371,814,383
Less: Accumulated Depreciation/Amortization	(162,235,404)
Net Capital Assets	209,578,979

Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and, therefore, are not recorded in the funds:

Property Tax Receivables Greater Than 60 Days	2,965,370
Interest Receivable on Property Taxes	1,161,860
Assessments Receivable	617,467
Housing Loans Receivable	215,694
Grants Receivable	5,317,594
Fees Receivable	233,404
Deferred Outflows - Pensions	18,773,291
Deferred Outflows - OPEB	2,997,994

Internal service funds are used by management to charge the costs of risk management to individual funds. The assets and liabilities of the internal service funds are reported with governmental activities in the statement of net position.

15,895,123

Long-term liabilities, including bonds payable, are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds:

Net Pension Liability	(52,851,926)
Net OPEB Asset	14,411,096
Deferred Inflows - Pensions	(2,703,439)
Deferred Inflows - OPEB	(9,992,514)
Bonds and Notes Payable	(70,025,000)
Interest Payable on Bonds and Notes	(497,186)
Compensated Absences	(4,205,831)
Lease Liability	(573,112)
Bond Premium	(1,990,275)
Deferred Charge on Refunding	417,393
Landfill	(743,500)

Net Position of Governmental Activities as Reported on the Statement of Net Position (Exhibit I)

\$ 239,090,700

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	General	Capital Projects	ARPA Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES					
Property Taxes	\$ 118,259,540	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 118,259,540
Assessments and Interest	-	-	-	4,241,224	4,241,224
Intergovernmental	14,836,944	122,968	2,739,202	10,133,654	27,832,768
Charges for Services	5,036,389	-	-	3,600,701	8,637,090
Income on Investments	4,715,043	673,966	-	792,351	6,181,360
Miscellaneous	2,431,130	307,411	-	668,786	3,407,327
Total Revenues	145,279,046	1,104,345	2,739,202	19,436,716	168,559,309
EXPENDITURES					
Current:					
General Government	6,056,523	-	680,278	41,423	6,778,224
Public Safety	15,318,713	-	-	1,087,378	16,406,091
Public Works and Highway	7,610,109	-	-	3,719,592	11,329,701
Parks, Recreation, and Libraries	3,333,952	54,717	-	694,893	4,083,562
Health and Human Services	718,736	-	-	2,446,140	3,164,876
Education	71,642,334	-	-	9,200,758	80,843,092
Pension and Insurance	14,185,272	-	-	-	14,185,272
Capital Outlay	461,801	5,599,134	2,058,924	110,815	8,230,674
Debt Service	8,989,847	-	-	-	8,989,847
Total Expenditures	128,317,287	5,653,851	2,739,202	17,300,999	154,011,339
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	16,961,759	(4,549,506)	-	2,135,717	14,547,970
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					
Transfers In	791,370	4,906,157	-	2,157,745	7,855,272
Transfers Out	(6,638,902)	(335)	-	(1,216,035)	(7,855,272)
Lease Issuances	461,801	-	-	-	461,801
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(5,385,731)	4,905,822	-	941,710	461,801
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES	11,576,028	356,316	-	3,077,427	15,009,771
Fund Balances - Beginning of Year	56,610,609	19,364,478	-	19,103,360	95,078,447
FUND BALANCES - END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 68,186,637</u>	<u>\$ 19,720,794</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 22,180,787</u>	<u>\$ 110,088,218</u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS (CONTINUED)
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

RECONCILIATION TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Net Change in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds (Exhibit IV) \$ 15,009,771

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities (Exhibit II) are different because:

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. In the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense:

Capital Outlay	6,424,382
Depreciation/Amortization Expense	(7,674,844)

The statement of activities reports losses arising from the trade-in of existing capital assets to acquire new capital assets. Conversely, governmental funds do not report any gain or loss on a trade-in of capital assets. (55,919)

Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds, and revenues recognized in the funds are not reported in the statement of activities:

Property Tax Receivable - Accrual Basis Change	(225,326)
Property Tax Interest and Lien Revenue - Accrual Basis Change	(87,603)
Sewer Assessment Receivable - Accrual Basis Change	60,544
Housing Loans Receivable	(76,350)
Grant Receivable - Accrual Basis Change	(3,052,716)
Fees Receivable - Accrual Basis Change	38,958
Change in Deferred Outflows - Pensions	(501,791)
Change in Deferred Outflows - OPEB	(1,143,376)

Change in pension and OPEB assets and liabilities:

Change in Net OPEB Asset	583,327
Change in Net Pension Liability	1,029,022

The issuance of long-term debt (e.g., bonds, leases) provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes the current financial resources of governmental funds. Neither transaction has any effect on net position. Also, governmental funds report the effect of premiums, discounts, and similar items when debt is first issued, whereas these amounts are amortized and deferred in the statement of activities. The details of these differences in the treatment of long-term debt and related items are as follows:

Bond and Note Principal Payments	7,135,000
Proceeds From Leases Issued	(461,801)
Lease Liability Payments	433,677

Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in the governmental funds:

Compensated Absences	(15,746)
Accrued Interest	99,701
Amortization of Deferred Charge on Refunding	(52,174)
Amortization of Bond Premiums	289,982
Change in Deferred Inflows - Pensions	(242,081)
Change in Deferred Inflows - OPEB	1,263,676
Landfill Post Closure Care	35,000

Internal service funds are used by management to charge costs to individual funds. The net revenue of certain activities of internal services funds is reported with governmental activities. 1,203,723

Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities as Reported on the Statement of Activities (Exhibit II)	\$ 20,017,036
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See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
PROPRIETARY FUND
JUNE 30, 2024**

	Governmental Activities
	<u>Internal Service Funds</u>
ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 19,567,782
Accounts Receivable	39,598
Prepaid Expenses	100,000
Due from Other Funds	<u>160,046</u>
Total Assets	19,867,426
LIABILITIES	
Accounts and Other Payables	108,874
Risk Management Claims	<u>3,863,429</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>3,972,303</u>
NET POSITION	
Unrestricted	<u><u>\$ 15,895,123</u></u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION
PROPRIETARY FUND
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	Governmental Activities <hr/> Internal Service Funds <hr/>
OPERATING REVENUES	
Contributions for Benefits	\$ 1,877,249
Total Contributions	<hr/> 1,877,249
OPERATING EXPENSES	
Benefit Claims	1,208,159
Claims Administration	223,568
Total Operating Expenses	<hr/> 1,431,727
OPERATING INCOME	445,522
NONOPERATING REVENUE	
Income on Investments	<hr/> 758,201
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	1,203,723
Net Position - Beginning of Year	<hr/> 14,691,400
NET POSITION - END OF YEAR	<hr/> <hr/> \$ 15,895,123

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
PROPRIETARY FUND
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

	Governmental Activities <u>Internal Service Funds</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Cash Received from Operating Funds	\$ 3,821,363
Cash Payments to Providers of Benefits and Administration	<u>(2,056,230)</u>
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	1,765,133
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	
Income on Investments	<u>758,201</u>
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	2,523,334
Cash and Cash Equivalents - Beginning of Year	<u>17,044,448</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - END OF YEAR	<u><u>\$ 19,567,782</u></u>
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Operating Income	\$ 445,522
Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Income to Net Cash Provided (Used) by Operating Activities:	
Changes in Assets and Liabilities:	
Increase in Receivables	1,944,114
Decrease in Accounts Payable	<u>(624,503)</u>
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	<u><u>\$ 1,765,133</u></u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2024

	Pension and Other Employee Benefit Trust Funds	Custodial Fund Shoreline Crimes Fund
ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 857,293	\$ 9,736
Investments	70,769,925	-
Total Assets	<u>71,627,218</u>	<u>9,736</u>
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	<u>6,527</u>	<u>-</u>
NET POSITION		
Held in Trust for Pension or Retiree Benefits	71,620,691	-
Held for the Shorelines Technical Crimes Group	<u>-</u>	<u>9,736</u>
Total Net Position	<u><u>\$ 71,620,691</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 9,736</u></u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	Pension and Other Employee Benefit Trust Funds	Custodial Fund Shoreline Crimes Fund
ADDITIONS:		
Contributions:		
Employer	\$ 2,129,625	\$ -
Plan Members	414,329	-
Intergovernmental Revenue	-	28,203
Total Contributions	<u>2,543,954</u>	<u>28,203</u>
Investment Income:		
Interest and Dividends	<u>5,077,480</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Additions	7,621,434	28,203
DEDUCTIONS:		
Benefits	3,795,647	-
Public Safety	-	20,715
Total Deductions	<u>3,795,647</u>	<u>20,715</u>
NET INCREASE IN NET POSITION	3,825,787	7,488
Net Position - Beginning of Year	<u>67,794,904</u>	<u>2,248</u>
NET POSITION - END OF YEAR	<u><u>\$ 71,620,691</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 9,736</u></u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the Town of Branford, Connecticut (the Town) have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applied to government units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant policies of the Town are described below.

A. Reporting Entity

The Town is incorporated under the provisions of the statutes of the state of Connecticut. The Town operates under a Representative Town Meeting/Board of Selectmen form of Government and provides the following services as authorized by its Charter: Administrative, Public Safety, Public Works, Health and Welfare, Recreation, Libraries, Education, and Public Improvements.

Fiduciary Component Units

The Pension and Other Postemployment (OPEB) plans were established to provide retirement benefits and postretirement health care benefits primarily to employees and their beneficiaries. Included in the Pension and OPEB Trust fund are two pension plans and one OPEB plan.

The financial statements of the fiduciary component units are presented using the accrual basis of accounting and are reported as Pension and OPEB Trust Funds in the fiduciary fund financial statements. Separate financial statements have not been prepared for the Fiduciary component units.

B. Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the Town. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use or directly benefit from goods, services or privileges provided by a given function or segment, and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

B. Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements (Continued)

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements. Major individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, as are the proprietary fund and fiduciary fund financial statements. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the Town considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due.

Property taxes, charges for services, licenses, and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal period. Only the portion of special assessments receivable due within the current fiscal period is considered to be susceptible to accrual as revenue of the current period. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received.

The Town reports the following major governmental funds:

General Fund

The General Fund is the Town's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the Town, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation (Continued)

Capital Projects Fund

The Capital Projects Fund is used to account for the financial resources for the acquisition and construction of major capital facilities. The major sources of revenue for this fund are capital grants and the issuance of general obligation bonds.

ARPA Fund

The ARPA Fund is used to account for the ARPA grant and related activity. The Town of Branford received \$8,257,021 in funding through the American Rescue Plan Act. The town is designated as a Non-Entitlement Unit (NEU) since Branford's population is under 50,000. Funding for NEU's is distributed through the State of Connecticut's Office of Policy and Management.

The U.S. Treasury has released a series of guidelines which identify five major expenditure categories of uses. 1) Public Health, 2) Negative Economic Impacts, 3) Investments in Water and Sewer, 4) Investments in Broadband, and 5) Revenue Loss.

The town has elected the standard allowance for revenue loss up to the full allocation. The revenue loss allowance can be used to fund what is broadly defined in the regulations as "government services." These services closely align with found in the town's operating budget. The Town has established a separate fund to account for these dollars with an intent to allocate funds in a manner that mirrors the Town's budget process.

Additionally, the Town reports the following fund types:

Internal Service Fund

The Internal Service Fund accounts for the self-insured activities of the Town.

Pension and Other Employee Benefit Trust Funds

The Pension and Other Employee Benefit Trust Funds account for the activities of the Branford Retirement System, which accumulates resources for pension benefit payments to qualified Town employees and accounts for the retiree health benefits provided by the Town, which accumulates resources for retiree health insurance payments to qualified retirees.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation (Continued)

Custodial Fund

The Custodial Fund accounts for money held on behalf of the Shoreline Crimes Group.

As a general rule, the effect of interfund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements. Exceptions to this general rule are payments in lieu of taxes and other charges between certain Town's functions because the elimination of these charges would distort the direct costs and program revenues reported for the various functions concerned.

Amounts reported as program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants for goods, services, or privileges provided, 2) operating grants and contributions, and 3) capital grants and contributions, including special assessments. Internally dedicated resources are reported as general revenues rather than as program revenues. Likewise, general revenues include property taxes.

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues of the Town's internal service funds are charges to customers for benefits. Operating expenses for the internal service fund include the cost of sales and services, administrative expenses, and depreciation on capital assets. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the Town's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed. Unrestricted resources are used in the following order: committed, assigned, then unassigned.

D. Deposits and Investments

The Town's cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

State Statutes authorize the Town to invest in obligations of the U.S. Treasury, commercial paper, corporate bonds, repurchase agreements, and certain other investments as described in Note 3.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

D. Deposits and Investments (Continued)

Investments for the Town are reported at fair value, excluding Certificates of Deposit which are reported at amortized cost.

E. Receivables and Payables

Activity between funds that are representative of lending/borrowing arrangements outstanding at the end of the fiscal year are referred to as either "due to/from other funds" (i.e., the current portion of interfund loans) or "advances to/from other funds" (i.e., the noncurrent portion of interfund loans). All other outstanding balances between funds are reported as "due to/from other funds." Any residual balances outstanding between the governmental activities and business-type activities are reported in the government-wide financial statements as "internal balances." All trade and property tax receivables are shown net of an allowance for uncollectibles. Allowances for uncollectibles are computed based on historical data.

Property taxes are assessed as of October 1 and billed the following July. Property taxes are payable in two installments on July 1 and January 1. Automobile levies and amounts under \$100 are due in one installment. Motor vehicle supplemental bills are payable on January 1. Payments not received within one month after the due date become delinquent, with interest charged at the rate of 1-1/2% per month. Assessments for real and personal property, excluding motor vehicles, are computed at 70% of the market value. Unpaid balances at June 30 are lienied.

F. Inventories and Prepaid Items

All inventories are valued at cost using the first-in/first-out (FIFO) method. Inventories of governmental funds are recorded as expenditures when consumed rather than when purchased.

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both government-wide and fund financial statements.

G. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant, equipment, and infrastructure assets (e.g., roads, bridges, sidewalks, and similar items), are reported in the applicable governmental columns in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$5,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of one year. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated acquisition value at the date of donation.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

G. Capital Assets (Continued)

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized.

Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed. Interest incurred during the construction phase of capital assets is not included as part of the capitalized value of the assets constructed.

Property, plant, and equipment is depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Buildings	45 Years
Land Improvements	20 Years
Infrastructure	20 to 60 Years
Vehicles	6 to 12 Years
Office Equipment	7 to 10 Years
Computer Equipment	5 to 7 Years

H. Leases

Lessee

The Town is a lessee for noncancellable leases of equipment. The Town recognizes a lease liability and an intangible right-to-use lease asset (lease asset) in the applicable governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements.

At the commencement of a lease, the Town initially measures the lease liability at the present value of payments expected to be made during the lease term. Subsequently, the lease liability is reduced by the principal portion of lease payments made. The lease asset is initially measured as the initial amount of the lease liability, adjusted for lease payments made at or before the lease commencement date, plus certain initial direct costs. Subsequently, the lease asset is amortized on a straight-line basis over the shorter of the lease term or useful life.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

H. Leases (Continued)

Lessee (Continued)

Key estimates and judgments related to leases include how the Town determines (1) the discount rate it uses to discount the expected lease payments to present value, (2) lease term, and (3) lease payments.

- The Town uses the interest rate charged by the lessor as the discount rate. When the interest rate charged by the lessor is not provided, the Town generally uses its estimated incremental borrowing rate as the discount rate for leases.
- The lease term includes the noncancellable period of the lease.
- Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability are composed of fixed payments and the purchase option price that the Town is reasonably certain to exercise.

The Town monitors changes in circumstances that would require a remeasurement of its lease and will remeasure the lease asset and liability if certain changes occur that are expected to significantly affect the amount of the lease liability.

Lease assets are reported with other capital assets and lease liabilities are reported with long-term debt on the statement of net position.

I. Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statement of net position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net position or fund balance that applies to a future period or periods and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. The Town reports a deferred charge on refunding and deferred outflows related to pension and OPEB in the government-wide statement of net position. A deferred charge on refunding results from the difference in the carrying value of refunded debt and its reacquisition price. This amount is deferred and amortized over the shorter of the life of the refunded or refunding debt. A deferred outflow of resources related to pension and OPEB results from contributions subsequent to the plan measurement date, differences between actual and projected investment earnings and changes in assumptions or other inputs. These amounts are deferred and included in pension and OPEB expense in a systematic and rational manner over a period equal to the average of the expected remaining service lives of all employees that are provided with benefits through the pension and OPEB plans (active employees and inactive employees), excluding deferred amounts related to the difference between expected and actual investment returns, which is amortized over five years.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

I. Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources (Continued)

In addition to liabilities, the statement of net position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net position or fund balance that applies to a future period or periods and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The Town reports advance property tax collections in the government-wide statement of net position and in the governmental funds balance sheet, and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions and OPEB in the government wide statement of net position. A deferred inflow of resources related to pension and OPEB results from differences between expected and actual experience differences between actual and projected investment earnings or other inputs. These amounts are deferred and included in pension and OPEB expense in a systematic and rational manner over a period equal to the average of the expected remaining service lives of all employees that are provided with benefits through the pension plan (active employees and inactive employees), excluding deferred amounts related to the difference between expected and actual investment returns, which is amortized over five years. Advance property tax collections represent taxes inherently associated with a future period. This amount is recognized during the period in which the revenue is associated. Also, for governmental funds, the Town reports unavailable revenue, which arises only under the modified accrual basis of accounting. The governmental funds report unavailable revenues from several sources: property taxes, interest on property taxes, special assessments, loans receivable, school construction grants receivable, and advanced tax collections. These amounts are deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) in the period in which the amounts become available.

J. Compensated Absences

Unused sick leave may be accumulated for certain employees up to a limit ranging from 50 to 225 days, depending upon the contracts in force, for each department in the Town until termination, retirement, or death, at which time payments will be made. The liability is reported in the government-wide statement of net position. Payments at termination are charged to the fund through which the employees payroll charges were expensed.

K. Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities statement of net position. Bond premiums and discounts are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the effective interest method. Bonds payable are reported net of any significant applicable bond premium or discount. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenses.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

K. Long-Term Obligations (Continued)

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums and discounts, as well as bond issuance costs, during the current period. The face amount of debt issued is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures.

L. Net OPEB Liability (Asset)

The net OPEB liability (asset) is measured as the portion of the present value of projected benefit payments to be provided to current active and inactive employees that is attributed to those employees past periods of service (total OPEB liability), less the amount of the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position. The OPEB plan's fiduciary net position is determined using the same valuation methods that are used by the OPEB plan for purposes of preparing its statement of fiduciary net position. The net OPEB liability (asset) is measured as of a date (measurement date) no earlier than the end of the employer's prior fiscal year, consistently applied from period to period.

M. Net Pension Liability

The net pension liability is measured as the portion of the actuarial present value of projected benefits that is attributed to past periods of employee service (total pension liability), net of the pension plan's fiduciary net position. The pension plan's fiduciary net position is determined using the same valuation methods that are used by the pension plan for purposes of preparing its statement of fiduciary net position. The net pension liability is measured as of a date (measurement date) no earlier than the end of the employer's prior fiscal year, consistently applied from period to period.

N. Net Position

Net position is comprised of three components: net investment in capital assets, restricted, and unrestricted.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

N. Net Position (Continued)

Net Investment in Capital Assets – This component of net position consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of bonds, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of these assets net of unexpended proceeds. Deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets or related debt are included in this component of net position.

Restricted Net Position – These amounts are restricted to specific purposes when constraints placed on the use of resources are either: (a) externally imposed by creditors (such as debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (b) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislations.

Unrestricted Net Position – This category represents the net position of the Town, which are not restricted for any project or other purpose. A deficit will require future funding.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the Town's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

O. Fund Balance

The classifications of fund balances are described as follows:

Nonspendable Fund Balance – These amounts cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, or because they are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

Restricted Fund Balance – These amounts are restricted to specific purposes when constraints placed on the use of resources by external parties, such as debt covenants, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments.

Committed Fund Balance – This represents amounts constrained for a specific purpose by a government using its highest level of decision-making authority. (Board of Finance).

Assigned Fund Balance – This represents amounts constrained for the intent to be used for a specific purpose by the First Selectman.

Unassigned Fund Balance – This represents fund balance in the General fund in excess of nonspendable, restricted, committed, and assigned fund balance. If another government fund has a fund balance deficit, it is reported as a negative amount in unassigned fund balance.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

N. Fund Balance (Continued)

When an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available, the Town considers restricted funds to have been spent first. When an expenditure is incurred for which committed, assigned, or unassigned fund balances are available, the Town considers amounts to have been spent first out of committed funds, then assigned funds, and finally unassigned funds.

P. Accounting Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues, expenses and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 2 STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Budgetary Information

A budget for the General Fund and certain Special Revenue Funds are authorized annually by the Town. The Board of Finance recommends, and the Representative Town Meeting (RTM) approves the budget.

The Town adheres to the following procedures in establishing the budgetary data reported in the financial statements for the General Fund and specific Special Revenue Funds (Sewer Assessment, Water Assessment, Open Space Fund, Board of Education Program Fund, and Day Care). As required by Town Charter, the Board of Finance holds a public hearing to review and discuss the proposed annual Town budget no later than two weeks before the Annual Budget Meeting of the RTM. The Board of Finance then recommends and submits a formal annual appropriations budget to the RTM. The RTM must take action on the adoption of the appropriations recommended by the Board of Finance at the Annual Budget Meeting, which must be held no later than the Friday following the second Tuesday of May. Thereafter, but no later than June 1, the Board of Finance shall determine the rate of taxation for the ensuing fiscal year.

The legal level of control (the level at which expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations) is at the line-item level for all budgeted funds. The Board of Finance, upon the request of individual departments, offices, or agencies, may approve and must recommend all transfers to the RTM. No recommended transfer by the Board of Finance shall be effective unless approved by the RTM. During the year ended June 30, 2024, the Town approved additional appropriations of \$722,735 from fund balance.

All unencumbered appropriations lapse at year-end, except for those in the Capital Projects Fund. Appropriations for these funds are continued until completion of the applicable projects, which often last more than one fiscal year.

Encumbrance accounting is employed in governmental funds. Encumbrances (e.g., purchase orders, contracts) outstanding at year-end are reported as restricted, committed, or assigned fund balance and do not constitute expenditures or liabilities because the commitments will be reappropriated and honored during the subsequent year.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 3 CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS, AND INVESTMENTS

The deposit of public funds is controlled by the Connecticut General Statutes (Section 7-402). Deposits may be made in a “qualified public depository” as defined by Statute or, in amounts not exceeding the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation insurance limit, in an “out of state bank” as defined by the Statutes, which is not a “qualified public depository.”

The Connecticut General Statutes (Section 7-400) permit municipalities to invest in: 1) obligations of the United States and its agencies, 2) highly rated obligations of any state of the United States or of any political subdivision, authority, or agency thereof, and 3) shares or other interests in custodial arrangements or pools maintaining constant net asset values and in highly rated no-load open end money market and mutual funds (with constant or fluctuating net asset values) whose portfolios are limited to obligations of the United States and its agencies, and repurchase agreements fully collateralized by such obligations. Other provisions of the Statutes cover specific municipal funds with particular investment authority. The provisions of the Statutes regarding the investment of municipal pension funds do not specify permitted investments. Therefore, investment of such funds is generally controlled by the laws applicable to fiduciaries and the provisions of the applicable plan.

The Statutes (Sections 3-24f and 3-27f) also provide for investment in shares of the State Short-Term Investment Fund (STIF) and the State Tax Exempt Proceeds Fund (TEPF). These investment pools are under the control of the State Treasurer, with oversight provided by the Treasurer’s Cash Management Advisory Board, and are regulated under the State Statutes and subject to annual audit by the Auditors of Public Accounts. Investment yields are accounted for on an amortized-cost basis with an investment portfolio that is designed to attain a market-average rate of return throughout budgetary and economic cycles. Investors accrue interest daily based on actual earnings, less expenses and transfers to the designated surplus reserve, and the fair value of the position in the pool is the same as the value of the pool shares.

A. Deposits

Deposit Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of a bank failure, the Town’s deposit will not be returned. The Town does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk. The deposit of public funds is controlled by the Connecticut General Statutes. Deposits may be placed with any qualified public depository that has its main place of business in the state of Connecticut. Connecticut General Statutes require that each depository maintain segregated collateral (not required to be based on a security agreement between the depository and the municipality and, therefore, not perfected in accordance with federal law) in an amount equal to a defined percentage of its public deposits based upon the depository’s risk-based capital ratio.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 3 CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS, AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

A. Deposits (Continued)

Deposit Custodial Credit Risk (Continued)

Based on the criteria described in GASB Statement No. 40, *Deposits and Investment Risk Disclosures*, \$41,055,252 of the Town's bank balance of \$54,188,188 was exposed to custodial credit risk as follows:

Uninsured and Uncollateralized	\$ 18,186,471
Uninsured and Collateral Held by the Pledging Bank's Trust Department, Not in the Town's Name, and Amounts Held by the Third-Party Bank in the Town's Name	<u>22,868,781</u>
Total Amount Subject to Custodial Credit Risk	<u><u>\$ 41,055,252</u></u>

B. Cash Equivalents

At June 30, 2024, the Town's cash equivalents amounted to \$93,144,114. The following table provides a summary of the Town's cash equivalents (excluding U.S. government guaranteed obligations) as rated by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. The pools all have maturities of less than one year.

	<u>Standard & Poor's AAAm</u>
State Short-Term Investment Fund (STIF)	

C. Investments

As of June 30, 2024, the Town had the following investments:

Investment Type	Credit Rating	Fair Value	Investment Maturities (Years)		
			Less Than 1	1-10	Greater Than 10
Interest-Bearing Investments:					
U.S. Government Securities	N/A	\$ 16,698,728	\$ 327,159	\$ 1,368,393	\$ 15,003,176
U.S. Government Agencies	AAA	2,812,128	188,189	430,180	2,193,759
Municipal Bonds	A-AAA	2,542,067	-	-	2,542,067
Certificates of Deposit*	N/A	1,628,188	1,628,188	-	-
Corporate Bonds	BBB+-AAA	15,170,369	246,887	2,553,519	12,369,963
Subtotal		<u>38,851,480</u>	<u>\$ 2,390,423</u>	<u>\$ 4,352,092</u>	<u>\$ 32,108,965</u>
Police Pension Fund and Volunteer Firemen Pension: Open Ended Mutual Funds and Exchange Traded Funds	N/A	<u>36,461,514</u>			
Total		<u><u>\$ 75,312,994</u></u>			

*Subject to coverage by Federal Depository Insurance and collateralization.

N/A: Not applicable

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 3 CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS, AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

C. Investments (Continued)

The Town categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements); followed by quoted prices in inactive markets or for similar assets or with observable inputs (Level 2 measurements); and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The Town has the following recurring fair value measurements as of June 30, 2024:

	June 30, 2024	Fair Value Measurements Using		
		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Investments by Fair Value Level:				
U.S. Government Securities	\$ 16,698,728	\$ -	\$ 16,698,728	\$ -
U.S. Government Agencies	2,812,128	-	2,812,128	-
Corporate Bonds	15,170,369	-	15,170,369	-
Municipal Bonds	2,542,067	-	2,542,067	-
Mutual Funds	36,461,514	36,378,687	82,827	-
Total Investments by Fair Value Level	73,684,806	<u>\$ 36,378,687</u>	<u>\$ 37,306,119</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Investment Measured at Amortized Cost:				
Certificates of Deposit	1,628,188			
Total Investments	<u>\$ 75,312,994</u>			

Debt and equity securities classified in Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy are valued using prices quoted in active markets for those securities. Debt securities classified in Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy are valued using a matrix pricing technique. Matrix pricing is used to value securities based on the securities' relationship to benchmark quoted prices. Commercial and residential mortgage-backed securities classified in Level 3 are valued using discounted cash flow techniques. Collateralized debt obligations classified in Level 3 are valued using consensus pricing.

Interest Rate Risk

The Town does not have a formal investment policy over pension investments that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates. The Town's policy over nonpension investments limits the dollar-weighted average portfolio maturity to one year, and it limits individual maturities to five years.

Credit Risk – Investments

As indicated above, State Statutes limit the investment options of cities and towns. The Town has no investment policy that would further limit its investment choices.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 3 CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS, AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

C. Investments (Continued)

Concentration of Credit Risk

The Town's investment policy does not allow for an investment in any one private corporation debt issuer that is in excess of 5% of the Town's total investments.

Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk for an investment is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty (the institution that pledges collateral or repurchase agreement securities to the Town or that sells investments to or buys them for the Town), the Town will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The Town does not have a policy for custodial credit risk. At June 30, 2024, the Town had no uninsured and unregistered securities held by the counterparty, or by its trust department or agent that were not in the Town's name.

NOTE 4 RECEIVABLES

Receivables as of year-end for the Town's individual major funds and nonmajor, internal service and fiduciary funds in the aggregate, including the applicable allowances for uncollectible accounts, are as follows:

	General	Capital Projects	Nonmajor and Other Funds	Total
Receivables:				
Interest	\$ 1,161,856	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,161,856
Taxes	3,081,251	-	-	3,081,251
Accounts	1,475,638	-	346,535	1,822,173
Special Assessments	-	-	95,426	95,426
Intergovernmental	147,981	5,260,935	1,186,233	6,595,149
Lessor	-	80,746	-	80,746
Gross Receivables	5,866,726	5,341,681	1,628,194	12,836,601
Less: Allowance for Uncollectibles	(747,257)	-	-	(747,257)
Total Receivables, Net	<u>\$ 5,119,469</u>	<u>\$ 5,341,681</u>	<u>\$ 1,628,194</u>	<u>\$ 12,089,344</u>

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 5 CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2024 was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Transfers	Decreases	Ending Balance
Governmental Activities:					
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated:					
Land	\$ 17,430,964	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,430,964
Intangible Assets	596,800	-	-	-	596,800
Construction in Progress	2,195,525	2,691,907	(577,915)	-	4,309,517
Total Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated	20,223,289	2,691,907	(577,915)	-	22,337,281
Capital Assets Being Depreciated:					
Buildings and Improvements	204,762,717	77,524	-	(10,300)	204,829,941
Improvements Other Than Buildings	8,298,556	362,718	79,919	(66,540)	8,674,653
Machinery and Equipment	34,337,392	1,782,103	497,996	(194,002)	36,423,489
Infrastructure	96,743,358	1,048,329	-	(28,979)	97,762,708
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated	344,142,023	3,270,674	577,915	(299,821)	347,690,791
Less Accumulated Depreciation for:					
Buildings and Improvements	56,772,148	4,302,333	-	(10,300)	61,064,181
Improvements Other Than Buildings	2,717,142	392,949	-	(48,055)	3,062,036
Machinery and Equipment	24,316,778	1,483,551	-	(160,484)	25,639,845
Infrastructure	70,242,381	1,067,495	-	(25,063)	71,284,813
Total Accumulated Depreciation	154,048,449	7,246,328	-	(243,902)	161,050,875
Right-To-Use Lease Assets:					
Equipment	1,324,510	461,801	-	-	1,786,311
Less Accumulated Amortization:					
Equipment	756,013	428,516	-	-	1,184,529
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated/Amortized, Net	190,662,071	(3,942,369)	577,915	(55,919)	187,241,698
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	<u>\$ 210,885,360</u>	<u>\$ (1,250,462)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (55,919)</u>	<u>\$ 209,578,979</u>

Depreciation and amortization expense was charged to functions/programs of the primary government as follows:

Governmental Activities:	
General Government	\$ 180,939
Public Safety	1,063,538
Public Works	2,286,821
Parks, Recreation, and Libraries	340,325
Health and Welfare	205,282
Education	3,597,939
Total Depreciation and Amortization Expense - Governmental Activities	<u>\$ 7,674,844</u>

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 5 CAPITAL ASSETS (CONTINUED)

Active Capital Projects

The Town has active projects as of June 30, 2024. The projects include the following:

Project	Appropriation	Cumulative Expenditures	Encumbrances	Available Balance
Tabor Drive Acquisition	\$ 13,875,000	\$ 13,844,478	\$ -	\$ 30,522
Land Acquisition Fund	1,560,276	1,375,902	-	184,374
Pump Station Upgrades	2,500,000	2,496,380	-	3,620
Harbor Street Culvert Repairs	2,200,000	1,939,913	-	260,087
Community Center Improvements	12,115,000	12,101,257	728	13,015
Walsh Intermediate School Renovations	88,200,000	81,434,058	13,218	6,752,724
Linden Avenue Shoreline Stabilization	1,200,000	118,606	9,982	1,071,412
Animal Shelter Renovations	4,595,000	4,537,911	12,911	44,178
Energy Performance Contract	6,200,000	6,166,738	-	33,262
Indian Neck Firehouse Renovations	1,675,000	1,675,000	-	-
James Blackstone Memorial Library Renovations	5,745,000	5,689,400	490	55,110
Forcemain & Sewer Rehabilitation Projects	3,975,000	2,073,769	131,264	1,769,967
Main Street Reconstruction	8,300,000	643,000	5,000	7,652,000
Town Wide Drainage Improvements	500,000	57,066	12,529	430,405
Stony Creek Wharf Reconstruction	350,000	333,666	-	16,334
East Industrial Road Reconstruction	1,750,000	-	-	1,750,000
Police Department Headquarters Renovation	20,325,000	407,697	284,000	19,633,303
Fire Headquarters - Fleet Fueling Station	1,100,000	521,245	371,063	207,692

NOTE 6 INTERFUND RECEIVABLES, PAYABLES, AND TRANSFERS

Individual fund, interfund receivable, and payable balances at June 30, 2024 are as follows:

Interfund Receivable	Interfund Payable	Amount
Capital Projects Fund	General Fund	\$ 7,535,442
Capital Projects Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	1,945,000
Internal Service Fund	General Fund	160,046
Nonmajor Governmental Funds	General Fund	186,960
Nonmajor Governmental Funds	ARPA Fund	3,196,600
Total		<u>\$ 13,024,048</u>

All interfund receivables and payables are the result of regularly recurring transactions and represent temporary balances.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 6 INTERFUND RECEIVABLES, PAYABLES, AND TRANSFERS (CONTINUED)

Interfund Transfers:

	Transfers In			
	General Fund	Capital Projects	Nonmajor Governmental	Total Transfers Out
Transfers Out:				
General Fund	\$ -	\$ 4,481,157	\$ 2,157,745	\$ 6,638,902
Capital Projects	335	-	-	335
Nonmajor Governmental	791,035	425,000	-	1,216,035
Total Transfers In	<u>\$ 791,370</u>	<u>\$ 4,906,157</u>	<u>\$ 2,157,745</u>	<u>\$ 7,855,272</u>

All transfers represent routine transactions that occur annually to move resources from one fund to another.

NOTE 7 LONG-TERM DEBT

Changes in Long-Term Liabilities

Long-term liability activity for the year ended June 30, 2024 was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance	Due Within One Year
Bonds Payable:					
General Obligation Bonds	\$ 77,160,000	\$ -	\$ 7,135,000	\$ 70,025,000	\$ 6,390,000
Bond Premiums	2,280,257	-	289,982	1,990,275	-
Total Bonds and Notes Payable	79,440,257	-	7,424,982	72,015,275	6,390,000
Landfill Closure	778,500	-	35,000	743,500	35,000
Net Pension Liability	53,880,948	-	1,029,022	52,851,926	-
Lease Liability	544,988	461,801	433,677	573,112	337,944
Compensated Absences	4,190,085	73,079	57,333	4,205,831	137,740
Risk Management Claims	4,561,603	-	698,174	3,863,429	-
Total Governmental Activities Long-Term Liabilities	<u>\$ 143,396,381</u>	<u>\$ 534,880</u>	<u>\$ 9,678,188</u>	<u>\$ 134,253,073</u>	<u>\$ 6,900,684</u>

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 7 LONG-TERM DEBT (CONTINUED)

Changes in Long-Term Liabilities (Continued)

A schedule of bonds and notes outstanding at June 30, 2024 is presented below:

	Balance July 1, 2023	Issued	Retired	Balance June 30, 2024
General Obligation:				
School, 2.0-5.0%, Mature in 2032	\$ 5,320,000	\$ -	\$ 610,000	\$ 4,710,000
School, 0.5-2.0%, Mature in 2032	9,672,000	-	1,001,000	8,671,000
School, 2.0-4.0%, Mature in 2038	670,000	-	670,000	-
School, 1.0-5.0%, Mature in 2038	2,925,000	-	150,000	2,775,000
School, 2.0-5.0%, Mature in 2039	37,415,000	-	1,585,000	35,830,000
Public Improvement, 2.0-4.0%, Mature in 2032	3,130,000	-	330,000	2,800,000
Public Improvement Sewer, 0.5-2.0%, Mature in 2032	4,338,000	-	449,000	3,889,000
Public Improvement Sewer, 2.0-4.0%, Mature in 2038	280,000	-	280,000	-
Public Improvement Sewer, 1.0-5.0%, Mature in 2038	2,360,000	-	120,000	2,240,000
Public Improvement Sewer, 2.0-5.0%, Mature in 2039	5,735,000	-	265,000	5,470,000
Special Assessment:				
Sewer, 2.0-4.0%, Mature in 2032	600,000	-	60,000	540,000
Sewer, 1.0-5.0%, Mature in 2038	1,180,000	-	120,000	1,060,000
Sewer, 5.0%, Mature in 2025	3,535,000	-	1,495,000	2,040,000
Total Bonds	<u>\$ 77,160,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 7,135,000</u>	<u>\$ 70,025,000</u>

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 7 LONG-TERM DEBT (CONTINUED)

General Obligation Refunding Bonds

The following is a summary of debt maturities for repayment of bonds:

<u>Fiscal Year Ending June 30,</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2025	\$ 6,390,000	\$ 1,572,765	\$ 7,962,765
2026	5,640,000	1,400,355	7,040,355
2027	5,640,000	1,294,538	6,934,538
2028	5,930,000	1,172,788	7,102,788
2029	5,970,000	1,042,775	7,012,775
2030-2034	24,595,000	3,303,756	27,898,756
2035-2039	14,360,000	998,350	15,358,350
2040	1,500,000	19,688	1,519,688
Total	<u>\$ 70,025,000</u>	<u>\$ 10,805,014</u>	<u>\$ 80,830,014</u>

General Obligation Bonds and Notes

All bonds and notes are classified as general obligations of the Town.

The Town's indebtedness does not exceed the legal debt limitations as required by the Connecticut General Statutes as reflected in the following schedule:

<u>Category</u>	<u>(In Thousands)</u>		
	<u>Debt Limit</u>	<u>Indebtedness</u>	<u>Balance</u>
General Purpose	\$ 264,978	\$ 25,330	\$ 239,648
Schools	529,956	59,669	470,287
Sewers	441,630	4,750	436,880
Urban Renewal	382,746	-	382,746
Pension Deficit	353,304	-	353,304
Total	<u>\$ 1,972,614</u>	<u>\$ 89,749</u>	<u>\$ 1,882,865</u>

The total overall statutory debt limit for the Town is equal to seven times annual receipts from taxation, or \$824,376.

NOTE 8 RISK MANAGEMENT

The Town is exposed to various risks of loss related including torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The Town generally obtains commercial insurance for these risks but, as of July 1, 2000, has chosen to retain the risks for workers' compensation, heart and hypertension, and medical claims. In FY 2022-23, the Town started transitioning away from self-insurance for medical claims while retaining the risk for dental costs. The Town's claims for risks covered by insurance have not exceeded covered losses during the past three years.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 8 RISK MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

The Workers' Compensation Internal Service Fund is utilized to report the self-insurance activity. Workers Compensated Trust Services administers the plan, for which the Town pays a fee. The Town's general government and the Board of Education contribute based on estimates using historical data. The Town covers all claims up to \$750,000 per employee per year with a stop-loss policy covering amounts exceeding the limit.

The claims liability of \$2,935,670 reported in the Internal Service Fund at June 30, 2024 is based on GASB Statement No. 10, which requires that a liability for estimated claims incurred but not reported be recorded. Changes in the claim's liability were as follows for the last two years:

	Liability July 1,	Current Year Claims and Changes in Estimates	Claim Payments	Liability June 30,
2022 - 2023	\$ 2,763,136	\$ 1,085,703	\$ 738,102	\$ 3,110,737
2023 - 2024	3,110,737	1,081,769	1,256,836	2,935,670

The Heart and Hypertension Fund was established to account for the self-insured activities of the Town related to heart and hypertension claims. The claims liability of \$927,759 at June 30, 2024 is based on GASB Statement No. 10, which requires that a liability for estimated claims incurred but not reported be recorded. Changes in the claim's liability are as follows:

	Liability July 1,	Current Year Claims and Changes in Estimates	Claim Payments	Liability June 30,
2022 - 2023	\$ 1,068,518	\$ -	\$ 49,952	\$ 1,018,566
2023 - 2024	1,018,566	-	90,807	927,759

The Town created the Medical Self-Insurance Fund at the end of 2006. The fund will be used to pay claims for medical, prescription drug costs, and dental benefits. The claims liability of \$-0- at June 30, 2024 is based on GASB Statement No. 10, which requires that a liability for estimated claims incurred but not reported be recorded. Changes in the claim's liability are as follows:

	Liability July 1,	Current Year Claims and Changes in Estimates	Claim Payments	Liability June 30,
2022 - 2023	\$ 1,160,000	\$ 8,854,589	\$ 9,582,289	\$ 432,300
2023 - 2024	432,300	126,390	558,690	-

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 9 BULKY WASTE LANDFILL

The Town Landfill at the intersection of Tabor Drive and Marshall Road stopped accepting bulky waste from the Branford Transfer Station on June 29, 2012. State and federal laws and regulations require the Town of Branford to properly close and continually monitor the landfill, and each year the Town appropriates funds for these activities. Capping of the final acre of the landfill was started in FY 2012. Final cover has been applied to the total area of the landfill. In August 2015, DEEP accepted the Closure Certification Report and postclosure passive recreational use of the landfill.

The Town maintains a special fund for the closure of the landfill. The fund has a balance of \$242 after deducting the closure contract retainage of \$8,584. Associated engineering work including, but not limited to, the landfill gas investigation, permit compliance, construction assistance, and closure certification report has been completed. The Town is required to monitor and maintain the landfill for 30 years after closure. The estimated annual cost for this post-closure activity is \$35,000. These costs will be funded through the General Fund on an annual basis. Regulatory changes, improvements to storm water quality, landfill gas mitigation, and any other additional requirements to comply with DEEP regulations may require additional appropriations throughout the life of the landfill.

A 77-acre parcel located north of the active landfill was purchased by the Town through eminent domain in 2004. It overlays a portion of, and may be impacted by, the leachate plume originating from the landfill. Since control of the plume and of any off-site gas migration is required, environmental investigations and mitigation have begun on this property. The funds for the project on this adjoining acreage are provided by bond proceeds which are separately addressed, but not totaled in past or future closure costs below. Environmental investigations on this large parcel are not confined to the area presumed to be impacted by the landfill, so only costs directly attributable to mitigation of landfill impacts have been mentioned in past notes. Routine quarterly testing of wells on this parcel are included in the postclosure monitoring costs.

Summary of Estimated Total Cost of Remaining Closure and Postclosure Care

Final Cover, Demolition and Grading Cost	\$ 8,500
Postclosure Care Costs (21 Years):	
Inspection and Maintenance of Final Cover (\$8,000 Annually)	168,000
Monitoring Program, Groundwater, Methane, and Stormwater (\$27,000 Annually)	567,000
Total	<u><u>\$ 743,500</u></u>

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 10 JOINT VENTURES

Bristol Resource Recovery Facility Operating Committee

The Town is a participant with 13 other cities and towns in a joint venture, the Bristol Resource Recovery Facility Operating Committee (BRRFOC). BRRFOC was created pursuant to an Inter-Community Agreement to exercise certain rights on behalf of contracting municipalities in dealing with the waste-to-energy plant built by Ogden Martin Systems of Bristol, Inc. (now Covanta Bristol, Inc.). The governing board consists of Town officials appointed by each of the participating municipalities and assumes all the management decisions. The Town has an obligation to appropriate funds in amounts necessary to fulfill its obligations created pursuant to the Intercommunity Agreement dated as of August 15, 1985. These obligations deal with guarantees to meet certain tonnage requirements. General Fund balance for fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, as reflected in BRRFOC's financial statements, is \$0.88 million. A complete set of financial statements for BRRFOC can be obtained from the administrative office at 43 Enterprise Drive, Bristol, Connecticut.

Under the Service Agreement, the service fee is an obligation of the Contracting Municipalities to which each has pledged its full faith and credit. Should any Contracting Municipality default in its obligation to pay the service fee, the other Contracting Municipalities shall have an obligation to continue to pay the aggregate service fee. If BRRFOC does not perform its obligations under the service agreement, and Ogden Corporation (now Covanta Bristol, Inc.) fails to perform such obligations pursuant to its guarantee, the Contracting Municipalities have certain rights to terminate the service agreement and, upon termination, would no longer be obligated to pay the service fee.

By special legislation enacted in 2001, Special Act No. 01-10, An Act to Permit the Bristol Resource Recovery Facility Operating Committee to Finance Projects and Refund Previously Issued Bonds, BRRFOC is permitted to finance projects including additions, renovations, or improvements to the Facility, recycling facility and similar activities required to provide solid waste and recycling services to the Contracting Municipalities. The total amount of bonds issued by BRRFOC and outstanding at any time cannot exceed \$100,000,000.

NOTE 11 EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AND PENSION PLANS

Pension Trust Funds

A. Plan Description

The Town is the administrator of two single-employer Public Employee Retirement System (PERS) established and administered by the Town to provide pension benefits for its police officers and to volunteer firefighters. The PERS are considered to be part of the Town's financial reporting entity and are included in the Town's financial reports as Pension Trust Funds.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AND PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Pension Trust Funds (Continued)

B. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

Financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting for the two defined benefit pension plans. Employee and employer contributions are recognized as revenues in the period in which employee services are performed. Benefits and refunds are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the plans.

C. Method Used to Value Investments

Investments are reported at fair value. Investment income is recognized as earned.

D. Benefit Provisions

Police Employees Retirement Plan

The Town provides police retirement benefits through a single employer, contributory, defined benefit plan. Under the plan all sworn officers of the police department are eligible. Participants are 100% vested after five years of service. All police officers contribute 8.5% of payroll earnings excluding private duty assignments. There are two benefit tiers based on date of hire.

Tier 1 includes all Participants hired prior to August 2011. The benefit is calculated at 2.5% of the highest average salary for each year of service with a maximum benefit of 70% of the final average salary.

Tier 2 includes Participants hired after August 2011. Additionally, Participants hired after July 2005 who made a one-time election to move from Tier 1 to Tier 2 are also included. For Participants in Tier 2, the benefit is calculated at 2% for each year of service. Participants in this tier can retire at age 55 with 10 years of service.

If an employee leaves covered employment before five years of service, accumulated employee contributions and related investment earnings are refunded. Benefits and contributions are governed by the pension agreement which is a collectively bargained contract approved by the Representative Town Meeting. The current agreement will expire in 2031.

Volunteer Fire Department Pension Plan

The Town operates a Length of Service Awards Program for volunteer firefighters from date of membership to retirement date. Firefighters who were members prior to 1991 with at least 10 years of service receive credit for 5 years of service. Members are required to fulfill a variety of requirements drills, calls, classes, etc. to receive a year of credited service. Members receive a life annuity on the first day of the month coinciding with or next following the member's 65th birthday provided the member has a minimum of 10 years of service. The maximum monthly payout is \$350 per month.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AND PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Pension Trust Funds (Continued)

D. Benefit Provisions (Continued)

Volunteer Fire Department Pension Plan Continued)

Funding for the plan is based on the Entry Age Normal Cost Method. The unfunded liability is amortized over 30 years beginning in January 1999 and had 10 years remaining as of January 2019.

At July 1, 2023 and January 1, 2023, for the Police employee's retirement plan and the volunteer fire department pension plan (date of latest valuations), plan membership consisted of the following, respectively:

	<u>Police Employees Retirement Plan</u>	<u>Volunteer Fire Department Pension Plan</u>
Retirees, Disabled, and Beneficiaries Currently Receiving Benefits	57	16
Terminated Employees Entitled to Benefits But Not Yet Receiving Them	4	-
Active Plan Members	<u>50</u>	<u>228</u>
Total Participants	<u><u>111</u></u>	<u><u>244</u></u>

E. Investments

The Board of Finance revised the investment policy in 2013. The goals of the investment policy are to create a framework for a well-diversified asset mix that can be expected to generate long-term returns consistent with the Board's risk tolerance. The asset allocation decisions are derived from an asset liability analysis, which matches six years of projected payouts with fixed income securities.

The balance of the portfolio is allocated among equities, real estate, and commodities. The following chart reflects the target allocations as outlined in the policy:

Police Employees Retirement Plan:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>
U.S. Large Cap Equity	14.50 %
U.S. Mid/Small Cap Equity	8.00
Non-U.S. Developed Large Cap Equity	10.00
Emerging Markets Equity	6.00
U.S. Real Estate - REITs	3.00
MLP's	3.50
U.S. Aggregate Fixed Income	44.50
U.S. High Yield Fixed Income	7.50
Cash	<u>3.00</u>
Total	<u><u>100.00 %</u></u>

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AND PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Pension Trust Funds (Continued)

E. Investments (Continued)

Volunteer Fire Department Pension Plan:

Asset Class	Target Allocation
U.S. Large Cap	14.50 %
U.S. Mid/Small Cap	11.00
Developed International Equity	12.50
Emerging Market Equity	8.50
Core Fixed Income	35.00
High Yield Bonds	7.50
Money Market, Short Term Bonds	2.50
Real Estate (Core)	3.25
MLPs	5.25
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>

Rate of Return

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the annual money-weighted rate of return on pension plan investments, net of pension plan investment expense, were 8.54% and 10.25% for the Police employee's retirement plan and the volunteer fire department pension plan, respectively. The money-weighted rate of return expresses investment performance, net of investment expense, adjusted for the changing amounts actually invested.

F. Deferred Retirement Option Program

The police employee's retirement plan includes a Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP). As of June 30, 2024, seven officers have elected the DROP and the DROP balance was \$960,117.

G. Net Pension Liability of the Town

The components of the net pension liability of the Town at June 30, 2024, were as follows:

	Police Employees Retirement Plan	Volunteer Fire Department Pension Plan
Total Pension Liability	\$ 42,658,400	\$ 1,789,763
Plan Fiduciary Net Position	29,603,939	1,722,891
Net Pension Liability	<u>\$ 13,054,461</u>	<u>\$ 66,872</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	69.40 %	96.26 %

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AND PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Pension Trust Funds (Continued)

G. Net Pension Liability of the Town (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions

Police Employees Retirement Plan

The total pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2023 rolled forward to the measurement date of June 30, 2024, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.40%
Salary Increases	Scaled from 8.40% down to 2.4% Based on Years of Service
Investment Rate of Return	6.5%, Net of Pension Plan Investment Expense, Including Inflation

Retirement rates were based on a scale from 20% with 25 years of service to 100% with 40 years of service. Post-retirement mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Tables for Public Safety employees, for nonannuitants and annuitants, projected to the valuation date with Scale MP-2021.

Volunteer Fire Department Pension Plan

The total pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of January 1, 2023, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.40%
Investment Rate of Return	6.5%, Net of Pension Plan Investment Expense, Including Inflation

Police Employees Retirement Plan pre-retirement mortality rates were based on the RPH-2014 Mortality Table adjusted to 2006 total dataset, headcount-weighted, projected to the measurement date with Scale MP-2018. Volunteer Fire Department Pension Plan pre-retirement mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 (B) Public Retirement Plans Headcount Weighted Mortality Tables for Safety employees, for nonannuitants and annuitants, projected to the valuation date with Scale MP-2021.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 11 EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AND PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Pension Trust Funds (Continued)

G. Net Pension Liability of the Town (Continued)

Long-Term Expected Rate of Return

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the pension plan's target asset allocation as of June 30, 2024 (see the discussion of the pension plan's investment policy) are summarized in the following tables:

Police Employees Retirement Plan:

Asset Class	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
U.S. Large Cap Equity	5.00 %
U.S. Mid/Small Cap Equity	5.30
Non-U.S. Developed Large Cap Equity	6.40
Emerging Markets Equity	7.70
U.S. Real Estate - REITs	4.90
MLP's	4.05
U.S. Aggregate Fixed Income	2.05
U.S. High Yield Fixed Income	4.05
Cash	0.05

Volunteer Fire Department Pension Plan:

Asset Class	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
U.S. Large Cap	5.00 %
U.S. Mid/Small Cap	5.30
Developed International Equity	6.40
Emerging Market Equity	7.70
Core Fixed Income	2.05
High Yield Bonds	4.05
Money Market, Short Term Bonds	0.05
Real Estate (Core)	4.90
MLPs	4.05

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 11 EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AND PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Pension Trust Funds (Continued)

G. Net Pension Liability of the Town (Continued)

Changes in the Net Pension Liability

	Police Employees Retirement Plan		
	Increase (Decrease)		
	Total Pension Liability	Plan Fiduciary Net Position	Net Pension Liability
	(a)	(b)	(a)-(b)
Balances - July 1, 2023	\$ 40,462,595	\$ 27,665,078	\$ 12,797,517
Changes for the Year:			
Service Cost	838,149	-	838,149
Interest on Total Pension Liability	2,601,759	-	2,601,759
Difference Between Expected and Actual Experience	1,344,033	-	1,344,033
Employer Contributions	-	1,719,980	(1,719,980)
Member Contributions	-	414,329	(414,329)
Net Investment Income (Loss)	-	2,392,688	(2,392,688)
Benefit Payments, Including Refund to Employee Contributions	(2,588,136)	(2,588,136)	-
Net Changes	2,195,805	1,938,861	256,944
Balances - June 30, 2024	<u>\$ 42,658,400</u>	<u>\$ 29,603,939</u>	<u>\$ 13,054,461</u>
	Volunteer Fire Department Pension Plan		
	Increase (Decrease)		
	Total Pension Liability	Plan Fiduciary Net Position	Net Pension Liability
	(a)	(b)	(a)-(b)
Balances - July 1, 2023	\$ 1,700,515	\$ 1,518,112	\$ 182,403
Changes for the Year:			
Service Cost	22,639	-	22,639
Interest on Total Pension Liability	110,598	-	110,598
Employer Contributions	-	87,000	(87,000)
Net Investment Income (Loss)	-	161,768	(161,768)
Benefit Payments, Including Refund to Employee Contributions	(43,989)	(43,989)	-
Net Changes	89,248	204,779	(115,531)
Balances - June 30, 2024	<u>\$ 1,789,763</u>	<u>\$ 1,722,891</u>	<u>\$ 66,872</u>

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AND PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Pension Trust Funds (Continued)

G. Net Pension Liability of the Town (Continued)

Sensitivity of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the net pension liability of the Town, for the Police Employee Retirement Plan calculated using the current discount rate, as well as what the Town's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current rate, and for the Volunteer Fire Department Pension Plan calculated using the discount rate, as well as what the Town's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (5.50%)	Current Discount Rate (6.50%)	1% Increase (7.50%)
Police Employees Retirement Plan	\$ 18,037,018	\$ 13,054,461	\$ 8,886,171
	1% Decrease (5.50%)	Current Discount Rate (6.50%)	1% Increase (7.50%)
Volunteer Fire Department Pension Plan	\$ 343,380	\$ 66,872	\$ (159,435)

H. Funding Status and Progress

Police officers are required to contribute 8.5% of base pay to the PERS. The Town is required to contribute the amounts necessary to finance the coverage for its employees as determined by its actuaries; the contribution rate for the current year was 6.0% of covered payroll.

The Town is required to contribute amounts to the Volunteer Fire Department pension trust fund necessary to finance the coverage of its members as determined by its actuaries.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 11 EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AND PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Pension Trust Funds (Continued)

I. Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

	Pension Trust Funds		
	Police Pension Trust Fund	Volunteer Fire Department Pension Trust Fund	Total Pension Trust Funds
ASSETS			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 362,627	\$ -	\$ 362,627
Investments	29,241,312	1,722,891	30,964,203
Total Assets	29,603,939	1,722,891	31,326,830
NET POSITION			
Held in Trust for Pension or Retiree Benefits	<u>\$ 29,603,939</u>	<u>\$ 1,722,891</u>	<u>\$ 31,326,830</u>

Changes in Pension Net Position

	Pension Trust Funds		
	Police Pension Trust Fund	Volunteer Fire Department Pension Trust Fund	Total Pension Trust Funds
ADDITIONS			
Contributions:			
Employer	\$ 1,719,980	\$ 87,000	\$ 1,806,980
Plan Members	414,329	-	414,329
Total Contributions	2,134,309	87,000	2,221,309
Net Investment Income	2,392,688	161,768	2,554,456
Total Additions	4,526,997	248,768	4,775,765
DEDUCTIONS			
Benefits	2,588,136	43,989	2,632,125
NET INCREASE IN NET POSITION	1,938,861	204,779	2,143,640
Net Position - Beginning of Year	27,665,078	1,518,112	29,183,190
NET POSITION - END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 29,603,939</u>	<u>\$ 1,722,891</u>	<u>\$ 31,326,830</u>

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 11 EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AND PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Pension Trust Funds (Continued)

J. Pension Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the Town recognized pension expense of \$2,160,335 for the Police plan and \$44,825 for the Volunteer Fire plan. At June 30, 2024, the Town reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension from the following sources:

	Police Employees Retirement Plan	
	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 1,096,382	\$ 214,548
Changes of Assumptions	856,463	19,931
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Earning on Pension Plan Investments	701,866	-
Total	<u>\$ 2,654,711</u>	<u>\$ 234,479</u>

	Volunteer Fire Department Pension Plan	
	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ -	\$ 124,186
Changes of Assumptions	64,412	1,746
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Earning on Pension Plan Investments	14,618	-
Total	<u>\$ 79,030</u>	<u>\$ 125,932</u>

Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ending June 30,	Police Employees Retirement Plan	Volunteer Fire Department Pension Plan
2025	\$ 588,069	\$ (3,650)
2026	1,445,035	37,400
2027	160,470	(20,163)
2028	127,100	(16,801)
2029	99,558	(4,458)
Thereafter	-	(39,230)
Total	<u>\$ 2,420,232</u>	<u>\$ (46,902)</u>

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AND PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Municipal Employees' Retirement System

A. Plan Description

All full-time employees participate in the Connecticut Municipal Employees' Retirement System (CMERS). CMERS is a cost-sharing multiple-employer public employee defined benefit retirement system established by the State of Connecticut and administered by the State Retirement Commission to provide pension benefits to employees of participating municipalities. Chapters 7-425 to 7-451 of the State of Connecticut General Statutes, which can be amended by legislative action, establishes CMERS benefits, member contribution rates and other plan provisions. CMERS is considered to be part of the State of Connecticut's financial reporting entity and is included in the State's financial reports as a pension trust fund. Those reports can be obtained at www.ct.gov.

B. Benefit Provisions

The plan provides retirement, disability, and death benefits and annual cost-of-living adjustments to plan members and their beneficiaries. Employees are eligible to retire at age 55 with 5 years of continuous active service, or 15 years of active noncontinuous aggregate service. In addition, compulsory retirement is at age 65 for police and fire members. Employees under the age of 55 are eligible to retire with 25 years of service.

Normal Retirement

For members not covered by social security, retirement benefits are calculated as 2% of the average of the three highest paid years of service times the years of service. For members covered by social security, retirement benefits are calculated as 1½% of the average of the three highest paid years of service not in excess of the year's breakpoint plus 2% of average of the three highest paid years of service in excess of the year's breakpoint, times years of service. The year's breakpoint is defined as \$10,700 increased by 6.0% each year after 1982, rounded to the nearest multiple of \$100. Maximum benefit is 100% of average final compensation and the minimum benefit is \$1,000 annually.

Early Retirement

Members must have 5 years of continuous or 15 years of active aggregate service. Benefits are calculated as a service retirement allowance on the basis of the average of the three highest paid years of service to the date of termination. Benefits are deferred to normal retirement age, or an actuarially reduced allowance may begin at the time of separation.

If any member covered by social security retires before age 62, the member's benefit until the member reaches age 62, or a social security disability award is received, is computed as if the member is not under social security.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AND PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Municipal Employees' Retirement System (Continued)

B. Benefit Provisions (Continued)

Disability Retirement – Service Connected

This applies to employees who are totally and permanently disabled, and such disability has arisen out of and in the course of employment with the municipality. Disability due to heart and hypertension in the case of fire and police, who began employment prior to July 1, 1996, is presumed to have been suffered in the line of duty. Benefits are calculated as a service retirement allowance based on compensation and service to the date of the disability with a minimum benefit (including workers' compensation benefits) of 50% of compensation at the time of disability.

Disability Retirement – Nonservice Connected

This applies to employees who have 10 years of service and are totally and permanently disabled. Benefits are calculated as a service retirement allowance based on compensation and service to the date of the disability.

Pre-Retirement Death Benefit

The plan offers a lump-sum return of contributions with interest or if vested and married, the surviving spouse will receive a lifetime benefit.

C. Contributions

Member

Contributions for members not covered by social security are 6% of compensation; for members covered by social security, 3.25% of compensation up to the social security taxable wage base plus 6% of compensation, if any, in excess of such base.

Employer

Participating employers make annual contributions consisting of a normal cost contribution, a contribution for the amortization of the net unfunded accrued liability, and a prior service amortization payment, which covers the liabilities of CMERS not met by member contributions. In addition, there is also an annual administrative fee per active and retired member. The Town's required contribution rate for the year ended June 30, 2024, was 23.28% of annual payroll. Contributions to the pension plan from the Town were \$4,313,779 for the year ended June 30, 2024.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AND PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Municipal Employees' Retirement System (Continued)

D. Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

At June 30, 2024, the Town reports a liability of \$39,730,593 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured at June 30, 2023 and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation at June 30, 2023. The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2023 valuation were based on results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2022. The Town's proportion of the net pension liability was based on a projection of the Town's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participants, actuarially determined. At June 30, 2024, the Town's proportion was 2.81%. The decrease in proportion from the prior year was 0.17%.

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the Town recognized pension expense of \$3,374,444. At June 30, 2024, the Town reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Town Contributions After the Measurement Date	\$ 4,313,779	\$ -
Change in Proportional Share	985,456	1,960,708
Change in Assumptions	3,974,018	-
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	3,669,354	382,320
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Earnings on Pension Plan Investments	3,096,943	-
Total	<u>\$ 16,039,550</u>	<u>\$ 2,343,028</u>

Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources related to Town contributions after the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the subsequent year. Amounts reported as deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

<u>Year Ending June 30,</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2025	\$ 2,441,223
2026	1,957,386
2027	4,364,476
2028	433,599
2029	186,059
Total	<u>\$ 9,382,743</u>

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AND PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Municipal Employees' Retirement System (Continued)

D. Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2023, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement period:

Inflation	2.50%
Salary Increase	3.50-9.50%, Including Inflation
Investment Rate of Return	7.00%, Net of Pension Plan Investment Expense, Including Inflation

Mortality rates were based on:

Pub-2010 Mortality Tables set-forward one year (except Active Employees) are projected generationally with scale MP-2021.

Long-Term Expected Rate of Return

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a statistical analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The target asset allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major class are summarized in the following table.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AND PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Municipal Employees' Retirement System (Continued)

D. Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions (Continued)

Long-Term Expected Rate of Return (Continued)

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Global Equity	37.0 %	6.8 %
Public Credit	2.0	2.9
Core Fixed Income	13.0	0.4
Liquidity Fund	1.0	(0.4)
Risk Mitigation	5.0	0.1
Private Equity	15.0	11.2
Private Credit	10.0	6.1
Real Estate	10.0	6.3
Infrastructure and Natural Resources	7.0	7.7
Total	100.0 %	

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that plan member contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that employer contributions will be made at the actuarially determined contribution rates in the future years. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the Town's proportionate share of the net pension liability, calculated using the current discount rate, as well as what the Town's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
Town's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 55,706,227	\$ 39,730,593	\$ 26,412,810

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AND PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Connecticut Teachers Retirement System – Pension

A. Plan Description

Teachers, principals, superintendents, or supervisors engaged in service of public schools are provided with pensions through the Connecticut State Teachers' Retirement System, a cost-sharing, multiemployer defined benefit pension plan administered by the Teachers Retirement Board. Chapter 167a of the State Statutes grants authority to establish and amend the benefit terms to the Teachers Retirement Board. The Teachers Retirement Board issues a publicly available financial report that can be obtained at www.ct.gov.

B. Benefit Provisions

The plan provides retirement, disability, and death benefits. Employees are eligible to retire at age 60 with 20 years of credited service in Connecticut, or 35 years of credited service including at least 25 years of service in Connecticut.

Normal Retirement

Retirement benefits for employees are calculated as 2% of the average annual salary times the years of credited service (maximum benefit is 75% of average annual salary during the three years of highest salary).

Early Retirement

Employees are eligible after 25 years of credited service with a minimum of 20 years of Connecticut service, or age 55 with 20 years of credited service with a minimum of 15 years of Connecticut service with reduced benefit amounts.

Disability Retirement

Employees are eligible for service-related disability benefits regardless of length of service. Five years of credited service is required for nonservice-related disability eligibility. Disability benefits are calculated as 2% of average annual salary times credited service to date of disability, but not less than 15% of average annual salary, nor more than 50% of average annual salary.

C. Contributions

Per Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-183z (which reflects Public Act 79-436 as amended), contribution requirements of active employees and the state of Connecticut are approved, amended, and certified by the State Teachers Retirement Board and appropriated by the General Assembly.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AND PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Connecticut Teachers Retirement System – Pension (Continued)

C. Contributions (Continued)

Employer (School Districts)

School District employers are not required to make contributions to the plan.

The statutes require the state of Connecticut to contribute 100% of each school districts' required contributions, which are actuarially determined as an amount that, when combined with employee contributions, is expected to finance the costs of the benefits earned by employees during the year, with any additional amount to finance any unfunded accrued liability.

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the amount of "on-behalf" contributions made by the state was \$9,435,010 and is recognized in the General Fund as intergovernmental revenues and education expenditures.

Employees

Effective July 1, 1992, each teacher is required to contribute 6% of pensionable salary for the pension benefit.

D. Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

At June 30, 2024, the Town reports no amounts for its proportionate share of the net pension liability, and related deferred outflows and inflows, due to the statutory requirement that the state pay 100% of the required contribution. The amount recognized by the Town as its proportionate share of the net pension liability, the related state support, and the total portion of the net pension liability that was associated with the Town were as follows:

Town's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ -
State's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability Associated With the Town	101,685,766
Total	<u>\$ 101,685,766</u>

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2023. At June 30, 2024, the Town has no proportionate share of the net pension liability.

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the Town recognized pension expense and revenue of \$9,735,823 in Exhibit II for on-behalf amounts for the benefits provided by the state.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AND PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Connecticut Teachers Retirement System – Pension (Continued)

D. Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2022, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.50%
Salary Increase	3.00-6.50%, Including Inflation
Investment Rate of Return	6.90%, Net of Pension Plan Investment Expense, Including Inflation

Mortality rates were based on the PubT-2010 Healthy Retiree Table (adjusted 105% for males and 103% for females at ages 82 and above), projected generationally with MP-2019 for the period after service retirement.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2022 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the five-year period ending June 30, 2019.

Assumption changes since the prior year are as follows:

- There were no changes in assumptions that affected the measurement of the TPL since the prior measurement date.

Benefit changes since the prior year are as follows:

- There were no changes in benefit provisions that affected the measurement of the TPL since the prior measurement date.

Cost-of-Living Allowance

For teachers who retired prior to September 1, 1992, pension benefit adjustments are made in accordance with increases in the Consumer Price Index, with a minimum of 3% and a maximum of 5% per annum.

For teachers who were members of the Teachers' Retirement System before July 1, 2007 and retire on or after September 1, 1992, pension benefit adjustments are made that are consistent with those provided for Social Security benefits on January 1 of the year granted, with a maximum of 6% per annum. If the return on assets in the previous year was less than 8.5%, the maximum increase is 1.5%.

For teachers who were members of the Teachers' Retirement System after July 1, 2007, pension benefit adjustments are made that are consistent with those provided for Social Security benefits on January 1 of the year granted, with a maximum of 5% per annum. If the return on assets in the previous year was less than 11.5%, the maximum increase is 3%, and if the return on the assets in the previous year was less than 8.5%, the maximum increase is 1.0%.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AND PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Connecticut Teachers Retirement System – Pension (Continued)

D. Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions (Continued)

Long-Term Rate of Return

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The current capital market assumptions and the target asset allocation as provided by the State of Connecticut Treasurer's Office are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Global Equity	37.00 %	6.80 %
Public Credit	2.00	2.90
Core Fixed Income	13.00	0.40
Liquidity Fund	1.00	(0.40)
Risk Mitigation	5.00	1.00
Private Equity	15.00	11.20
Private Credit	10.00	6.10
Real Estate	10.00	6.20
Infrastructure and Natural Resources	7.00	7.70
Total	100.00 %	

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 6.90%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that plan member contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that State contributions will be made at the actuarially determined contribution rates in the future years. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AND PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Connecticut Teachers Retirement System – Pension (Continued)

D. Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions (Continued)

Sensitivity of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The Town's proportionate share of the net pension liability is \$-0- and, therefore, the change in the discount rate would only impact the amount recorded by the state of Connecticut.

E. Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued financial statements available at www.ct.gov. Separate financial statements are not prepared for the Police Employees Retirement Plan and the Volunteer Fire Department Pension Plan.

F. Other Information

Additional information is included in the required supplementary information section of the financial statements. A schedule of contributions is not presented as the Town has no obligation to contribute to the plan.

NOTE 12 OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

Retiree Health Plan

A. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Retiree Health Plan (RHP) are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Plan member contributions are recognized in the period in which the contributions are due. Employer contributions are recognized when due and the employer has made a formal commitment to provide the contributions. Benefits and refunds are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the plan. Administrative costs of the plan are paid by the Town.

Management of the postemployment benefits plan is vested with the Director of Finance. Policy oversight is provided by the Board of Finance, consisting of six electors who hold no other office in the government and are taxpayers in the Town. The Board members are appointed by the Board of Selectman, and no more than three members may be appointed from the same political party.

Investments are reported at fair value. Investment income is recognized as earned.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 12 OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Retiree Health Plan (Continued)

B. Plan Description

The Town, in accordance with various collective bargaining agreements, is committed to providing health and other benefits to certain eligible retirees and their spouses under a single employer plan. The Retirement Benefit Program covers Town, Board of Education, Police, and Fire employees. Retired program members and beneficiaries currently receiving benefits are required to contribute specified percentages towards the cost of receiving those benefits under the Town's self-insured medical benefits program. The percentage contribution of the employees and retirees for these benefits vary and are detailed within the Town's various bargaining agreements. The Town does not issue a separate stand-alone financial statement for this program.

At July 1, 2022, plan membership consisted of the following:

	Postretirement Medical Program
Retired Members and Spouses	70
Active Plan Members	579
Total Participants	649

C. Funding Policy

The Town's funding and payment of postemployment benefits are accounted for in the Retiree Benefits Trust Fund. The Town has established the trust effective July 2009 to irrevocably segregate assets to fund the liability associated with postemployment benefits in accordance with GASB guidelines. The Town has transferred the assets accumulated in a special revenue fund to the trust fund and will gradually increase future contributions to provide for normal cost and the amortization of the accrued liability while maintaining a negative net OPEB liability (asset).

The Town's funding strategy for postemployment obligations are based upon characteristics of benefits for the following groups of employees: Police, Fire, Other Municipal Employees, Board of Education certified and Board of Education noncertified. A summary of the plan provisions is as follows:

- Eligibility for benefits for Police and Fire range from 10 to 25 years of service at time of retirement determined by union contract and date of hire.
- Medical benefits for Police and Fire range from 100% cost of coverage for the retiree and 50% coverage for their spouse until the employee's death, 100% coverage for retiree only depending on date of hire and union contract.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 12 OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Retiree Health Plan (Continued)

C. Funding Policy (Continued)

- The remaining employee groups are eligible pursuant to their bargaining unit and date of hire to purchase coverage for 100% of the cost set forth for active members within their bargaining unit. Medical benefits for the finance director are 100% cost of coverage for the retiree and 50% coverage for their spouse until the employee's death.
- Life insurance benefits are not offered.

D. Investments

Investment Policy

OPEB Benefits Plan's investment policy is established by the Town's Board of Finance who serve as trustees of the plan. The policy may also be amended by a majority vote of the Board. It is the policy of the trustees to pursue an investment strategy that reduces risk through the prudent diversification of the portfolio across a broad selection of distinct asset classes. The primary objective of the investment policy is growth of principal while liquidity is secondary provided cash flow needs are fulfilled.

Rate of Return

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the annual money-weighted rate of return on investments, net of investment expense, was 6.59%. The money-weighted rate of return expresses investment performance, net of investment expense, adjusted for the changing amounts actually invested.

E. Net OPEB Liability (Asset) of the Town

The Town's net OPEB liability (asset) was measured as of June 30, 2024. The components of the net OPEB liability (asset) of the Town at June 30, 2024 were as follows:

Total OPEB Liability	\$ 25,882,765
Plan Fiduciary Net Position	40,293,861
Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	<u>\$ (14,411,096)</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability (Asset)	155.68%

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 12 OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Retiree Health Plan (Continued)

E. Net OPEB Liability (Asset) of the Town (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions

The total OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2022, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement, unless otherwise specified:

Inflation	2.40%
Salary Increases	3.40%, Average, Including Inflation,
Investment Rate of Return	6.50%, Net of OPEB Plan Investment Expense, Including Inflation
Healthcare Cost Trend Rates	6.50% for 2022, Decreasing 0.2% per Year to an Ultimate Rate of 4.40% for 2033 and Later Years. Prior, 6.50% for 2020, Decreasing 0.2% per Year to an Ultimate Rate of 4.40% for 2031 and Later Years

Mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Amount-Weighted Mortality Tables (with separate tables for General Employees, Public Safety and Teachers), projected to the valuation date with Scale MP-2021.

The actuarial assumptions used in the July 1, 2022 valuation were based on standard tables modified for certain plan features such as eligibility for full and early retirement where applicable and input from the plan sponsor.

Long-Term Expected Rate of Return

The long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset as of June 30, 2024, are summarized in the following table.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 12 OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Retiree Health Plan (Continued)

E. Net OPEB Liability (Asset) of the Town (Continued)

Long-Term Expected Rate of Return (Continued)

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
U.S. Large Cap Equity	14.50 %	5.00 %
U.S. Mid/Small Cap Equity	11.00	5.30
Developed International Equity	12.50	6.40
Emerging Markets Equity	8.50	7.70
Intermediate Corp Fixed Income	18.00	2.30
Intermediate Govt Fixed Income	18.00	1.80
High Yield Fixed Income	8.00	4.05
Cash	1.00	0.05
REITs	3.25	4.90
Commodities (MLPs)	5.25	3.30
Total	100.00 %	

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 6.50%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that Town contributions will be made at rates equal to the actuarially determined contribution rates. Based on those assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total OPEB liability.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 12 OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Retiree Health Plan (Continued)

E. Net OPEB Liability (Asset) of the Town (Continued)

Changes in the Net OPEB (Asset) Liability

	Increase (Decrease)		
	Total OPEB Liability	Plan Fiduciary Net Position	Net OPEB Liability (Asset)
	(a)	(b)	(a)-(b)
Balances - July 1, 2023	\$ 24,783,945	\$ 38,611,714	\$ (13,827,769)
Changes for the Year:			
Service Cost	606,964	-	606,964
Interest on Total OPEB Liability	1,613,190	-	1,613,190
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	42,188	-	42,188
Employer Contributions	-	237,812	(237,812)
Contributions - TRB Subsidy	-	84,833	(84,833)
Net Investment Income (Loss)	-	2,523,024	(2,523,024)
Benefit Payments	(1,163,522)	(1,163,522)	-
Net Changes	1,098,820	1,682,147	(583,327)
Balances - June 30, 2024	<u>\$ 25,882,765</u>	<u>\$ 40,293,861</u>	<u>\$ (14,411,096)</u>

Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset) to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the net OPEB liability (asset) of the Town, as well as what the Town's net OPEB liability (asset) would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current discount rate:

	1% Decrease (5.50%)	Current Discount Rate (6.50%)	1% Increase (7.50%)
Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	\$ (10,770,426)	\$ (14,411,096)	\$ (17,390,442)

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 12 OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Retiree Health Plan (Continued)

E. Net OPEB Liability (Asset) of the Town (Continued)

Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset) to Changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rates

The following presents the net OPEB liability (asset) of the Town, as well as what the Town's net OPEB liability (asset) would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current healthcare cost trend rates:

	1% Decrease (5.50% Decreasing to 3.40%)	Healthcare Cost Trend Rates (6.50% Decreasing to 4.40%)	1% Increase (7.50% Decreasing to 5.40%)
Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	\$ (18,112,434)	\$ (14,411,096)	\$ (9,753,725)

F. OPEB Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the Town recognized OPEB expense of \$(465,815). At June 30, 2024, the Town reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 334,768	\$ 7,377,583
Changes of Assumptions	1,085,159	2,614,931
Differences Between Projected and Actual Earnings on OPEB Plan Investments	1,578,067	-
Total	<u>\$ 2,997,994</u>	<u>\$ 9,992,514</u>

Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

<u>Year Ending June 30,</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2025	\$ (506,455)
2026	(23,583)
2027	(1,094,387)
2028	(1,078,208)
2029	(1,072,295)
Thereafter	(3,219,592)
Total	<u>\$ (6,994,520)</u>

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 12 OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Retiree Health Plan (Continued)

G. Trust Fund Plan Fiduciary Net Position

	Pension Trust Funds	Retiree Benefits Trust Fund	Total
ASSETS			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 362,627	\$ 494,666	\$ 857,293
Investments	30,964,203	39,805,722	70,769,925
Total Assets	31,326,830	40,300,388	71,627,218
LIABILITIES			
Accounts Payable	-	6,527	6,527
NET POSITION			
Held in Trust for Pension or Retiree Benefits	<u>\$ 31,326,830</u>	<u>\$ 40,293,861</u>	<u>\$ 71,620,691</u>

Changes in Trust Fund Net Position

	Pension Trust Funds	Retiree Benefits Trust Fund	Total
ADDITIONS			
Contributions:			
Employer	\$ 1,806,980	\$ 322,645	\$ 2,129,625
Plan Members	414,329	-	414,329
Total Contributions	2,221,309	322,645	2,543,954
Net Investment Income	2,554,456	2,523,024	5,077,480
Total Additions	4,775,765	2,845,669	7,621,434
DEDUCTIONS			
Benefits	2,632,125	1,163,522	3,795,647
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	2,143,640	1,682,147	3,825,787
Net Position - Beginning of Year	29,183,190	38,611,714	67,794,904
NET POSITION - END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 31,326,830</u>	<u>\$ 40,293,861</u>	<u>\$ 71,620,691</u>

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 12 OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Teachers Retirement Plan

A. Plan Description

Teachers, principals, superintendents, or supervisors engaged in service of public schools plus professional employees at state schools of higher education are eligible to participate in the Connecticut State Teachers' Retirement System Retiree Health Insurance Plan (TRS-RHIP), a cost-sharing, multiemployer defined benefit other post-employment benefit plan administered by the Teachers' Retirement Board (TRB), if they choose to be covered.

Chapter 167a of the State Statutes grants authority to establish and amend the benefit terms to the TRB. TRS-RHIP issues a publicly available financial report that can be obtained at www.ct.gov/trb.

B. Benefit Provisions

There are two types of the health care benefits offered through the system. Subsidized Local School District Coverage provides a subsidy paid to members still receiving coverage through their former employer and the CTRB Sponsored Medicare Supplement Plans provide coverage for those participating in Medicare but not receiving Subsidized Local School District Coverage.

Any member who is not currently participating in Medicare Parts A & B is eligible to continue health care coverage with their former employer. A subsidy of up to \$220 per month for a retired member plus an additional \$220 per month for a spouse enrolled in a local school district plan is provided to the school district to first offset the retiree's share of the cost of coverage, and any remaining portion is used to offset the district's cost. The subsidy amount is set by statute. A subsidy amount of \$440 per month may be paid for a retired member, spouse, or the surviving spouse of a member who has attained the normal retirement age to participate in Medicare, is not eligible for Part A of Medicare without cost and contributes at least \$440 per month towards coverage under a local school district plan.

Any member who is currently participating in Medicare Parts A & B is eligible to either continue health care coverage with their former employer, if offered, or enroll in the plan sponsored by the System. If they elect to remain in the plan with their former employer, the same subsidies as above will be paid to offset the cost of coverage.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 12 OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Teachers Retirement Plan (Continued)

B. Benefit Provisions (Continued)

If a member participating in Medicare Parts A & B so elects, they may enroll in one of the CTRB Sponsored Medicare Supplement Plans. Effective July 1, 2018, the System added a Medicare Advantage Plan option. Active members, retirees and the state pay equally toward the cost of the basic coverage (medical and prescription drug benefits) under the Medicare Advantage Plan. Retired members who choose to enroll in the Medicare Supplement Plan are responsible for the full difference in the premium cost between the two plans. Additionally, effective July 1, 2018, retired members who cancel their health care coverage or elect to not enroll in a CTRB sponsored health care coverage option must wait two years to re-enroll.

Survivor Health Care Coverage

Survivors of former employees or retirees remain eligible to participate in the plan and continue to be eligible to receive either the \$220 monthly subsidy or participate in the TRB-Sponsored Medicare Supplement Plans, as long as they do not remarry.

C. Eligibility

Any member who is currently receiving a retirement or disability benefit is eligible to participate in the plan.

Credited Service

One month for each month of service as a teacher in Connecticut public schools, maximum 10 months for each school year. Ten months of credited service constitutes one year of Credited Service. Certain other types of teaching services, state employment, or wartime military service may be purchased prior to retirement if the member pays one-half the cost.

Normal Retirement

Age 60 with 20 years of Credited Service in Connecticut, or 35 years of Credited Service including at least 25 years of service in Connecticut.

Early Retirement

Age 55 with 20 years of Credited Service including 15 years of Connecticut service, or 25 years of Credited Service including 20 years of Connecticut service.

Proratable Retirement

Age 60 with 10 years of Credited Service.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 12 OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Teachers Retirement Plan (Continued)

C. Eligibility (Continued)

Disability Retirement

No service requirement if incurred in the performance of duty, and five years of Credited Service in Connecticut if not incurred in the performance of duty.

Termination of Employment

Ten or more years of Credited Service.

D. Contributions

State of Connecticut

Per Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-183z, contribution requirements of active employees and the state of Connecticut are approved, amended, and certified by the State Teachers' Retirement Board and appropriated by the General Assembly. The state contributions are not currently actuarially funded. The state appropriates from the General Fund one third of the annual costs of the Plan. Administrative costs of the Plan are financed by the state. Based upon Chapter 167a, Subsection D of Section 10-183t of the Connecticut Statutes, it is assumed the state will pay for any long-term shortfall arising from insufficient active member contributions.

Employer (School Districts)

School District employers are not required to make contributions to the plan. For the year ended June 30, 2024, the amount of "on-behalf" contributions made by the state was \$128,392 and is recognized in the General Fund as intergovernmental revenues and education expenditures.

Employees/Retirees

The cost of providing plan benefits is financed on a pay-as-you-go basis as follows: active teachers' pay for one-third of the Plan costs through a contribution of 1.25% of their pensionable salaries, and retired teachers pay for one-third of the Plan costs through monthly premiums, which helps reduce the cost of health insurance for eligible retired members and dependents.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 12 OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Teachers Retirement Plan (Continued)

E. OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

At June 30, 2024, the Town reports no amounts for its proportionate share of the net OPEB liability, and related deferred outflows and inflows, due to the statutory requirement that the state pay 100% of the required contribution. The amount recognized by the Town as its proportionate share of the net OPEB liability, the related state support and the total portion of the net OPEB liability that was associated with the Town was as follows:

Town's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ -
State's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	
Associated with the Town	9,526,560
Total	<u>\$ 9,526,560</u>

The net OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as June 30, 2023. At June 30, 2024, the Town has no proportionate share of the net OPEB liability.

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the Town recognized OPEB expense and revenue of \$(1,122,291) in Exhibit II.

F. Actuarial Assumptions

The total OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2023, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.5%
Healthcare Cost Trend Rate	Known increases until calendar year 2024, then general trend decreasing to an ultimate rate of 4.50% by 2031
Salary Increases	3.00-6.50%, Including Inflation
Investment Rate of Return	3.00%, Net of OPEB Plan Investment Expense, Including Inflation
Year Fund Net Position Will be Depleted	2028

Mortality rates were based on the PubT-2010 Healthy Retiree Table (adjusted 105% for males and 103% for females at ages 82 and above), projected generationally with MP-2019 for the period after service retirement.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 12 OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Teachers Retirement Plan (Continued)

F. Actuarial Assumptions (Continued)

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2023 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2019.

The changes in the assumptions since the prior year are as follows:

- Discount rate changed from 3.53% to 3.64%.
- Expected annual per capita claims costs were updated to better reflect anticipated medical and prescription drug claim experience.

Long-Term Expected Rate of Return

The long-term expected rate of return on plan assets is reviewed as part of the GASB 75 valuation process. Several factors are considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption, including the plan's current asset allocations and a log-normal distribution analysis using the best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected return, net investment expense, and inflation) for each major asset class. The long-term expected rate of return was determined by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation. The assumption is not expected to change absent a significant change in the asset allocation, a change in the inflation assumption, or a fundamental change in the market that alters expected returns in future years. The plan is 100% invested in U.S. Treasuries (Cash Equivalents) for which the expected 10-Year Geometric Real Rate of Return is (0.77%).

G. Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 3.64%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate was performed with GASB 75. The projection was based on an actuarial valuation performed as of June 30, 2023.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 12 OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Teachers Retirement Plan (Continued)

G. Discount Rate (Continued)

In addition to the actuarial methods and assumptions of the June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation, the following actuarial methods and assumptions were used in the projection of cash flows:

- Total payroll for the initial projection year consists of the payroll of the active membership present on the valuation date. In subsequent projection years, total payroll was assumed to increase annually at a rate of 3.00%.
- Employee contributions were assumed to be made at the current member contribution rate. Employee contributions for future plan members were used to reduce the estimated amount of total service costs for future plan members.
- Annual state contributions were assumed to be equal to the most recent five-year average of state contributions toward the fund.

Based on those assumptions, the Plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be depleted in 2028 and, as a result, the Municipal Bond Index Rate was used in the determination of the single equivalent rate.

H. Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Health Care Cost Trend Rate and the Discount Rate

The Town's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability is \$-0- and, therefore, the change in the health care cost trend rate or the discount rate would only impact the amount recorded by the state of Connecticut.

I. OPEB Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about the Connecticut State Teachers OPEB Plan fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued State of Connecticut Annual Comprehensive Financial Report at www.ct.gov.

J. Other Information

Additional information is included in the required supplementary information section of the financial statements. A schedule of contributions is not presented as the Town has no obligation to contribute to the plan.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 13 FUND BALANCES

The components of fund balance for the governmental funds at June 30, 2024 are as follows:

	Major Special Revenue Funds		Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total
	General Fund	Capital Projects		
Fund Balances:				
Nonspendable:				
Inventory	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 32,752	\$ 32,752
Prepaid Items	1,368,438	-	-	1,368,438
Permanent Fund Principal	-	-	100,730	100,730
Restricted for:				
Capital Projects	-	19,720,794	3,612,236	23,333,030
Unspent Grant Balances	-	-	8,699,081	8,699,081
Permanent Funds	-	-	243,634	243,634
Committed to:				
Public Works Lease	253,882	-	-	253,882
General Government	-	-	961,137	961,137
Public Safety	-	-	131,767	131,767
Public Works and Highway	-	-	3,339,191	3,339,191
Parks, Recreation, and Libraries	-	-	1,073,141	1,073,141
Health and Human Services	-	-	2,597,395	2,597,395
Education	440,080	-	1,389,723	1,829,803
Assigned to:				
Subsequent Year's Budget	3,846,000	-	-	3,846,000
Purchases on Order	426,028	-	-	426,028
Unassigned	61,852,209	-	-	61,852,209
Total Fund Balances	<u>\$ 68,186,637</u>	<u>\$ 19,720,794</u>	<u>\$ 22,180,787</u>	<u>\$ 110,088,218</u>

Significant encumbrances of \$1,477,884, \$5,927,770, and \$1,639,169 at June 30, 2024 are contained in the above table in the assigned category of the General Fund, the restricted category of the Capital Projects Funds, and the restricted and committed categories of the Nonmajor Governmental Funds, respectively.

NOTE 14 LITIGATION

The Town, its officers, employees, boards, and commissions are defendants in various lawsuits. Following consultation with the Town Attorney and other attorneys advising the Town, Town officials are of the opinion that all pending litigation will not be finally determined so as to result individually or in the aggregate in a final judgment against the Town that would materially adversely affect its financial position.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 15 SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

In October 2024, the Town issued \$18,000,000 of general obligation bonds with interest rates of 5-4% maturing serially from October 15, 2025, through October 15, 2042, for various capital projects.

In February and March 2024, the Board of Finance and RTM approved a transfer of \$8,500,000 from the Medical Self Insurance Fund to the General Fund. Proceeds of \$6,500,000 from this transfer were appropriated to the Police Pension Fund with \$750,000 going into the Coastal Resiliency Fund as well as other uses.

Additionally, the Board of Finance assigned \$6,090,000 of fund balance with \$3,000,000 set aside for potential losses in federal funding for the Board of Education, \$1,000,000 for medical rate stabilization, and the balance of \$2,090,000 assigned to capital projects.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
(NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS)**

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance
	Original	Final	Actual	Positive (Negative)
REVENUES				
Taxes:				
Current Taxes	\$ 113,413,424	\$ 113,413,424	\$ 116,162,197	\$ 2,748,773
Delinquent Interest	772,844	772,844	843,869	71,025
Lien Fees	6,100	6,100	25,384	19,284
Suspense Collections	7,100	7,100	124,239	117,139
Delinquent Taxes	1,306,855	1,306,855	1,090,558	(216,297)
Tax Collection Fees	-	-	87	87
Warrant Fees	300	300	2,508	2,208
Motor Vehicle Fees	3,000	3,000	10,698	7,698
Total Taxes	115,509,623	115,509,623	118,259,540	2,749,917
Intergovernmental Revenues:				
Education Cost Sharing	2,852,653	2,852,653	3,485,200	632,547
Special Education	426,572	426,572	828,264	401,692
Health and Welfare	-	-	3,104	3,104
Disability Exemption	2,000	2,000	2,608	608
Veterans' Reimbursement - State	-	-	15,915	15,915
Private Property Exemption	144,000	144,000	162,211	18,211
State Property Exemption	12,155	12,155	-	(12,155)
Municipal Revenue Sharing Grant	-	-	714,046	714,046
Miscellaneous State Grants	10,000	10,000	10,570	570
Miscellaneous State Grants (Emergency Management)	14,002	14,002	41,460	27,458
Wild Life Refuge	3,500	3,500	3,712	212
North Branford Probate Fees	5,500	5,500	6,452	952
North Branford Sewer Fees	124,270	124,270	-	(124,270)
Total Intergovernmental Revenues	3,594,652	3,594,652	5,273,542	1,678,890

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL (CONTINUED)
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
(NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS)**

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance
	Original	Final	Actual	Positive (Negative)
REVENUES (CONTINUED)				
Licenses, Permits, and Fees:				
Building Permits	\$ 706,291	\$ 706,291	\$ 824,086	\$ 117,795
Excavation Permits	5,000	5,000	5,940	940
Electrical Permits	-	-	2,112	2,112
Sewer Connection Permits	-	-	92	92
Zoning Board of Appeals	3,250	3,250	3,000	(250)
Planning and Zoning	29,000	29,000	20,504	(8,496)
Planning and Zoning - DEP Costs	500	500	616	116
Map Copies - Building and Engineering	2,000	2,000	1,894	(106)
Inland Wetlands Applications	18,000	18,000	49,571	31,571
Inland Wetlands - DEP Application Costs	60	60	58	(2)
Building Dept - Education Fee	600	600	714	114
Transfer Station Escrow	140,558	140,558	314,119	173,561
Trip Passes	1,500	1,500	1,938	438
Sticker Revenue	16,000	16,000	28,756	12,756
Electrical Revenue Share	17,000	17,000	19,523	2,523
Permits and Tags - Police	4,500	4,500	550	(3,950)
Special Wages - Police	525,000	525,000	617,760	92,760
Fingerprinting Fees	14,859	14,859	17,045	2,186
False Alarm Fees	4,900	4,900	1,550	(3,350)
Pump Out Services	6,000	6,000	7,925	1,925
Town Clerk Other Monies	275,000	275,000	197,830	(77,170)
Conveyance Taxes	475,000	475,000	482,319	7,319
Marriage Licenses - Town Portion	4,100	4,100	4,992	892
Dog Licenses	2,000	2,000	6,549	4,549
Ambulance Service Fees	1,835,680	1,835,680	2,411,592	575,912
Miscellaneous Permits and Fees - Fire Services	2,000	2,000	2,445	445
E-Commerce Revenue Share	19,000	19,000	12,909	(6,091)
Total Licenses, Permits, and Fees	4,107,798	4,107,798	5,036,389	928,591
Interest Income	1,561,667	1,561,667	4,715,043	3,153,376
Other:				
Willoughby - Wallace Library Fees	1,500	1,500	1,043	(457)
Willoughby - Passport Fees	6,000	6,000	4,960	(1,040)
Employee Health Insurance Co-pay	712,493	712,493	733,402	20,909
In Lieu of Taxes - Telephone Access	55,000	55,000	103,522	48,522

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL (CONTINUED)
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
(NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS)**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
REVENUES (CONTINUED)				
Other (Continued):				
In Lieu of Taxes - SCRW	\$ 455,000	\$ 455,000	\$ 536,522	\$ 81,522
Leases	6,000	6,000	6,701	701
Recreation Department - Building Usage	8,000	8,000	8,525	525
Recreation Department - Facility Usage	1,000	1,000	3,625	2,625
Foote Family Charitable Trust	275,000	275,000	302,000	27,000
Insurance Claims and Refunds	15,000	15,000	48,378	33,378
Miscellaneous Refunds	-	-	40,373	40,373
Miscellaneous Income	15,000	15,000	100,258	85,258
Sale of Town Property	-	-	62,669	62,669
Commerce Bank Revenue Share	5,000	5,000	8,078	3,078
Returned Check Fees	-	-	40	40
Virtual Net Metering Credits	40,000	40,000	-	(40,000)
Municipal Cannabis Sales Tax Revenue	-	-	380,856	380,856
EV Charging Station Revenue	-	-	1,755	1,755
Settlement Income	-	-	88,423	88,423
Under Liquidated Encumbrances	-	-	42,924	42,924
Total Other	<u>1,594,993</u>	<u>1,594,993</u>	<u>2,474,054</u>	<u>879,061</u>
Total Revenues	126,368,733	126,368,733	135,758,568	9,389,835
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES				
Transfers in	<u>791,035</u>	<u>791,035</u>	<u>791,370</u>	<u>335</u>
Total Revenue and Other Financing Sources	<u>\$ 127,159,768</u>	<u>\$ 127,159,768</u>	136,549,938	<u>\$ 9,390,170</u>

Budgetary revenues are different than GAAP revenues because:

State of Connecticut on-behalf pension contributions to the Connecticut State Teachers' Retirement System for Town teachers are not budgeted. 9,435,010

State of Connecticut on-behalf OPEB contributions to the Connecticut State Teachers' Retirement System for Town teachers are not budgeted. 128,392

Under liquidation of prior year encumbrances is recorded as miscellaneous revenue for budgetary reporting. This amount is excluded for financial reporting purposes. (42,924)

The Town does not budget for the proceeds from lease issuance 461,801

Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources as Reported on the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds (Exhibit IV) \$ 146,532,217

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
(NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS)**

EXPENDITURES	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
General Government:				
Legislative	\$ 18,766	\$ 19,336	\$ 19,235	\$ 101
Executive	330,091	315,091	311,599	3,492
Finance	105,676	105,676	105,520	156
Treasurer	549,690	574,131	567,053	7,078
Assessor	494,271	510,066	442,382	67,684
Review of Assessment	14,625	14,625	11,883	2,742
Tax Collector	761,377	775,356	474,003	301,353
Town Clerk	277,271	286,597	264,804	21,793
Law	450,000	450,000	328,452	121,548
Labor Relations Negotiations	93,600	93,600	65,376	28,224
Probate Court	17,290	23,290	19,538	3,752
Elections	220,349	292,049	273,775	18,274
Planning and Zoning	345,313	347,633	339,661	7,972
Zoning Board of Appeals	10,838	10,838	8,376	2,462
Economic Development Commission	23,550	23,550	15,555	7,995
Inland Wetlands Commission	143,683	144,990	139,016	5,974
General Government Buildings	1,141,013	1,203,439	1,147,837	55,602
Cable Television	15,600	16,129	16,121	8
Information Technology	1,143,040	1,228,638	1,162,270	66,368
Human Resources	345,328	349,766	332,034	17,732
Total General Government	6,501,371	6,784,800	6,044,490	740,310
Public Safety:				
Police Service	7,206,862	7,234,524	6,940,452	294,072
Police Service - Special Detail	525,000	525,000	433,219	91,781
Department of Emergency Management	30,500	30,500	27,868	2,632
Fire Protection	7,405,496	7,711,879	7,690,983	20,896
Building Department	226,278	247,108	246,956	152
Total Public Safety	15,394,136	15,749,011	15,339,478	409,533
Public Works and Highways:				
Public Works	2,705,486	2,733,753	2,530,834	202,919
Sanitation and Waste	4,793,358	4,809,722	4,555,048	254,674
General Engineering	466,162	500,398	488,366	12,032
Total Public Works and Highways	7,965,006	8,043,873	7,574,248	469,625

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL (CONTINUED)
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
(NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS)**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
EXPENDITURES (CONTINUED)				
Recreation:				
Branford Recreation Department	\$ 1,271,891	\$ 1,353,273	\$ 1,338,231	\$ 15,042
Docks and Recreational Facilities	21,571	21,571	11,961	9,610
Public Celebration	16,276	16,276	12,810	3,466
Conservation Commission	11,731	11,731	11,440	291
Total Recreation	1,321,469	1,402,851	1,374,442	28,409
Libraries:				
James Blackstone Memorial Library	1,700,340	1,700,340	1,700,340	-
Willoughby-Wallace Library	269,741	272,956	267,073	5,883
Total Libraries	1,970,081	1,973,296	1,967,413	5,883
Health and Welfare:				
Commission for the Elderly	452,517	468,517	335,904	132,613
East Shore District Health	383,001	383,001	383,001	-
Total Health and Welfare	835,518	851,518	718,905	132,613
Board of Education	62,911,644	62,911,644	61,870,726	1,040,918
Pension and Insurance:				
Pension and Contributions	6,834,140	7,119,140	6,120,305	998,835
Employee Group Insurance	6,374,700	6,374,700	5,612,992	761,708
Municipal Insurance	2,758,365	2,758,365	2,451,974	306,391
Contingency	2,115,080	352,022	-	352,022
Total Pension and Insurance	18,082,285	16,604,227	14,185,271	2,418,956
Debt Service:				
Principal Retirement	7,135,000	7,135,000	7,135,000	-
Interest and Fiscal Charges	2,243,646	2,243,646	1,854,847	388,799
Total Debt Service	9,378,646	9,378,646	8,989,847	388,799
Total Expenditures	124,360,156	123,699,866	118,064,820	5,635,046

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL (CONTINUED)
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
(NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS)**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
OTHER FINANCING USES				
Transfers to Other Funds:				
Special Revenue Fund:				
Animal Control Fund	\$ 199,956	\$ 227,774	\$ 227,774	\$ -
Special Programs Fund:	-	18,000	18,000	-
BOE Non-Lapsing Fund	-	437,735	437,735	-
Sewer Utility Fund	600,000	611,275	611,275	-
Human Services Fund	1,254,999	1,270,696	1,270,696	-
Fireworks Committee Fund	30,000	30,000	30,000	-
Capital Projects Fund:				
Open Space Fund	26,800	26,800	26,800	-
Revaluation Fund	75,000	75,000	75,000	-
Ambulance	75,000	90,000	90,000	-
Fire Apparatus	300,000	800,000	800,000	-
Municipal Facilities Fund	-	275,000	275,000	-
Elderly Vehicles	35,000	35,000	35,000	-
Communications Fund	40,000	40,000	40,000	-
DPW Apparatus	225,000	225,000	225,000	-
Coastal Resiliency Fund	310,000	310,000	310,000	-
Ballistic Vest Fund	9,132	9,132	9,132	-
SCBA Gear Fund	85,000	85,000	85,000	-
JBML Capital Fund	35,000	43,535	43,535	-
Solid Waste Equipment Fund	180,000	180,000	180,000	-
Capital Procurement Fund	2,474,725	2,548,690	2,548,690	-
Total Other Financing Uses	5,955,612	7,338,637	7,338,637	-
 Total Budgeted Operations	<u>\$ 130,315,768</u>	<u>\$ 131,038,503</u>	125,403,457	<u>\$ 5,635,046</u>

Budgetary expenditures are different than GAAP expenditures because:

State of Connecticut on-behalf pension payments to the Connecticut State Teachers' Retirement System for Town teachers are not budgeted.	9,435,010
State of Connecticut on-behalf OPEB payments to the Connecticut State Teachers' Retirement System for Town teachers are not budgeted.	128,392
The Town does not budget for Lease fund expenditures.	1,050,714
The Town budgets for Lease Fund and BOE Non-Lapsing Fund transfers that are eliminated under GAAP.	(939,735)
Encumbrances for purchases and commitments ordered but not received are reported in the year the order is placed for budgetary purposes, but in the year received for financial reporting purposes.	(121,649)

Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses as Reported on the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds - (Exhibit IV)

\$ 134,956,189

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN NET PENSION LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS
POLICE PENSION TRUST FUND
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Pension Liability:										
Service Cost	\$ 600,194	\$ 621,201	\$ 586,875	\$ 586,875	\$ 437,672	\$ 615,498	\$ 715,518	\$ 750,275	\$ 818,505	\$ 838,149
Interest	1,906,563	1,990,048	2,058,756	2,140,743	2,207,541	2,330,759	2,362,619	2,400,021	2,547,907	2,601,759
Changes of Benefit Terms	-	-	-	-	844,917	-	-	-	-	-
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	-	(680,737)	-	1,920,908	-	13,674	-	(482,736)	-	1,344,033
Changes of Assumptions	-	991,581	-	706,596	-	(219,266)	-	1,927,043	-	-
Benefit Payments, Including Refunds of Member Contributions	(1,400,569)	(1,564,499)	(1,644,784)	(1,602,870)	(1,740,559)	(2,014,458)	(2,814,444)	(2,251,630)	(2,528,006)	(2,588,136)
Net Change In Total Pension Liability	1,106,188	1,357,594	1,000,847	3,752,252	1,749,571	726,207	263,693	2,342,973	838,406	2,195,805
Total Pension Liability - Beginning	27,324,864	28,431,052	29,788,646	30,789,493	34,541,745	36,291,316	37,017,523	37,281,216	39,624,189	40,462,595
Total Pension Liability - Ending	28,431,052	29,788,646	30,789,493	34,541,745	36,291,316	37,017,523	37,281,216	39,624,189	40,462,595	42,658,400
Plan Fiduciary Net Position:										
Contributions - Employer	898,000	910,500	914,742	1,911,484	1,489,164	1,095,000	1,560,019	1,640,000	1,424,960	1,719,980
Contributions - Member	301,069	280,850	258,782	211,005	243,220	399,582	372,327	436,381	412,730	414,329
Net Investment Income	40,613	149,903	1,542,864	776,539	1,202,629	(86,998)	5,802,572	(3,666,822)	2,055,495	2,392,688
Benefit Payments, Including Refunds of Member Contributions	(1,400,569)	(1,564,499)	(1,644,784)	(1,602,870)	(1,740,559)	(2,014,458)	(2,814,444)	(2,251,630)	(2,528,006)	(2,588,136)
Administrative Expense	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	886,740	-	-	-	-	-
Net Change In Plan Fiduciary Net Position	(160,887)	(223,246)	1,071,604	1,296,158	2,081,194	(606,874)	4,920,474	(3,842,071)	1,365,179	1,938,861
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Beginning	21,763,547	21,602,660	21,379,414	22,451,018	23,747,176	25,828,370	25,221,496	30,141,970	26,299,899	27,665,078
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Ending	21,602,660	21,379,414	22,451,018	23,747,176	25,828,370	25,221,496	30,141,970	26,299,899	27,665,078	29,603,939
Net Pension Liability - Ending	<u>\$ 6,828,392</u>	<u>\$ 8,409,232</u>	<u>\$ 8,338,475</u>	<u>\$ 10,794,569</u>	<u>\$ 10,462,946</u>	<u>\$ 11,796,027</u>	<u>\$ 7,139,246</u>	<u>\$ 13,324,290</u>	<u>\$ 12,797,517</u>	<u>\$ 13,054,461</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	75.98%	71.77%	72.92%	68.75%	71.17%	68.13%	80.85%	66.37%	68.37%	69.40%
Covered Payroll	\$ 3,462,045	\$ 3,576,246	\$ 3,576,246	\$ 2,671,132	\$ 3,806,985	\$ 4,431,836	\$ 4,609,109	\$ 4,606,877	\$ 4,717,442	\$ 4,779,891
Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	197.24%	235.14%	233.16%	404.12%	274.84%	266.17%	154.89%	289.23%	271.28%	273.11%

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN NET PENSION LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT PENSION TRUST FUND
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Pension Liability:										
Service Cost	\$ 13,044	\$ 18,559	\$ 19,116	\$ 20,274	\$ 20,496	\$ 23,451	\$ 23,708	\$ 23,270	\$ 23,829	\$ 22,639
Interest	77,644	80,186	84,136	86,666	90,917	95,109	100,523	101,442	107,347	110,598
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	(34,725)	-	(733)	-	(26,189)	-	(74,479)	-	(39,182)	-
Changes of Assumptions	16,764	-	23,148	-	67,300	-	(2,302)	-	-	-
Benefit Payments, Including Refunds of Member Contributions	(40,957)	(42,937)	(42,936)	(46,584)	(41,745)	(36,520)	(34,478)	(31,238)	(37,699)	(43,989)
Net Change In Total Pension Liability	31,770	55,808	82,731	60,356	110,779	82,040	12,972	93,474	54,295	89,248
Total Pension Liability - Beginning	1,116,290	1,148,060	1,203,868	1,286,599	1,346,955	1,457,734	1,539,774	1,552,746	1,646,220	1,700,515
Total Pension Liability - Ending	1,148,060	1,203,868	1,286,599	1,346,955	1,457,734	1,539,774	1,552,746	1,646,220	1,700,515	1,789,763
Plan Fiduciary Net Position:										
Contributions - Employer	62,000	348,000	86,000	87,000	87,000	87,299	87,000	87,000	87,000	87,000
Net Investment Income (Loss)	(192)	2,651	66,884	35,625	54,293	(2,554)	282,330	(188,862)	106,918	161,768
Benefit Payments, Including Refunds of Member Contributions	(40,957)	(42,937)	(42,936)	(46,584)	(41,745)	(36,520)	(34,478)	(31,238)	(37,699)	(43,989)
Net Change In Plan Fiduciary Net Position	20,851	307,714	109,948	76,041	99,548	48,225	334,852	(133,100)	156,219	204,779
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Beginning	497,814	518,665	826,379	936,327	1,012,368	1,111,916	1,160,141	1,494,993	1,361,893	1,518,112
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Ending	518,665	826,379	936,327	1,012,368	1,111,916	1,160,141	1,494,993	1,361,893	1,518,112	1,722,891
Net Pension Liability - Ending	<u>\$ 629,395</u>	<u>\$ 377,489</u>	<u>\$ 350,272</u>	<u>\$ 334,587</u>	<u>\$ 345,818</u>	<u>\$ 379,633</u>	<u>\$ 57,753</u>	<u>\$ 284,327</u>	<u>\$ 182,403</u>	<u>\$ 66,872</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	45.18%	68.64%	72.78%	75.16%	76.28%	75.34%	96.28%	82.73%	89.27%	96.26%
Covered Payroll	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS
POLICE PENSION TRUST FUND
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS**

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Actuarially Determined Contribution	\$ 897,106	\$ 897,106	\$ 911,226	\$ 911,226	\$ 1,056,060	\$ 1,056,060	\$ 1,178,950	\$ 1,187,630	\$ 1,424,960	\$ 1,434,980
Contributions in Relation to the Actuarially Determined Contribution	<u>898,000</u>	<u>910,500</u>	<u>914,742</u>	<u>1,911,484</u>	<u>1,489,164</u>	<u>1,095,000</u>	<u>1,560,019</u>	<u>1,640,000</u>	<u>1,424,960</u>	<u>1,719,980</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$ (894)</u>	<u>\$ (13,394)</u>	<u>\$ (3,516)</u>	<u>\$ (1,000,258)</u>	<u>\$ (433,104)</u>	<u>\$ (38,940)</u>	<u>\$ (381,069)</u>	<u>\$ (452,370)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (285,000)</u>
Covered Payroll	\$ 3,462,045	\$ 3,576,246	\$ 3,576,246	\$ 2,671,132	\$ 3,806,985	\$ 4,431,836	\$ 4,609,109	\$ 4,606,877	\$ 4,717,442	\$ 4,779,891
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	25.94%	25.46%	25.58%	71.56%	39.12%	24.71%	33.85%	35.60%	30.21%	35.98%

Notes to Schedule:

Valuation Date July 1, 2023

Measurement Date June 30, 2024

Actuarially determined contribution rates are calculated as of June 30, two years prior to the end of the fiscal year in which contributions are reported.

Methods and Assumptions Used to Determine

Contribution Rates:

Actuarial Cost Method

Amortization Method

Remaining Amortization Period

Asset Valuation Method

Inflation

Salary Increases

Investment Rate of Return

Retirement Age

Mortality

Entry Age Normal

Level Percentage of Salary

15 Years

Asset Gains and Losses are Recognized Over a Five-Year Period at 20% per Year.

2.40%

Scaled from 8.40% Down to 2.40% Based on Years of Service.

6.50%

Scaled Based on Age from 25% at age 25 to 100% at age 40

Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Tables for Public Safety employees, for non-annuitants and annuitants, projected to the valuation date with Scale MP-2021.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT PENSION TRUST FUND
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS**

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Actuarially Determined Contribution	\$ 66,924	\$ 86,184	\$ 86,184	\$ 86,184	\$ 59,050	\$ 59,640	\$ 65,330	\$ 65,970	\$ 50,840	\$ 51,430
Contributions in Relation to the Actuarially Determined Contribution	62,000	348,000	86,000	87,000	87,000	87,299	87,000	87,000	87,000	87,000
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$ 4,924	\$ (261,816)	\$ 184	\$ (816)	\$ (27,950)	\$ (27,659)	\$ (21,670)	\$ (21,030)	\$ (36,160)	\$ (35,570)
Covered Payroll	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

Notes to Schedule:

Valuation Date January 1, 2023

Measurement Date June 30, 2024

Actuarially determined contribution rates are calculated as of January 1, two years prior to the end of the fiscal year in which contributions are reported.

Methods and Assumptions Used to Determine Contribution Rates:

Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal
Amortization Method	Level Percentage of Salary
Remaining Amortization Period	10 Years
Asset Valuation Method	Asset Gains and Losses are Recognized Over a Five-Year Period at 20% per Year.
Inflation	2.4%
Salary Increases	Volunteer Fire Plan, no Salary
Investment Rate of Return	6.5%, Net of Investment-Related and Administrative Expenses
Retirement Age	Scaled Based on age from 50% at age 65 to 100% at age 70
Mortality	Pub-2010 (B) Public Retirement Plans Headcount Weighted Mortality Tables for Safety employees, for non-annuitants and annuitants, projected to the valuation date with Scale MP-2021.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENT RETURNS
POLICE PENSION TRUST FUND
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Annual Money-Weighted Rate of Return, Net of Investment Expense	0.18%	0.66%	7.19%	3.42%	5.07%	-0.32%	23.10%	-12.04%	7.76%	8.54%

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENT RETURNS
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT PENSION TRUST FUND
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS**

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Annual Money-Weighted Rate of Return, Net of Investment Expense	-0.04%	0.44%	7.55%	3.58%	5.06%	-0.22%	23.07%	-12.10%	7.54%	10.25%

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
SCHEDULE OF THE TOWN'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY
TEACHERS RETIREMENT PLAN
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Town's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Town's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
State's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability Associated With the Town	64,784,314	70,090,168	91,314,924	86,553,802	84,369,802	109,420,810	119,142,154	94,361,596	109,959,851	101,685,766
Total	<u>\$ 64,784,314</u>	<u>\$ 70,090,168</u>	<u>\$ 91,314,924</u>	<u>\$ 86,553,802</u>	<u>\$ 84,369,802</u>	<u>\$ 109,420,810</u>	<u>\$ 119,142,154</u>	<u>\$ 94,361,596</u>	<u>\$ 109,959,851</u>	<u>\$ 101,685,766</u>
Town's Covered Payroll	\$ 22,361,702	\$ 25,437,705	\$ 25,585,052	\$ 26,087,583	\$ 25,670,355	\$ 26,997,429	\$ 27,094,747	\$ 27,083,522	\$ 27,688,745	\$ 28,030,861
Town's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability (Asset)	61.51%	59.50%	52.26%	55.93%	57.69%	52.00%	49.24%	60.77%	54.06%	58.39%

Notes to Schedule:

Changes in Benefit Terms	None
Changes of Assumptions	None
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age
Amortization Method	Level percent of pay, closed, grading to a level dollar amortization method for the June 30, 2024 valuation
Single Equivalent Amortization Period	27.8 years
Asset Valuation Method	4-Year Smoothed Fair Value
Inflation	2.50%
Salary Increase	3.00%-6.50%, Including Inflation
Investment Rate of Return	6.90%, Net of Investment Related Expense

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS
MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS**

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Actuarially Determined Contribution	\$ 2,284,715	\$ 2,233,161	\$ 2,254,928	\$ 2,456,032	\$ 2,511,387	\$ 3,091,444	\$ 3,488,893	\$ 3,365,469	\$ 4,412,546	\$ 4,313,779
Contributions in Relation to the Actuarially Determined Contribution	2,284,715	2,233,161	2,254,928	2,456,032	2,511,387	3,091,444	3,488,893	3,365,469	4,412,546	4,313,779
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Covered Payroll	\$ 16,787,032	\$ 18,444,678	\$ 18,428,703	\$ 19,160,897	\$ 19,552,183	\$ 19,967,045	\$ 19,919,543	\$ 20,529,299	\$ 22,953,381	\$ 18,531,539
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	13.61%	12.11%	12.24%	12.82%	12.84%	15.48%	17.51%	16.39%	19.22%	23.28%

Notes to Schedule:

Valuation Date June 30, 2023

Measurement Date June 30, 2023

The actuarially determined contributions are calculated as of June 30, for the fiscal year ending two years after the valuation date.

Methods and Assumptions Used to Determine

Contribution Rates:

Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal
Amortization Method	Level dollar, closed
Single Equivalent Amortization Period	Blended 24.3 to 24.4 years depending on Tier
Asset Valuation Method	Market Value on the measurement date. Plan's fiduciary net position also included the present value of receivable initial liability payments established by participating employers upon entry into MERS
Inflation	2.50%
Salary Increases	3.50% - 9.50%, including inflation
Investment Rate of Return	7%, net of investment related expense
Changes in Assumptions	In 2019, the latest experience study for the System updated most of the actuarial assumptions utilized in the June 30, 2020 valuation to include: rates of inflation, real investment return mortality, withdrawal, disability, retirement, and salary increase were adjusted to more closely reflect actual and anticipated experience. These assumptions were recommended as part of the Experience Study for the System for the five-year period ended June 30, 2017.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
SCHEDULE OF THE TOWN'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY
MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Town's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	3.57%	3.29%	3.22%	3.35%	3.07%	2.94%	2.93%	2.80%	2.97%	2.81%
Town's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 3,519,712	\$ 6,345,626	\$ 10,725,931	\$ 8,314,503	\$ 29,349,746	\$ 30,340,054	\$ 32,645,487	\$ 19,889,870	\$ 40,901,028	\$ 39,730,593
Town's Covered Payroll	\$ 16,787,032	\$ 18,444,678	\$ 18,428,703	\$ 19,160,897	\$ 19,552,183	\$ 19,967,045	\$ 19,919,543	\$ 20,529,299	\$ 22,953,381	\$ 18,531,539
Town's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	20.97%	34.40%	58.20%	43.39%	150.11%	151.95%	163.89%	96.89%	178.19%	214.39%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	90.48%	92.72%	88.29%	91.68%	73.60%	72.69%	71.18%	82.59%	68.71%	69.54%

*Notes:

- The measurement date is one year earlier than the employer's reporting date.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN NET OPEB LIABILITY (ASSET) AND RELATED RATIOS
RETIREE HEALTH PLAN
LAST EIGHT FISCAL YEARS

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total OPEB Liability:								
Service Cost	\$ 808,381	\$ 838,695	\$ 884,463	\$ 1,011,077	\$ 1,053,546	\$ 740,539	\$ 773,123	\$ 606,964
Interest	1,849,268	1,963,934	2,066,626	1,997,540	2,119,102	1,763,781	1,839,983	1,613,190
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	124,760	29,728	(2,500,899)	36,501	(2,911,119)	355,593	(5,225,247)	42,188
Changes of Assumptions	-	-	917,229	-	(3,955,923)	-	808,916	-
Benefit Payments	(1,035,117)	(1,070,696)	(1,652,303)	(1,096,643)	(1,342,019)	(1,579,882)	(1,864,926)	(1,163,522)
Net Change in Total OPEB Liability	1,747,292	1,761,661	(284,884)	1,948,475	(5,036,413)	1,280,031	(3,668,151)	1,098,820
Total OPEB Liability - Beginning	27,035,934	28,783,226	30,544,887	30,260,003	32,208,478	27,172,065	28,452,096	24,783,945
Total OPEB Liability - Ending	28,783,226	30,544,887	30,260,003	32,208,478	27,172,065	28,452,096	24,783,945	25,882,765
Plan Fiduciary Net Position:								
Contributions - Employer	2,216,607	2,218,026	8,141,374	9,609,044	2,346,149	2,589,512	2,290,899	237,812
Contributions - TRB Subsidy	25,410	64,570	51,480	53,020	56,870	51,370	93,500	84,833
Net Investment Income	1,090,779	662,753	841,537	(140,172)	4,522,716	(2,882,744)	2,416,440	2,523,024
Benefit Payments	(1,035,117)	(1,070,696)	(1,652,303)	(1,096,643)	(1,342,019)	(1,579,882)	(1,864,926)	(1,163,522)
Net Change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position	2,297,679	1,874,653	7,382,088	8,425,249	5,583,716	(1,821,744)	2,935,913	1,682,147
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Beginning	11,934,160	14,231,839	16,106,492	23,488,580	31,913,829	37,497,545	35,675,801	38,611,714
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Ending	14,231,839	16,106,492	23,488,580	31,913,829	37,497,545	35,675,801	38,611,714	40,293,861
Net OPEB Liability - Ending	<u>\$ 14,551,387</u>	<u>\$ 14,438,395</u>	<u>\$ 6,771,423</u>	<u>\$ 294,649</u>	<u>\$ (10,325,480)</u>	<u>\$ (7,223,705)</u>	<u>\$ (13,827,769)</u>	<u>\$ (14,411,096)</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability	49.44%	52.73%	77.62%	99.09%	138.00%	125.39%	155.79%	155.68%
Covered-Employee Payroll	\$ 49,561,870	\$ 51,420,440	\$ 44,608,973	\$ 46,214,896	\$ 46,157,107	\$ 47,726,448	\$ 48,874,575	\$ 50,536,311
Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll	29.36%	28.08%	15.18%	0.64%	-22.37%	-15.14%	-28.29%	-28.52%

*Note: This schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years' information will be displayed as it becomes available.

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS
RETIREE HEALTH PLAN
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS**

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Actuarially Determined Contribution (1)	\$ 1,835,900	\$ 1,847,914	\$ 1,907,215	\$ 2,016,067	\$ 2,048,581	\$ 1,970,411	\$ 2,018,432	\$ 298,455	\$ 326,473	\$ 7,677
Contributions in Relation to the Actuarially Determined Contribution	<u>1,808,700</u>	<u>1,560,200</u>	<u>2,216,607</u>	<u>2,218,026</u>	<u>8,141,374</u>	<u>9,609,044</u>	<u>2,346,149</u>	<u>2,589,512</u>	<u>2,290,899</u>	<u>237,812</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$ 27,200</u>	<u>\$ 287,714</u>	<u>\$ (309,392)</u>	<u>\$ (201,959)</u>	<u>\$ (6,092,793)</u>	<u>\$ (7,638,633)</u>	<u>\$ (327,717)</u>	<u>\$ (2,291,057)</u>	<u>\$ (1,964,426)</u>	<u>\$ (230,135)</u>
Covered-Employee Payroll	\$ 48,861,400	\$ 47,770,477	\$ 49,561,870	\$ 51,420,440	\$ 44,608,973	\$ 46,214,896	\$ 46,157,107	\$ 47,726,448	\$ 48,874,575	\$ 50,536,311
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll	3.70%	3.27%	4.47%	4.31%	18.25%	20.79%	5.08%	5.43%	4.69%	0.47%

Notes to Schedule:

Valuation Date July 1, 2022

Measurement Date June 30, 2024

Actuarially determined contribution rates are calculated as of June 30, two years prior to the end of the fiscal year in which contributions are reported.

Methods and Assumptions Used to Determine

Contribution Rates:

Actuarial Cost Method Entry Age Normal

Amortization Method Level Percentage of Salary, Closed

Amortization Period 24 Years

Asset Valuation Method Market Value

Inflation 2.40%

Healthcare Cost Trend Rates 6.50% in 2022, Decreasing 0.20% per Year to an Ultimate Rate of 4.40% for 2033 and Later.

Prior: (6.50% in 2020, Decreasing 0.20% per Year to an Ultimate Rate of 4.40% for 2031 and Later.)

Salary Increases 3.40%, Average, Including Inflation

Investment Rate of Return 6.50%, Net of Pension Plan Investment Expense, Including Inflation

Retirement Age Expected Retirement Ages of Employees are Based on Union Agreements and Other Expectations

Mortality Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Amount-Weighted Mortality Tables (with separate tables for General Employees, Public Safety and Teachers), projected to the valuation date with Scale MP-2021

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENT RETURNS
RETIREE HEALTH PLAN
LAST EIGHT FISCAL YEARS**

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Annual Money-Weighted Rate of Return, Net of Investment Expense	8.44%	4.50%	4.72%	-0.57%	14.16%	-7.68%	6.77%	6.59%

*Note: This schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years' information will be displayed as it becomes available.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
SCHEDULE OF THE TOWN'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET OPEB LIABILITY
TEACHERS RETIREMENT PLAN
LAST SEVEN FISCAL YEARS*

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Town's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Town's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
State's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability Associated With the Town	9,526,560	9,629,961	10,280,523	17,770,057	17,064,792	16,866,066	22,277,963
Total	<u>\$ 9,526,560</u>	<u>\$ 9,629,961</u>	<u>\$ 10,280,523</u>	<u>\$ 17,770,057</u>	<u>\$ 17,064,792</u>	<u>\$ 16,866,066</u>	<u>\$ 22,277,963</u>
Town's Covered Payroll	\$ 28,030,861	\$ 27,688,745	\$ 27,083,522	\$ 27,094,747	\$ 26,997,429	\$ 25,670,355	\$ 26,087,583
Town's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability	11.92%	9.46%	6.11%	2.50%	2.08%	1.49%	1.79%

Notes to Schedule:

Changes in Benefit Terms	There were no changes to benefit terms since the prior Measurement Date.
Changes of Assumptions	Based on the procedure described in GASB 74, the discount rate used to measure plan obligations for financial accounting purposes as of June 30, 2023 was updated to equal the SEIR of 3.64% as of June 30, 2023;
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age
Amortization Method	Level Percent of Payroll Over an Open Period
Remaining Amortization Period	30 Years
Asset Valuation Method	Fair Value of Assets
Investment Rate of Return	3.00%, Net of Investment Related Expense, Including Price Inflation
Price Inflation	2.50%

***Notes:**

- This schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years' information will be displayed as it becomes available.

APPENDIX B - FORM OF OPINION OF BOND COUNSEL

March __, 2026

Town of Branford
1019 Main Street
Branford, Connecticut 06405

We have acted as Bond Counsel to the Town of Branford, Connecticut (the “Town”) in connection with the issuance of its \$ _____ General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes (Federally Taxable) (the “Notes”) dated March __, 2026. In such capacity, we have examined such law and such certified proceedings, certifications, and other documents of the Town as we have deemed necessary to give the opinions below.

Regarding questions of fact material to the opinions below, we have relied on the certified proceedings and other certifications of representatives of the Town and certifications of others furnished to us without undertaking to verify them by independent investigation.

Based on the foregoing, we are of the opinion that when the Notes are duly certified by U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, the Notes will be valid and legally binding general obligations of the Town payable as to both principal and interest from ad valorem taxes which may be levied on all taxable property subject to taxation by the Town without limitation as to rate or amount except as to classified property such as certified forest lands taxable at a limited rate and dwelling houses of qualified elderly persons of low income or of qualified disabled persons taxable at limited amounts pursuant to Connecticut statutes.

In our opinion, under existing law, interest on the Notes is included in gross income for federal income tax purposes pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

We are further of the opinion that, under existing statutes, interest on the Notes is excludable from Connecticut taxable income for purposes of the Connecticut income tax on individuals, trusts and estates; and is excluded from amounts on which the net Connecticut minimum tax is based for individuals, trusts and estates required to pay the federal alternative minimum tax. We express no opinion regarding other state and other State of Connecticut tax consequences caused by ownership or disposition of, or receipt of interest on the Notes. We express no opinion regarding any tax consequence caused by ownership or disposition of, or receipt of interest income on, the Notes not specifically described herein.

The rights of the owners of the Notes and the enforceability of the Notes are limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, and other similar laws affecting the rights and remedies of creditors, and by equitable principles, whether considered at law or in equity.

We express no opinion herein regarding the accuracy, adequacy, or completeness of the Preliminary Official Statement, the Official Statement and other offering material relating to the Notes.

The opinions given in this opinion letter are given as of the date set forth above, and we assume no obligation to revise or supplement them to reflect any facts or circumstances or changes in law that may come later to our attention or occur.

Respectfully,

PULLMAN & COMLEY, LLC

APPENDIX C – FORM OF CONTINUING DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT

In accordance with the requirements of Rule 15c2-12 promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Issuer will agree, pursuant to a Continuing Disclosure Agreement for the Notes to be executed by the Issuer substantially in the following form, to provide, or cause to be provided, in a timely manner not in excess of ten business days after the occurrence of the event, notice of the occurrence of certain events with respect to the Notes.

CONTINUING DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT

This Continuing Disclosure Agreement (this “Agreement”) is made as of March __, 2026, by the Town of Branford, Connecticut (the “Issuer”) acting by its undersigned officers, duly authorized, in connection with the issuance of its \$ _____ General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes (Federally Taxable) dated March __, 2026 (the “Notes”).

Section 1. Definitions. Capitalized terms not otherwise defined in this Agreement shall have the meaning assigned in the Rule (as hereinafter defined). In addition to the terms defined above, the following capitalized terms shall have the meanings ascribed thereto:

“Final Official Statement” means the official statement of the Issuer dated February __, 2026 prepared in connection with the issuance of the Notes.

“Listed Events” shall mean any of the events listed in Section 2 of this Agreement.

“MSRB” shall mean the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board established pursuant to Section 15B(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or any successor thereto.

“Repository” means the MSRB, through the operation of the Electronic Municipal Market Access (EMMA) system as described in 1934 Act Release No. 59061 and maintained by the MSRB for purposes of the Rule, or any other nationally recognized municipal securities information repository or organization recognized by the SEC from time to time for purposes of the Rule.

“Rule” means rule 15c2-12 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as of the date of this Agreement.

“SEC” means the Securities and Exchange Commission of the United States, or any successor thereto.

Section 2. Event Notices.

The Issuer agrees to provide, or cause to be provided, to the Repository in an electronic format, accompanied by identifying information, as prescribed by the MSRB, notice of the occurrence of any of the following Listed Events with respect to the Notes, in a timely manner not later than ten (10) business days after the occurrence of any such Listed Event:

- (a) principal and interest payment delinquencies;
- (b) non-payment related defaults, if material;
- (c) unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties;
- (d) unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties;
- (e) substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform;
- (f) adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the Internal Revenue Service of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notices of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701-TEB) or other material notices or determinations with respect to the tax status of the Notes, or other material events affecting the tax status of the Notes;
- (g) modifications to rights of holders of the Notes, if material;
- (h) Note calls, if material, and tender offers.

- (i) defeasances;
- (j) release, substitution, or sale of property securing repayment of the Notes, if material;
- (k) rating changes;
- (l) bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the Issuer;

Note to clause (l): For the purposes of the event identified in clause (l) above, the event is considered to occur when any of the following occur: the appointment of a receiver, fiscal agent or similar officer for the Issuer in a proceeding under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code or in any other proceeding under state or federal law in which a court or government authority has assumed jurisdiction over substantially all of the assets or business of the Issuer, or if such jurisdiction has been assumed by leaving the existing governing body and officials or officers in possession but subject to the supervision and orders of a court or governmental authority, or the entry of an order confirming a plan of reorganization, arrangement or liquidation by a court or governmental authority having supervision or jurisdiction over substantially all of the assets or business of the Issuer;

- (m) the consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving the Issuer or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Issuer, other than in the ordinary course of business, the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such actions, other than pursuant to its terms, if material;
- (n) appointment of a successor or additional trustee or the change of name of trustee, if material;
- (o) incurrence of a financial obligation, if material, or agreement to covenants, events of default, remedies, priority rights, or other similar terms of a financial obligation, any of which affect security holders, if material; and
- (p) default, event of acceleration, termination event, modification of terms, or other similar events under the terms of the financial obligation of the Issuer, any of which reflect financial difficulties.

Note to clauses (o) and (p): For the purposes of the events identified in clauses (o) and (p), the term “financial obligation” means a (i) debt obligation; (ii) derivative instrument entered into in connection with, or pledged as security or a source of payment for, an existing or planned debt obligation; or (iii) guarantee of (i) or (ii). The term “financial obligation” shall not include municipal securities as to which a final official statement has been provided to the MSRB consistent with the Rule.

Section 3. Termination. The obligations of the Issuer under this Agreement shall terminate upon the earlier of (i) payment or legal defeasance, at maturity or otherwise, of all of the Bonds, or (ii) such time as the Issuer ceases to be an obligated person with respect to the Bonds within the meaning of the Rule.

Section 4. Use of Agents. The Issuer may, from time to time, appoint or engage an agent to assist it in carrying out its obligations under this Agreement, and may discharge any such agent, with or without appointing a successor agent.

Section 5. Amendment; Waiver. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the Issuer may amend this Agreement, and any provision of this Agreement may be waived, if such amendment or waiver is made in connection with a change in circumstances that arises from a change in legal requirements, a change in law, or a change in the identity, nature or status of the Issuer, and is supported by an opinion of counsel expert in federal securities laws, to the effect that (i) such amendment or waiver would not materially adversely affect the beneficial owners of the Notes and (ii) the Agreement as so amended would have complied with the requirements of the Rule as of the date of the Agreement, taking in account any amendments or interpretations of the Rule as well as any changes in circumstances. A copy of any such amendment will be filed in a timely manner with the MSRB. The annual financial information provided on the first date following adoption of any such amendment will explain, in narrative form, the reasons for the amendment and the impact of the change in the type of operating or financial information provided.

Section 6. Additional Information. The Issuer shall have no obligation to provide any information, data or notices other than as set forth in this Agreement; provided, however, nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to prevent the Issuer from disseminating any other information, using the means of dissemination set forth in this Agreement or any other means of communications, or including any other information in any annual report or notice of occurrence of a Listed Event, in addition to that which is required by this Agreement. If the Issuer chooses to include any information in any annual report or notice of occurrence of a Listed Event in addition to that which is specifically required by this Agreement, the Issuer shall have no obligation under this Agreement to update such information or include it in any future annual report or notice of occurrence of a Listed Event.

Section 7. Indemnification. The Issuer agrees to indemnify and save its officials, officers and employees harmless against any loss, expense and liabilities which they may incur arising out of or in the exercise or performance of its powers and duties hereunder, including the costs and expenses (including attorney's fees) of defending against any claim of liability hereunder, but excluding any such liabilities due to any such person's malicious, wanton, or willful act. The obligations of the Issuer under this Section shall survive, notwithstanding that such person may no longer be serving in such capacity.

Section 8. Enforceability. The Issuer agrees that its undertaking pursuant to the Rule set forth in this Agreement is intended to be for the benefit of and enforceable by the beneficial owners of the Notes. In the event the Issuer shall fail to perform its duties hereunder, the Issuer shall have the option to cure such failure after its receipt of written notice from any beneficial owner of the Notes of such failure. The present address of the Issuer is Town of Branford, 1019 Main Street, Branford, Connecticut 06405, ATTN: First Selectman. In the event the Issuer does not cure such failure, the right of any beneficial owner of the Notes to enforce the provisions of this undertaking shall be limited to a right to obtain specific enforcement of the Issuer's obligations hereunder. No monetary damages shall arise or be payable hereunder nor shall any failure to comply with this Agreement constitute default of the Issuer with respect to the Notes.

Section 9. Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Connecticut.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Issuer has caused this Continuing Disclosure Agreement to be executed in its name by its undersigned officers, duly authorized, all as of the date first above written.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT

By: _____
First Selectman

By: _____
Town Treasurer

By: _____
Finance Director

APPENDIX D – NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE OF SALE

**TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT
\$10,800,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES
(FEDERALLY TAXABLE)
BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY**

NOTICE IS GIVEN that ELECTRONIC BIDS via **PARITY®** (as described herein) will be received by the TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT (the “Issuer”), until 11:00 A.M. (E.T.) on WEDNESDAY,

FEBRUARY 25, 2026

(the “Sale Date”) for the purchase of the Issuer’s \$10,800,000 General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes (Federally Taxable) (the “Notes”). Electronic bids must be submitted via **PARITY®** (see “Electronic Bidding Procedures”).

The Notes

The Notes are expected to be dated March 12, 2026 and will mature and be payable to the registered owner on November 24, 2026 as further described in the Preliminary Official Statement (as hereinafter defined). The Notes will bear interest (which interest shall be calculated on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) payable at maturity at the rate or rates per annum fixed in the proposal or proposals accepted for their purchase, which rates shall be in multiples of 1/100 of 1% per annum.

Nature of Obligation

The Notes will constitute general obligations of the Issuer, and the Issuer will pledge its full faith and credit to pay the principal of and interest on the Notes when due. Unless paid from other sources, the Notes are payable from ad valorem taxes which may be levied on all taxable property subject to taxation by the Issuer without limit as to rate or amount except as to classified property such as certified forest lands taxable at a limited rate and dwelling houses of qualified elderly persons of low income or of qualified disabled persons taxable at limited amounts pursuant to provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended. The information in this Notice of Sale is only a brief summary of certain provisions of the Notes. For further information about the Notes, reference is hereby made to the Preliminary Official Statement.

Registration

The Notes will be issued by means of a book-entry system with no physical distribution of note certificates made to the public. The Notes will be issued in registered form and one note certificate for each interest rate will be issued to The Depository Trust Company (“DTC”), New York, New York, registered in the name of its nominee, Cede & Co., and immobilized in its custody. A book-entry system will be employed, evidencing ownership of the Notes in principal amounts of \$5,000 or any integral multiple thereof, with transfers of ownership effected on the records of DTC and its participants pursuant to rules and procedures adopted by DTC and its participants. The purchaser(s), as a condition to delivery of the Notes, will be required to deposit the Note certificates with DTC, registered in the name of Cede & Co. Principal of and interest on the Notes will be payable by the Issuer or its agent to DTC or its nominee as registered owner of the Notes. Principal and interest payments by DTC to participants of DTC will be the responsibility of DTC; principal and interest payments to beneficial owners by participants of DTC will be the responsibility of such participants and other nominees of beneficial owners. The Issuer will not be responsible or liable for payments by DTC to its participants or by DTC participants or indirect participants to beneficial owners or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing the records maintained by DTC, its participants or persons acting through such participants. Upon receipt from the Issuer, the Paying Agent will pay principal of and interest on the Notes directly to DTC so long as DTC or its nominee, Cede & Co., is the Noteholder.

Bid Specifications; Basis of Award; Right to Reject Proposals; Waiver; Right to Cancel; Postponement; Change of Terms

Each bid for the purchase of the Notes must be submitted in accordance with the requirements prescribed herein. A proposal may be for all or any part of the Notes but any proposal for a part must be for at least \$100,000, or a whole multiple thereof, and a separate proposal will be required for each part of the Notes for which a separate interest rate is bid. Unless all bids are rejected, the Notes will be awarded to the bidder or bidders offering to purchase the Notes at the lowest net interest cost ("NIC"), computed as to each interest rate stated by adding the total interest which will be paid at such rate and deducting therefrom the premium offered, if any. As between proposals resulting in the same lowest net interest cost to the Issuer, the award will be made on the basis of the highest principal amount of the Notes specified. No bid for less than par and accrued interest, if any, will be considered and the Issuer reserves the right to award to any bidder all or any part of the Notes bid for in its proposal. If a bidder is awarded only a part of the Notes bid for in its proposal, any premium offered in such proposal will be proportionately reduced so that the resulting net interest cost to the Issuer with respect to the Notes awarded is the same as that contained in the bidder's proposal with respect to the entire amount bid, carried to six decimal places. The purchase price must be paid in immediately available federal funds.

The right is reserved to reject any and all proposals and to reject any proposal not complying with this Notice of Sale and to waive any irregularity or informality with respect to any proposal.

The Issuer further reserves the right to cancel or postpone the sale to another time and date in its sole discretion for any reason, including Internet difficulties. The Issuer will use its best efforts to notify prospective bidders in a timely manner of any need for a cancellation or postponement. Upon the establishment of an alternative sale date, any bidder may submit proposals for the purchase of the Notes in accordance with the provisions of this Notice of Sale.

Electronic Bidding Procedures

Any prospective bidder intending to submit an electronic bid must submit its electronic bid through the facilities of **PARITY**[®]. Subscription to the BiDCOMP Competitive Bidding System is required in order to submit an electronic bid and the Issuer will neither confirm any subscription nor be responsible for the failure of any prospective bidder to subscribe.

An electronic bid made through the facilities of **PARITY**[®] shall be deemed an irrevocable offer to purchase the Notes on the terms provided in this Notice of Sale, and shall be binding upon the bidder as if made by a signed, sealed bid delivered to the Issuer. By submitting a bid for the Notes via **PARITY**[®], the bidder represents and warrants to the Issuer that such bidder's bid for the purchase of the Notes is submitted for and on behalf of such prospective bidder by an officer or agent who is duly authorized to bind the prospective bidder by an irrevocable offer and that acceptance of such bid by the Issuer will bind the bidder by a legal, valid and enforceable contract, for the purchase of the Notes on the terms described in this Notice of Sale. **The Issuer shall not be responsible for any malfunction or mistake made by, or as a result of the use of the facilities of PARITY[®], or the inaccuracies of any information, including bid information or worksheets supplied by PARITY[®], the use of PARITY[®] facilities being the sole risk of the prospective bidder. Each Bidder is solely responsible for knowing the terms of the sale as set forth herein.**

If any provisions of this Notice of Sale shall conflict with information provided by **PARITY**[®] as the approved provider of electronic bidding services, this Notice of Sale shall control. Further information about **PARITY**[®], including any fee charged, may be obtained from **PARITY**[®], 1359 Broadway, 36th Street, 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10018, Attention: Customer Service Department (telephone: (212) 849-5021 or (212) 849-5023 - email notice: munis@spglobal.com or parity@i-deal.com).

For purposes of the electronic bidding process, the time as maintained by **PARITY**[®] shall constitute the official time. For information purposes only, bidders are requested to state in their bids the net interest cost to the Issuer, as described under "Bid Specifications; Basis of Award; Right to Reject Proposals; Waiver; Right to Cancel; Postponement; Change of Terms" above. All electronic bids shall be deemed to incorporate the provisions of this Notice of Sale.

Disclaimer. Each **PARITY**[®] prospective electronic bidder shall be solely responsible to make necessary arrangements to access **PARITY**[®] for the purposes of submitting its bid in a timely manner and in compliance with the requirements of this Notice of Sale. Neither the Issuer nor **PARITY**[®] shall have any duty or obligation to undertake such arrangements to bid for any prospective bidder or to provide or assure such access to any prospective bidder, and neither the Issuer nor **PARITY**[®] shall be responsible for a bidder's failure to make a bid or for proper operation of, or have any liability for any delays or interruptions of, or any damages caused by, **PARITY**[®]. The Issuer is using **PARITY**[®] as a communication mechanism, and not as the Issuer's agent, to conduct the electronic bidding for the Notes. The Issuer is not bound by any advice and determination of **PARITY**[®] to the effect that any particular bid complies with the terms of this Notice of Sale and in particular the bid requirements herein set forth. All costs and expenses incurred by prospective bidders in connection with their subscription to, arrangements with and submission of bids via **PARITY**[®] are the sole responsibility of the bidders; and the Issuer is not responsible, directly or indirectly, for any such costs or expenses. If a prospective bidder encounters any difficulty in arranging to bid or submitting, modifying or withdrawing a bid for the Notes, the prospective bidder should telephone **PARITY**[®] at (212) 849-5021 or (212) 849-5023.

CUSIP Numbers

The deposit of the Notes with DTC under a book-entry system requires the assignment of CUSIP numbers prior to delivery. It shall be the responsibility of the purchaser to apply for CUSIP numbers for the Notes prior to delivery. Neither the failure to print such CUSIP number on any note, nor any error with respect thereto, shall constitute cause for a failure or refusal by the purchaser thereof to accept delivery of and pay for the Notes. All expenses in relation to the printing of CUSIP numbers on the Notes shall be paid for by the Issuer; provided, however, that the Issuer assumes no responsibility for any CUSIP Service Bureau charge or other charge that may be imposed for the assignment of such numbers, which charges shall be the responsibility of and shall be paid for by the purchaser.

Certifying Agent, Registrar, Paying Agent and Transfer Agent

The Notes will be authenticated by U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, Hartford, Connecticut. U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association will also act as Registrar, Paying Agent and Transfer Agent.

Delivery, Payment and Closing Requirements

At or prior to the delivery of the Notes the winning bidder shall be furnished, without cost, with (a) the approving opinion of Pullman & Comley, LLC of Hartford, Connecticut, Bond Counsel ("Bond Counsel") (see "Bond Counsel Opinion" below); (b) a signature and no litigation certificate, in form satisfactory to said firm, dated as of the date of delivery of the Notes, and stating that there is no litigation pending, or to the knowledge of the signer or signers thereof threatened, affecting the validity of the Notes or the power of the Issuer to levy and collect taxes to pay them; (c) a copy of the Official Statement prepared for this note issue; (d) a certificate of Issuer Officials relating to the accuracy and completeness of the Official Statement; (e) a Continuing Disclosure Agreement; and (f) a receipt of payment for the Notes.

The Notes will be delivered against payment in immediately available federal funds through the facilities of DTC, New York, New York or its agent via Fast Automated Securities Transfer ("FAST") on or about March 12, 2026 (the "Closing Date").

The Issuer will have no responsibility to pay for any expenses of the purchaser except to the extent specifically stated in this Notice of Sale. The purchaser will have no responsibility to pay for any of the Issuer's costs of issuance except to the extent specifically stated in this Notice of Sale.

The purchaser will be responsible for the clearance or exemption with respect to the status of the Notes for sale under securities or "Blue Sky" laws and the preparation of any surveys or memoranda in connection with such sale. The Issuer shall have no responsibility for such clearance, exemption or preparation.

Bond Counsel Opinion

The legality of the issue will be passed upon by Bond Counsel, and the purchaser will be furnished with its opinion, without charge, substantially in the form set forth in Appendix B to the Official Statement. The opinion will state that (i) the Notes are valid and binding obligations of the Issuer; (ii) interest on the Notes is included in gross income for federal income tax purposes pursuant to the Internal Code of 1986; and (iii) under existing statutes, interest on the Notes is excludable from Connecticut taxable income for purposes of the Connecticut income tax on individuals, trusts and estates and is excluded from amounts on which the net Connecticut minimum tax is based in the case of individuals, trusts and estates required to pay the federal alternative minimum tax.

Official Statement

For more information regarding the Notes or the Issuer, reference is made to the Preliminary Official Statement dated February 18, 2026 (the “Official Statement”) describing the Notes and the financial condition of the Issuer. The Preliminary Official Statement is available in electronic format at www.i-dealprospectus.com and www.munistat.com, and such electronic access is being provided as a matter of convenience only. Copies of the Preliminary Official Statement may be obtained from Mark Chapman, Munistat Services, Inc., 129 Samson Rock Drive, Suite A, Madison, CT 06443, Telephone: (203) 421-2087, E-mail: Mark.Chapman@munistat.com. The Issuer deems such Official Statement to be a final official statement for purposes of complying with Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12 (the “Rule”), but such Official Statement is subject to revision or amendment as appropriate. The Issuer will make available to the purchaser a reasonable number of copies of the final Official Statement at the Issuer’s expense, and the final Official Statement will be made available to the purchaser by no later than the earlier of the delivery of the Notes or by the seventh (7th) business day after the day bids on the Notes are received. If the Issuer’s Municipal Advisor, is provided with the necessary information from the purchaser by 12:00 o’clock noon on the day after the Sale Date, the copies of the final Official Statement will include an additional cover page and other pages, if necessary, indicating the interest rates, rating(s), yields or reoffering prices and the name of the managing underwriter of the Notes, and any corrections. The purchaser shall arrange with the Municipal Advisor the method of delivery of the copies of the final Official Statement to the purchaser. Additional copies of the final Official Statement may be obtained by the purchaser at its own expense by arrangement with the printer.

Continuing Disclosure Agreement

As required by the Rule, the Issuer will undertake, pursuant to a Continuing Disclosure Agreement (the “Agreement”), to provide notice of the occurrence of certain events with respect to the Notes within ten (10) business days of such event. A form of the Agreement is attached to the Official Statement as Appendix C. The purchaser’s obligation to purchase the Notes shall be conditioned upon its receiving, at or prior to delivery of the Notes, an executed Agreement.

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT

JOSHUA BROOKS
First Selectman

KURT M. SCHWANFELDER
Town Treasurer

JAMES P. FINCH, JR.
Finance Director

February 18, 2026