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# **AGREEMENT**

# BETWEEN

GREENFIELD TOWNSHIP, FAIRFIELD COUNTY, OHIO

AND

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS

LOCAL NO. 4422

January 01, 2020 through December 31, 2022

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# AGREEMENT

- <u>Section 1. Agreement.</u> This is an Agreement entered into by and between the Township of Greenfield, Fairfield County, Ohio (the "Township") and the International Association of Firefighters, Local No. 4422 (the "Union").
- <u>Section 2</u>. <u>Purpose</u>. This Agreement is made for the purpose of setting forth the full and complete understandings and agreements between the parties governing the wages, hours, and terms and conditions of all bargaining unit members' employment.
- <u>Section 3.</u> <u>Sanctity of Agreement.</u> Unless otherwise specifically provided in this Agreement, no changes in this Agreement shall be negotiated during its duration unless there is a written accord by and between the parties hereto to do so. Any negotiated changes, to be effective and incorporated in this Agreement, must be in writing and signed by the parties.

#### ARTICLE 2

# RECOGNITION

- <u>Section 1</u>. <u>Recognition</u>. The Township, for only so long as it remains a "public employer" (as that term is defined in Ohio Revised Code Section 4117.01(B)), recognizes the Union as the sole and exclusive representative for all employees included in the bargaining unit described in Section 2 of this Article for the purpose of collective bargaining in matters affecting wages, hours, and terms and conditions of employment.
- <u>Section 2</u>. <u>Bargaining Unit</u>. There is one (1) bargaining unit established by this Agreement. This bargaining unit shall consist of and include all regular, full-time employees employed in the Greenfield Township Fire Department (the "Department") by the Township in the classifications of firefighter, lieutenant and captain (hereinafter sometimes referred to singularly as "member" and collectively as "members").
- <u>Section 3. Exclusions</u>. The classifications of Fire Chief, Assistant Chief, and all other positions and classifications not specifically established above as being included in the bargaining unit shall be excluded from the bargaining unit. Also excluded from the bargaining unit are all management, confidential, fiduciary, supervisory, part-time, temporary, casual and seasonal employees, and employees who do not meet the definition of a public employee under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4117.
- <u>Section 4.</u> <u>Qualifications.</u> As a condition of continued employment, each member shall obtain and maintain the minimum qualifications as may, from time to time, be required for each member's respective position, including, but not limited to, a current and valid Ohio drivers license, EMT-A certification, proof of insurability under all applicable Township liability insurance policies, firefighter certification, and, upon request of the Township, EMT-P certification, fire inspector and/or fire investigator certifications, and such other and/or additional certifications, licenses and/or levels of training as may, from time to time, be established by applicable Federal or State law, rule or regulation.

Furthermore, but not as a condition of employment, each member shall, at the direction of the Township, obtain and/or maintain such other and/or additional certifications, licenses and/or levels of training as may, from time to time, be established by the Township.

### ARTICLE 3

# NON-DISCRIMINATION

- <u>Section 1</u>. <u>Joint Pledge</u>. As may be provided by applicable law, neither the Township nor the Union shall unlawfully discriminate against any member on the basis of age, sex, race, color, creed or national origin.
- <u>Section 2</u>. <u>Township Pledge</u>. The Township agrees not to interfere with the rights of bargaining unit members to become members of the Union, and the Township shall not discriminate, interfere with, restrain or coerce any member because of Union membership or because of any legal member activity performed in an official capacity on behalf of the Union, as long as that activity does not conflict with the terms of this Agreement or is not in violation with law, rule or regulation.
- <u>Section 3. Union Pledge.</u> The Union recognizes its responsibility as bargaining agent and agrees to equally represent all members of the bargaining unit without discrimination, interference, restraint, or coercion. The Union agrees not to interfere with the rights of members to refrain or resign from membership in the Union and the Union shall not discriminate, interfere with, restrain, or coerce any member exercising the right to abstain from membership in the Union or involvement in Union activities.

#### ARTICLE 4

# UNION SECURITY

- Section 1. Dues Deduction. The Township agrees to deduct regular Union membership dues, as certified by the Union to the Township, once each month from the payroll check of a member. The Township shall not be obligated to make any of the foregoing deductions from the pay of any member who, during the particular month involved, shall have failed to receive sufficient wages to make all other required deductions. If a deduction is desired, the member shall sign a payroll deduction form which shall be furnished by the Union and presented to the Township Fiscal Officer. (A copy of the Payroll Deduction Form is attached as Attachment A.) The Township agrees to furnish to the Union, once each calendar month, a warrant in the aggregate amount of the deductions made for that calendar month, together with a notice of any change in the number of members for whom deductions were made. Nothing herein shall prohibit members covered by this Agreement from submitting dues directly to the Union.
- Section 2. Processing. The Township shall be relieved from making an individual "check-off" of dues deductions upon a member's: (1) termination of employment; (2) transfer to a job other than one covered by a bargaining unit; (3) unpaid leave of absence; (4) layoff from work; (5) failure to timely submit and/or revocation of the check-off authorization by a member; (6) a member's lack of sufficient funds; or (7) resignation by the member from the Union. The rate at which dues and/or fair share fees are to be deducted shall be certified to the Township

Fiscal Officer by the Treasurer of the Union during the first week in January of each calendar year. Any changes in the rate at which dues and/or fair share fees are to be deducted shall be certified to the Township Fiscal Officer by the Treasurer of the Union at least thirty (30) days prior to the implementation date. One (1) month advance notice must be given to the Township Fiscal Officer prior to initiating a dues and/or fair share deduction request or prior to making any changes in an individual's dues deductions or fair share fees. The parties agree that the Township assumes no obligation, financial or otherwise, arising out of the provisions of this Article regarding the deduction of Union dues and/or fair share fees. Once the funds are remitted to the Union, their disposition thereafter shall be the sole and exclusive obligation and responsibility of the Union. The parties further agree that neither the members nor the Union shall have a claim against the Township for errors in the processing of deductions, unless a claim of error is made to the Township in writing within one hundred eighty (180) days after the date such an error is claimed to have occurred. If it is found an error was made, it will ordinarily be corrected at the next pay period that the deduction would normally be made by deducting the proper amount.

Section 3. Union Indemnification. The Union hereby agrees that it will indemnify and hold the Township, its Board of Trustees, Township Fiscal Officer and its officials, officers, agents and employees, harmless from and against any and all claims, demands, actions, proceedings, damages, losses, costs or any other form of liability and/or expense, including the defense thereof, which arises out of or is in any way connected with any deduction (whether for dues, fair share fees or the like) made or required to be made by the Township under this Article. Once the funds are remitted to the Union, their disposition thereafter shall be the sole and exclusive obligation and responsibility of the Union.

Section 4. Bargaining Unit Meetings. The Union may, upon at least seven (7) days prior notification to and with the approval of the Fire Chief, be permitted to hold meetings for members at the television room in the firehouse or at such other location as the Fire Chief may designate. Unless otherwise approved by the Fire Chief, only one (1) meeting not exceeding two (2) hours in duration may be held each calendar month, and no meeting shall begin prior to 7:00 P.M. of any day. Members on duty may attend these meetings, provided that normal Departmental operations are not interfered with or disrupted. In addition, no official of the Union, its members or its representatives shall interfere with, interrupt or disrupt the normal work duties of other employees or the operations of the Township and/or Department. Any disruptive activity shall immediately cease upon the request of the Fire Chief or designee. It is intended that Township and/or Department operations shall not be interfered with or disrupted by the use of this provision.

Section 5. Union Activity. The Union agrees that neither it, its representatives nor its members shall conduct Union business during duty hours, except to the extent specifically authorized in this Agreement. For purposes of this Section, the term "duty hours" shall mean the time commencing from when a member is required to report for work at the beginning of the shift until the time the member is permitted to leave. The investigation and writing of grievances shall not be conducted during a member's duty hours without the prior approval of the Fire Chief or designee. If grievance hearings are scheduled during a member's regular duty hours, the member shall not suffer any loss of pay while attending the hearing. Union activities shall not be conducted in any work areas without prior notification to and approval by the Fire Chief or designee. The Union, its representatives and members shall cease unauthorized Union activities immediately upon request. Any member abusing the rules of this Section is subject to disciplinary action.

Section 6. Bulletin Board. The Union will be permitted to place and maintain one (1) bulletin board at such location in the Township's firehouse as may be approved by the Fire Chief. Bulletins and materials germane to the Union's function as exclusive representative of the bargaining unit are the only materials that may be posted on this board. It is also understood that no material may be posted on the board which contains personal attacks upon any other member or any other employee; scandalous, scurrilous or derogatory attacks upon the administration; or attacks on and/or favorable comments regarding a candidate for Township office. Furthermore, no Union related materials of any kind may be posted anywhere in the Township's facilities or on the Township's equipment, except on the bulletin board designated for the Union's use.

Section 7. Ballot Box. The Union shall be permitted, upon prior notification to the Chief of Police, to place a ballot box in the Roll Call Room for the purpose of collecting members' ballots on all Union issues subject to ballot. The box shall be the property of the Union and its contents shall not be subject to the Department's review.

Section 8. Use of Intra-Departmental Mail. The Union shall be permitted to utilize the intra-departmental mail and email systems and agrees that the use of these systems will be reasonable and limited to the purpose of providing information to members pertaining to Union business or bargaining unit representation. All mail placed into the mail system by the Union shall be the property of the member to whom it is addressed and shall not be subject to the Township's review. The Township shall not be responsible for such mail. Any Union use of the email system is subject to reasonable regulation by the Township. There is no expectation of privacy as to the Union's use of the email system.

Section 9. Personal Mail. It is the policy of the Township that the Township offices shall not be used by members as an address for regular receipt of personal mail. However, in the event clearly marked or identifiable personal mail is sent to a member at the Township offices, it shall not be subject to prior review by the Department or Township; provided, however, that the Department shall not be deemed in breach of this provision should such mail be inadvertently opened upon a good faith belief that such mail was intended for or relates to Departmental and/or Township operations.

### ARTICLE 5

### MANAGEMENT RIGHTS

Section 1. Retention of Management Rights. The Union recognizes the right and authority of the Township to administer the business of the Township, and in addition to other functions and responsibilities which are required by law, the Union recognizes that the Township (including, in certain instances, the Fire Chief) has and will retain the full and exclusive right and responsibility to manage the operations of the Department, to direct the work force, to promulgate rules and regulations and to otherwise exercise the prerogatives of management, which more particularly include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A. To manage and direct its employees, including the right to select, hire, promote, transfer, assign, evaluate, lay off and recall or to reprimand, suspend, discharge or discipline for just cause to maintain order among employees;
- B. To manage and determine the location, type and number of physical facilities, equipment, programs, and to determine the work to be performed;
- C. To determine the Department's goals, objectives, programs and services, and to utilize personnel in the manner designed to effectively meet these purposes;
- D. To determine the size and composition of the work force in the Township's organizational structure, including the right to relieve employees from duty due to layoff or job abolishment;
- To determine and otherwise arrange the hours of work and work schedules required to most efficiently operate;
- F. To determine when a job vacancy exists, the duties to be included in all job classifications, and the standards of quality and performance to be maintained;
- G. To determine the necessity to schedule overtime and the amount required thereof;
- To maintain the security of records and other important information;
- To determine the overall budget;
- To maintain and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Township's operations;
- K. To determine and implement necessary actions in emergency situations.

The exercise of the foregoing powers, rights, authority, duties and responsibilities, the adoption of policies, rules and regulations and practices in furtherance thereof, and the use of judgment and discretion in connection therewith shall be limited only by the specific and express terms of this Agreement, and, then only to the extent so limited, and actions and/or decisions by the Township relating to the foregoing shall not be grievable or otherwise subject to challenge in any court or other tribunal.

Section 2. Work Rules. The Union recognizes and agrees that the Township has the right and authority to promulgate, revise and/or enforce rules and regulations governing the operations of the Department and the conduct of Department personnel. While the Union may make recommendations to the Township with respect to such matters, it is, however, understood and agreed that the Township has the sole and exclusive right and authority to promulgate, revise and/or enforce all and any portions of any Department manuals including, but not limited to, the work rules, regulations, policies, procedures and directives, and any recommendations made by the Union shall be deemed advisory only and not binding upon the Township.

# **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

<u>Section 1.</u> <u>Grievance Defined.</u> A grievance is a proper allegation by a qualified person that there has been a violation of an express provision of this Agreement. However, a grievance shall not include the challenge of a removal, disciplinary reduction in pay and/or rank, or suspension.

<u>Section 2. Qualifications.</u> A grievance may be initiated by an aggrieved member, by the Union as the exclusive representative of the bargaining unit in order to enforce its rights under this Agreement, or by an aggrieved member on behalf of such member and group of members who are affected by the same act or condition giving rise to the grievance in the same or similar manner. The Union shall not process a grievance on behalf of any member without the member's knowledge and consent. A member has the right to present grievances and have them adjusted without the intervention of the Union, as long as the adjustment is consistent with the terms of this Agreement. If a grievant wishes to be represented by the Union in the processing of the grievance, the grievant shall file a copy of the grievance with a Union steward, along with a written request for Union representation.

### Section 3. Jurisdiction.

- A. This procedure shall be the sole and exclusive remedy for grievances.
- B. All grievances shall be processed at the proper sequential Step in order to be considered at any subsequent Step. Any grievance which is not processed by the grievant within the time limits or in the manner provided shall be considered resolved in favor of management.
- C. A grievant may withdraw a grievance at any point by submitting a written statement to that effect, or by failing to pursue the grievance within the time requirements at any Step in the grievance process. It is the intention of the parties that all time limits in the grievance process be met. To the end of encouraging thoughtful responses at each Step, the time limits at any Step may be extended upon mutual agreement signed by the parties. In the absence of such an extension, the grievant may, if a response is not forthcoming within the time limit specified, advance the grievance to the next sequential Step within the applicable time frame.
- D. A grievance may not be filed on any action concerning or relating to the rights retained by the Township which are enumerated in Article 5, hereof.
- E. All grievances shall contain the following information in order to be considered and must be filed using the grievance form (to be obtained exclusively from the Union) jointly developed between the parties (a copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment B):
  - Aggrieved person's name and signature.
  - Aggrieved person's classification.
  - Date submitted to Grievance Review Committee.

- Date grievance was first discussed and name of supervisor with whom grievance was discussed.
- Date grievance was filed in writing.
- Date and time grievance occurred.
- The location where grievance occurred.
- A description of the incident giving rise to the grievance.
- Specific articles and sections of the Agreement allegedly violated.
- 10. Desired remedy to resolve the grievance.
- F. Members wishing to process a grievance shall obtain the approved grievance form from the Union. Prior to providing a member with the grievance form, the Union President or the President's designee shall sign and date the form, thereby documenting that the form was obtained from the Union. Any grievance attempted to be processed without the required signature of the appropriate Union official shall be summarily dismissed and considered resolved in favor of management. A grievance summarily dismissed may not be refiled or otherwise pursued.
- G. Any grievance originating from a level above Step 1 may be submitted directly to the Step from which it originates.
- H. For the purpose of computing time, the term "day" shall mean calendar days, excepting therefrom Saturdays, Sundays, and those legal holidays listed in Article 19, Section 1, hereof, and when an action is required to be performed within a specified period of time, the first day shall be excluded and the last day included.
- Once a member or the Union elects to pursue a legal or administrative remedy in lieu of this grievance procedure, the member and the Union are thereafter precluded from seeking a remedy under this procedure. Similarly, a member electing to pursue a claim through this grievance procedure shall thereafter be precluded from pursuing such claim through a legal or administrative forum.
- J. In the event a proceeding is commenced under Ohio Revised Code Sections 505.38 and 733.35 through 733.39, then any affected member shall be precluded from seeking a remedy under this grievance procedure.
- K. At any step of this grievance procedure, the grievant may be represented by a representative of the Union. If any grievant's meeting or hearing is held on the grievant's and/or representative's duty day, the grievant and/or representative shall be permitted reasonable time, as may be approved by the Fire Chief, to attend the meeting or hearing without loss of pay. The Township shall not incur any overtime expense as a result of this provision.

# Section 4. Grievance Review Committee.

- A. The Union shall establish a Grievance Review Committee ("GRC") to review potential grievances and make recommendations to grievants.
- B. Prior to pursuing a grievance under the implementation Steps set forth in Section 5, below, a grievant shall file a copy of the proposed grievance with the GRC for review and comment. (The Union President or the President's designee shall be the person(s) authorized to accept such filing.)
- C. Within seven (7) days of receipt of the proposed grievance, the GRC shall review the grievance and submit a written recommendation to the grievant on the merits of the grievance. The GRC shall have no authority to resolve or otherwise respond to the proposed grievance on behalf of management. Rather, the role of the GRC is limited to advising the grievant on the merits of the proposed grievance; providing assistance in processing the proposed grievance, if requested; and informing the grievant whether or not the Union would be inclined to arbitrate the grievance. If the GRC fails to timely respond to the grievant, the grievant shall timely process the grievance to Step 1, below, if the grievant wishes to pursue the grievance.
- D. If the grievant processes the proposed grievance using the implementation Steps set forth below without first filing a copy of the proposed grievance with the GRC, the grievance shall be summarily dismissed and considered resolved in favor of management.
- <u>Section 5</u>. <u>Grievance Procedure</u>. The following are the implementation Steps and procedures for the handling of grievances:
- A. Step 1. A grievant having an individual grievance shall first attempt to resolve it informally with the grievant's immediate supervising Lieutenant. This attempt at informal resolution shall be made by the grievant within twenty-one (21) calendar days after the events giving rise to the grievance occurred. At this Step, there is no requirement that the grievance be submitted, or responded to, in writing. If the grievant is not satisfied with the response from the immediate supervisor at this Step 1, the grievant may pursue the formal Steps which follow.
- B. Step 2. If the grievant is not satisfied with the supervisor's informal response to the grievance at Step 1 of the grievance procedure, the grievant may submit the grievance in writing to the grievant's immediate supervising Lieutenant. This written grievance shall be submitted to the Lieutenant on the approved grievance form within the earlier of either ten (10) calendar days after the grievant has received a response to the informal Step 1 grievance, or within twenty-eight (28) calendar days after the events giving rise to the grievance occurred. The Lieutenant shall sign and date the form on the date of the Lieutenant's receipt of it. Within ten (10) calendar days of the Lieutenant's receipt of the grievance, the Lieutenant shall affix a written response to the grievance, date and sign the response, and return it to the grievant. The Lieutenant may retain a copy for the file.

# C. Step 3.

1. Should the grievant not be satisfied with the answer in Step 2, within ten (10) calendar days after receipt of the response in Step 2, the grievant may appeal

the grievance to this Step 3 by delivering a copy of the grievance containing the written response at the prior Step and any other pertinent documents, to the grievant's supervising Captain. In the event the rank of Captain is not filled, the grievant may proceed to Step 4.

 Within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of the grievance, the Captain shall submit to the grievant a written response to the grievance. The Captain may retain a copy for the file.

# D. Step 4.

- Should the grievant not be satisfied with the answer in Step 3, within ten (10) calendar days after receipt of the response in Step 3, the grievant may appeal the grievance to this Step 4 by delivering a copy of the grievance, along with the written responses at the prior Steps and any other pertinent documents, to the Assistant Fire Chief. In the event the rank of Assistant Chief is not filled, the grievant may proceed to Step 5.
- Within ten (10) calendar days of the Assistant Fire Chief's receipt of the grievance, the Assistant Fire Chief shall submit to the grievant a written response to the grievance. The Assistant Fire Chief may retain a copy for the file.

# E. Step 5.

- Should the grievant not be satisfied with the answer in Step 4, within ten (10) calendar days after receipt of the response in Step 4, the grievant may appeal the grievance to this Step 5, by delivering a copy of the grievance, along with the written responses at the prior Steps and any other pertinent documents, to the Fire Chief.
- Within ten (10) calendar days of the Fire Chief's receipt of the grievance, the Fire Chief shall submit to the grievant a written response to the grievance. The Fire Chief may retain a copy for the file.

# F. Step 6.

- Should the grievant not be satisfied with the response at Step 5, the grievant may appeal the grievance to the Board of Trustees. The grievant shall initiate this appeal by delivering, within ten (10) calendar days after receipt of the Step 5 response, a copy of the grievance form containing the written responses from prior Steps, and any other pertinent documents, to the office of the Board of Trustees.
- Within forty-five (45) calendar days of the Board of Trustees' receipt of the grievance, the Board or its representative shall submit to the grievant a written response to the grievance.
- Should the grievant not be satisfied with the Trustees' response to the grievance at Step 6, the grievant shall notify the Union President of the grievant's desire to proceed to arbitration. Should the Union determine to proceed to arbitration with

the grievance, the Union President or designee shall so notify the Board of Trustees by written notification. This written notification shall be delivered to the office of the Board of Trustees within ten (10) calendar days following the date of the Trustees' written response.

# G. Step 7.

- 1. If the grievance is not satisfactorily resolved in Step 6, the Union may make a written request that the grievance be submitted to binding arbitration. A request for arbitration must be submitted to the other party within ten (10) calendar days following the date of the Trustees' written response. In the event the grievance is not referred to arbitration within the time limits prescribed, the grievance shall be considered resolved based upon the Step 6 reply.
- 2. Upon receipt of a request for arbitration the Township and the Union shall, within fourteen (14) calendar days following the request for arbitration, jointly agree to an arbitrator or request a list of seven (7) impartial arbitrators from the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS). Upon receipt of the list of seven (7) arbitrators, the parties shall meet to select an arbitrator within ten (10) calendar days from the date the list is received. The parties shall use the alternate strike method from the list of seven (7) arbitrators submitted to the parties by the FMCS. A coin toss shall determine the order in which the names are to be stricken and the party winning the coin toss shall be the first (1st) to strike a name and alternate in this manner until one (1) name remains on the list. The remaining name shall be designated as the arbitrator to hear the dispute in question. Either party shall have the right to elect to reject the list in its entirety and to request the submission of a new seven (7) member panel, which election may only be exercised once. All procedures relative to the hearing shall be in accordance with the rules and regulations of the FMCS. The arbitrator shall hold the arbitration promptly and issue a decision within a reasonable time thereafter.
- 3. The arbitrator shall determine the grievance in accordance with the terms of the Agreement in effect on the date of the incident giving rise to the grievance. The arbitrator shall hold the arbitration hearing promptly and issue a decision within a reasonable time thereafter. The arbitrator shall have no right to amend, modify, nullify, ignore, add to, or subtract from the provisions of this Agreement. The arbitrator shall limit the decision strictly to the specific Articles and/or Sections of this Agreement alleged to be breached. The arbitrator shall expressly confine the decision to the precise issues submitted for arbitration and shall have no authority to determine any other issues not so submitted or to submit observations or declarations of opinion which are not directly essential in reaching a decision on the issue in question. The arbitrator shall be without authority to recommend any right or relief on an alleged grievance occurring at any time other than the contract period in which such right originated or to make an award based on rights arising under any previous agreement, grievance, or practices. The arbitrator shall not establish any new or different wage rates not negotiated as part of this Agreement. In the event of a monetary award, the arbitrator shall limit any retroactive settlement to no earlier than twenty-eight (28) calendar days prior to the date the grievance was presented in writing by the grievant in Step 2 of the grievance procedure. The question of arbitrability of a grievance may be raised by either party before the arbitration hearing of the

grievance, on the grounds that the matter is nonarbitrable or beyond the arbitrator's jurisdiction. Accordingly, the first question to be placed before the arbitrator will be whether or not the alleged grievance is arbitrable. If the arbitrator determines the grievance is within the purview of arbitrability, the alleged grievance will be heard on its merits before the same arbitrator and, if practicable, on the same day that the question of arbitrability is finally decided by the arbitrator. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding, subject only to appeal under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 2711. The cost involved to obtain the list of arbitrators, and the rent, if any, of the hearing room shall be borne equally by each party. The expense of any nonemployee witness shall be borne, if at all, by the party calling them. The fee of the court reporter shall be paid by the party requesting the same; provided, however, that such fee shall be split equally if both parties desire a reporter or request a copy of a transcript. All costs directly related to the services of the arbitrator shall be paid by the losing party. The Township shall not be responsible for or incur any overtime expenses as a result of this Article.

#### ARTICLE 7

# DISCIPLINARY ACTION

<u>Section 1</u>. <u>Disciplinary Action for Cause</u>. After completion of a member's probationary period, a member shall not be subject to disciplinary action involving removal, reduction in pay and/or rank, suspension, or reprimand, without just cause.

Section 2. Progressive Disciplinary Action. For minor, non-serious infractions, the principles of progressive disciplinary action will ordinarily be followed. Generally, for a minor, non-serious infraction, an oral reprimand and/or a written reprimand will precede suspension, reduction in pay and/or rank, and removal. If the offense is of a serious nature, constitutes insubordination, or is a violation of law, the Fire Chief and/or Board of Trustees may determine that a different and/or more severe disciplinary sequence be utilized. The commission of multiple minor offenses, whether similar or dissimilar in nature, shall constitute a serious offense and will warrant severe disciplinary action. Whenever a member reasonably believes that a meeting or conference with a supervisor may result in disciplinary action, the member may request the presence of the designated grievance representative.

Section 3. Records of Disciplinary Actions. Records of formal disciplinary actions will be maintained in the member's personnel file in accordance with Chapter 1347 of the Ohio Revised Code. Any member or the member's duly authorized representative shall have the right to inspect such member's personnel file in accordance with applicable law. A member may obtain copies of materials in the member's file and the Township may establish a reasonable copying charge for such material. Should any member have reason to believe that there are inaccuracies in documents contained in the member's file, the member may notify the Fire Chief in writing of the alleged inaccuracy. Material will be removed from the personnel file and stored in another Township file if a member's claim that it is inaccurate, irrelevant, untimely, or incomplete is verified and sustained by a representative(s) designated by the Township. In the event such claim is not verified and sustained, the member shall have the right to submit a written statement detailing the member's objections to the materials in question. If such a statement is prepared, it shall be attached to the material objected to by the member.

<u>Section 4.</u> <u>Duration of Disciplinary Records.</u> In the event of no intervening disciplinary action against a member, the following time frames will apply: verbal reprimands (which the Fire Chief may record) will cease to be of any further force or effect after one (1) year; written reprimands will cease to be of any further force or effect after two (2) years; and records of suspensions will cease to have effect after six (6) years.

#### ARTICLE 8

### PROBATIONARY PERIODS

Section 1. Probationary Period. Except as otherwise herein below provided in Sections 2 and 3, hereof, upon appointment, each member will be required to successfully complete a one (1) year (i.e. 365 day) probationary period. The probationary period will begin on the first day for which a member receives compensation from the Township. Notwithstanding Ohio Revised Code Sections 505.38 and 733.35 et seq., a probationary member may be terminated at any time during this probationary period at will and without just cause and shall have no grievance rights over such removal, nor may the member appeal or otherwise challenge such termination in any court or other tribunal or body.

Section 2. Mandatory Extension of Probationary Period. The Township, through its Board of Trustees, may, from time to time and in its sole and absolute discretion, extend a member's probationary period beyond the term set forth in Section 1 of this Article in those cases in which a probationary member has not obtained and/or maintained the minimum qualifications for such member's position. In the event of such mandatory extension, the affected member shall continue as a probationary member for such time or times as directed by the Board of Trustees, without interruption of Step progression. During a mandatorily extended probationary period and notwithstanding Ohio Revised Code Sections 505.38 and 733.35 et seq., the affected member may be terminated at any time at will and without just cause, and the affected member shall have no recourse to the grievance procedure concerning probationary termination, nor may the member appeal or otherwise challenge such termination in any court or other tribunal or body.

Section 3. Optional Extension of Probationary Period. The Township, through its Board of Trustees, may, from time to time and in its sole and absolute discretion, extend a member's promotional probationary period beyond the term set forth in Section 1 of this Article for an additional period not to exceed one (1) year. In the event of such an extension, the affected member shall continue as a probationary member for such time as determined by the Board of Trustees (not to exceed one (1) year) without interruption of Step progression. Any other extensions of a member's promotional probationary period beyond one (1) year shall only be done upon the written approval of the Union and the affected member. During an optional extended probationary period and notwithstanding Ohio Revised Code Sections 505.38 and 733.35 et seq., the affected member may be terminated at any time at will and without just cause, and the affected member shall have no recourse to the grievance procedure concerning probationary termination, nor may the member appeal or otherwise challenge such termination in any court or other tribunal or body. The provisions of this Section 3 do not limit or otherwise apply to the provisions of Section 2, above, in that the Board of Trustees has the right to impose a mandatory extension of a member's probationary period for such time or times as the Board may determine under Section 2.

Section 4. Promotional Probationary Period. A newly promoted member shall be required to successfully complete a one (1) year promotional probationary period in the member's newly appointed position. The probationary period for a newly promoted member shall begin on the effective date of the promotion. If service at any point during this time is deemed unsatisfactory, the member subject to a promotional probationary period may, at the sole and absolute discretion of the Board of Trustees and upon recommendation of the Fire Chief, be returned to the member's former rank and salary with full credit for service during the promotional probationary period. If so returned, the member shall have no recourse to the grievance procedure, nor may the member appeal or otherwise challenge such return in a court or any other tribunal or body.

Section 5. Extension of Promotional Probationary Period. The Township, through its Board of Trustees, may, from time to time and in its sole and absolute discretion, extend a member's probationary period beyond the term set forth in Section 4 of this Article for an additional period not to exceed one (1) year. In the event of such extension, the affected member shall continue as a probationary member for such time as determined by the Board of Trustees (not to exceed one (1) year) without interruption of Step progression. Any extensions of a member's probationary period beyond one (1) year shall only be done upon the written approval of the Union and the affected member. During an extended promotional probationary period, the affected member may be returned to the member's former rank and salary with full credit for service during the extended promotional period. If so returned, the member shall have no recourse to the grievance procedure, nor may the member appeal or otherwise challenge such return in a court or other tribunal.

#### ARTICLE 9

# LAYOFF AND RECALL

<u>Section 1</u>. <u>Layoff</u>. When the Township determines that a layoff is necessary (whether by layoff, job abolishment or otherwise), it shall notify the affected member(s) at least fourteen (14) days in advance of the effective date of the layoff.

<u>Section 2</u>. <u>Determinations</u>. The Township shall have the right to determine the necessity of a layoff and the right to determine in which classification(s) layoffs will occur. Within each classification affected, members will be laid off in accordance with their seniority.

Section 3. Order of Displacement. In the event of a layoff, the youngest member in point of continuous active service shall be the first laid off and any layoff thereafter shall be by reverse seniority. In the event of a layoff, the incumbent shall displace the next less senior member in rank, the person thereupon displaced shall displace the next youngest member in the next lower rank, and the youngest member in the next lowest rank shall be allowed to displace, and so on until the youngest member in point of continuous active service has been reached, who shall be then laid off. Furthermore, members may bump and be bumped in such a manner that members in higher classifications may bump less senior members in lower classifications until the least senior members up to the total number of members to be laid off are laid off. A laid off or bumped member who cannot bump another member will be laid off. In all cases, members who bump into a lower classification (and/or rank) carrying a lesser salary than that previously held shall only be entitled to the salary established for that particular classification (and/or rank) into which the member bumps.

<u>Section 4.</u> Recall. Members who are laid off shall be placed on a recall list for a period of two (2) years. If, during the duration of the recall list, there is a recall, members who are still on the recall list shall be recalled, in the inverse order of their layoff, provided they are presently qualified to perform the work in the job classification to which they are recalled without further training or certification.

<u>Section 5.</u> <u>Notice of Recall.</u> Notice of recall shall be sent to the member by certified mail. The Township shall be deemed to have fulfilled its obligations by mailing the recall notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the last mailing address provided, in writing, to the Township by the member.

<u>Section 6.</u> <u>Time Limitation.</u> The recalled member shall have fourteen (14) days following the date of mailing of the recall notice to notify the Township of the member's intention to return to work and shall have fourteen (14) days following acknowledgment of intent to report for duty, unless a different date for returning to work is otherwise specified in the notice.

Section 7. Recall From Layoff. An member who is recalled from layoff shall suffer no loss of seniority for the time during which the member was laid off, provided that the member is recalled and timely returns to work during the duration of the recall list. However, a member shall receive no service credit for time spent in layoff. A member who is recalled from layoff during the duration of the recall list shall return to the Step commensurate with the member's years of service immediately prior to the layoff, provided that no member shall be entitled to return to such member's former rank, classification, shift and/or unit. If, during the two (2) year duration of the recall list, a member is recalled to a rank lower than that previously held at the time of the layoff, then should the member's former rank be reestablished and become available during the two (2) year duration of the recall list, such member shall be entitled to appointment to that rank. If a rank is reestablished and becomes available and there is more than one member who previously held such rank, then the appointment shall be based upon seniority. In all cases, a member's right to appointment to any rank shall expire upon the expiration of the recall list. Furthermore, this right of appointment shall not be construed as a requirement on the part of the Township to reestablish any rank or as a limitation of the Township's right to determine the adequacy of the work force and the organizational structure of the Department.

Section 8. Seniority. For purposes of this Article and, regardless of Ohio Revised Code Section 9.44, Article 20, a member's seniority shall be computed on the basis of uninterrupted length of continuous full-time service with the Greenfield Township Fire Department from the member's most recent date of appointment. Continuous service shall be deemed broken when a member resigns, is discharged, fails to timely return to duty after an approved leave of absence, or layoff in excess of two (2) years. Once continuous service is broken, a member loses all previously accumulated seniority. Time spent while on suspension shall not be credited for purposes of seniority but shall not constitute a break in service. Notwithstanding the foregoing and only for those members employed on January 1, 1991, such members' prior service credit, computed in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 9.44, will be used in determining the amount of vacation leave to which such member is entitled.

# LABOR RELATIONS MEETINGS

- <u>Section 1</u>. <u>Labor Relations Meetings</u>. The Township and the Union recognize the benefit of exploration and the study of current and potential problems and differences via meetings of representatives to exchange views and information. Accordingly, the parties agree to establish a labor relations committee to develop approaches and possible solutions to matters of mutual concern. By mutual agreement, any topic of discussion may be considered at these meetings.
- <u>Section 2.</u> Committee. The Committee shall consist of not more than five (5) persons from each party. Each party shall name its representatives to the Committee. The Committee shall meet at least quarterly upon the call of either party. Persons may be brought into Committee meetings by agreement of the parties.
- <u>Section 3.</u> <u>Authority.</u> The Committee's authority shall be limited to discussion, exploration and study of subjects referred to it by the Union and the Township. The Committee shall have no authority to bargain for the Union and the Township or to modify, add to, or delete the provisions of this Agreement, and discussions of the Committee shall not be construed as bargaining sessions. To the extent that mutual agreement may be reached, the Committee may endeavor to find ways of accomplishing joint objectives consistent with the provisions of this Agreement, or may recommend to the Union and the Township that changes be made in the Agreement by mutual accord in writing.
- <u>Section 4.</u> <u>Joint Safety and Health Committee</u>. There shall be a joint safety and health committee composed of not more than three (3) representatives from each party. Each party shall name its own representatives. The joint committee shall meet quarterly upon the call of either party, and at such other times as the joint committee may determine.
- <u>Section 5.</u> <u>Purpose.</u> The purpose of the joint committee shall be to serve in an advisory capacity to the Labor Relations Committee. To this end, the joint committee may conduct research, develop recommendations, and study and review matters pertaining to occupational safety and health within the Fire Department. All recommendations and reports will be in writing and shall be forwarded to the Labor Relations Committee for its review. Meetings and activities of the joint committee shall not interfere with normal Departmental operations.

#### ARTICLE 11

# ASSIGNMENTS AND TRANSFERS

<u>Section 1.</u> <u>Position Changes.</u> In the event that the Fire Chief determines that a need exists to temporarily and/or permanently transfer a member from one shift to another, from one assignment to another, and/or from one position to another, then the Fire Chief may transfer the member to that shift, assignment and/or position.

# NO STRIKE/NO LOCKOUT

<u>Section 1.</u> No Strike. The Union recognizes that members are prohibited by state law from engaging in any strike. In recognition of this prohibition, neither the Union nor any member shall at any time engage in, call, authorize or ratify any strike. No member shall refuse to cross any picket line when such action would prevent or impede the performance of the member's employment duties. The Township shall not at any time engage in a lockout.

#### ARTICLE 13

# WAIVER IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

<u>Section 1.</u> <u>Waiver.</u> In cases of emergency declared by the President of the United States, the Governor of the State of Ohio, the Board of Fairfield County Commissioners, the Greenfield Township Trustees, or the Fire Chief, resulting from acts of God, civil disorder or otherwise, the following conditions of this Agreement shall automatically be suspended:

- 1. Time limits for management, the Union, or a member to reply on grievances; and
- Selected work rules and/or agreements and practices relating to the assignment of members.

<u>Section 2</u>. <u>Termination</u>. Upon the termination of the emergency, should valid grievances exist, they shall be processed in accordance with the provisions outlined in the grievance procedure and shall proceed from the point in the grievance procedure to which the grievance(s) had properly progressed.

#### ARTICLE 14

### WAGES

# Section 1. Pay Ranges and Rates.

A. Effective January 1, 2020, the following annual salaries and hourly rates are hereby established as the annual wage plan for the period January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020:

Starting Firefighter	Annual \$39,492.54		
Effective the first day after 1 year of continuous employment	Annual \$43,299.05		
Effective the first day after 2 years of continuous employment	Annual \$48,722.68		
Lieutenant	Annual \$53,594.95		
Captain	Annual \$58,954.44		

B. Effective January 1, 2021, the following annual salaries and hourly rates are hereby established as the annual wage plan for the period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021:

Starting Firefighter	Annual \$40,677.31	
Effective the first day after 1 year of continuous employment	Annual \$44,598.02	
Effective the first day after 2 years of continuous employment	Annual \$50, 184.36	
Lieutenant	Annual \$55,202.80	
Captain	Annual \$60,723.07	

C. Effective January 1, 2022, the following annual salaries and hourly rates are hereby established as the annual wage plan for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022:

Starting Firefighter	Annual \$42,304.41		
Effective the first day after 1 year of continuous employment	Annual \$46,381.94		
Effective the first day after 2 years of continuous employment	Annual \$52,191.73		
Lieutenant	Annual \$57,410.91		
Captain	Annual \$63,152.00		

<u>Section 2</u>. <u>Step Advancement</u>. The "Starting Firefighter" Step shall be the minimum hiring rate and advancement to the remaining Steps shall be by successive one (1) year intervals of continuous service.

<u>Section 3</u>. <u>Application of Pay Rates</u>. Except as otherwise hereinafter provided in this Agreement, the rates of pay set forth above are based upon a member's full-time employment of 2,912 hours of work per calendar year.

Section 4. Paramedic Bonus. An annual incentive in the amount of two thousand (\$2,000) dollars shall be paid to those Members who are a state certified paramedic. This incentive will be paid to the Member in the following manner: \$1,000.00, less required deductions, in the first pay period of January of each year and the remaining \$1,000.00, less required deductions, in the first pay period of June of each year.

<u>Section 5. EMS Coordinator.</u> The employee selected to serve as the EMS Coordinator will receive an additional \$1,000.00. EMS Coordinator will be paid out on a pro-rated basis in each paycheck for each pay period that an employee serves in this role.

The EMS Coordinator will be selected by the Fire Chief and serves at the pleasure of the Chief. The Chief may assign EMS Coordinator duties to another employee. Such assignment, including the appointment of the position and the removal of the appointment, is not grievable and is not subject to the terms of Article 6.

### ARTICLE 15

# PROMOTIONS

- Section 1. Vacancy. Whenever the Employer determines that a permanent vacancy exists in a position above the rank of Lieutenant, a notice of the vacancy will be posted for a period of no less than ten (10) calendar days. During the posting period, eligible persons may apply for the vacancy by submitting a written application to the Fire Chief.
- Section 2. Eligibility. No person shall be eligible to apply for the rank of Lieutenant unless such person shall have served a minimum of three (3) years of continuous, full-time service in the rank of firefighter with Greenfield Township Fire Department. In the event there are not at least three qualified members available for selection who have applied for a Lieutenant's position which has been posted, the Township may lower the three (3) year continuous service requirement in order to obtain three (3) qualified candidates for the position. The three year requirement may be waived altogether if mutually agreed upon by the Union and Township.
- Section 3. Promotional Process. All timely filed applications will be reviewed by the Chief and the Board of Trustees, taking into consideration those factors deemed relevant by the Township including, without limitation, qualifications, educational and training background, seniority, work record, departmental evaluations, interviews, special skills and examination scores (if any), etc.
- <u>Section 4.</u> <u>Promotional List.</u> The Township may, at its option, establish a promotional list using the same process and factors as outlined above, which list, unless sooner exhausted or terminated by the Township.

# HOURS OF WORK AND OVERTIME

Section 1. Definition. The Township may, from time to time, establish the regularly scheduled work hours and work periods for members. Unless otherwise directed by the Fire Chief, work schedules will ordinarily be arranged so that the normal work schedule of members averages fifty-six (56) or forty (40) hours per week. In cases deemed necessary by the Fire Chief, members shall also work at such other and/or additional times as directed by the Fire Chief. The Township will calculate all work periods in accordance with the Fair Labor Standards Act and the Regulations promulgated thereunder.

Section 2. Overtime. The amount and rate of overtime for members shall be calculated in accordance with the Fair Labor Standards Act and the Regulations promulgated thereunder. By way of illustration, members working an average fifty-six (56) hour work week on a three (3) platoon system will ordinarily be scheduled on a twenty-eight (28) consecutive day work period. For the purpose of calculating overtime compensation, such compensation shall be based upon hours worked, except that hours spent on approved and paid leave, shall be considered as hours worked when computing a member's entitlement to overtime compensation. The term "hours worked" shall be construed in conformance with the Fair Labor Standards Act and the Regulations promulgated thereunder by the Secretary of Labor. No member shall be paid for overtime work which has not been authorized by the Fire Chief or the Fire Chief's designee. In addition, any hours actually worked because of schedules or assignments being changed at the request of a member, or trading days at the sole option and by mutual consent of a member with the prior approval of the Fire Chief, shall be excluded from the hours for which the member is entitled to overtime compensation, and the Township shall not incur or be responsible for any overtime costs as a result of such activities.

<u>Section 3.</u> <u>No Pyramiding.</u> There shall be no duplication or pyramiding in the computation of overtime or other premium wages. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to require the payment of overtime and/or other premium pay more than once for the same hours worked.

<u>Section 4</u>. <u>Overtime Call List</u>. The Township shall maintain a list of Members and use it to fill overtime positions as follows:

- When overtime is available, the Fire Chief or designee, shall first use the call list or members to fill the overtime position.
- If the Fire Chief or designee is unable to contact the first member on the call list, or the member turns down the overtime position, the Fire Chief or designee may then proceed down the list until such time as the position is filled.
- Once a Member has filled the overtime, the Member's name shall be moved to the bottom of the overtime list.
- If the Fire Chief or designee is unable to fill the overtime position from the overtime list, the Fire Chief may proceed to the Union forced overtime list to fill the position.

Section 5. Temporary Shift Work Assignments. If a Member below the rank of Lieutenant is specifically assigned and designated by the Fire Chief to perform the duties of a Lieutenant for any time over 2 consecutive hours then the Member specifically assigned and designated by the Fire Chief to perform such duties shall be paid an additional ten-percent (10%) the members normal hourly wage hour for all hours actually worked in the rank of Lieutenant to which the Member was assigned.

<u>Section 6.</u> <u>Compensatory Time</u>. In lieu of payment for overtime worked, a Member may elect to receive compensatory time off in accordance with the Fair Labor Standards Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder by the Department of Labor. Compensatory time will be credited at the rate of one and one-half (1.5) hours for each overtime hour worked. The maximum amount of compensatory time that can be accumulated is 280 hours for Members on a fifty-six (56) hour work week.

Compensatory time off may be taken at such time or times at the discretion of and as approved by the Fire Chief's designee unless the Member's absence unduly disrupts the operations of the Township. In addition, the Fire Chief or the Fire Chief's designee shall have the right, in their sole and absolute discretion, to schedule any Member who has accrued but unused compensatory time, to use or take such compensatory time at specified times (i.e., in lieu of working a regularly scheduled shift).

At the end of each pay period covering the dates overtime was worked, the Member must indicate on his/her time card whether s/he desires to receive compensatory time or over-time pay. Members failing to so indicate will be paid for the over-time. Compensatory time accumulated but not yet credited to a Member's compensatory time bank will not be usable until after the end of that pay period.

A Member who has accrued compensatory time shall, upon the termination of employment for any reason, be paid the unused compensatory time at the rate of pay received by the Member at the time of separation.

#### **ARTICLE 17**

### UNIFORMS

Section 1. Provision Of Uniforms. Upon appointment to the Fire Department, each Member will be provided with an initial issue of the standard uniform, including one (1) Class A uniform at no cost to the Member. The Township will also provide each Member with one set of turn out gear. All protective clothing or protective devices required of Members in the performance of their duties shall be provided and maintained on a continuous basis by the Township. This shall include a full set of turn out gear with helmet and suspenders, flashlight, leather boots, hood, fire gloves, utility gloves, and safety glasses.

<u>Section 2.</u> <u>Standard Issue.</u> Unless otherwise determined by the Fire Chief, the standard uniform issue for Members consists of the following:

- 3 Polos
- 3 Tee Shirts
- 1 Sweat shirt
- 3 Trousers
- 3 Uniform Shorts
- 1 Belt

All other items of personal clothing shall be at the Member's cost, with the style and type being subject to the approval of the Quartermaster or Fire Chief. Additionally, the Township has the right to change the style, type and design of any and all required uniforms, provided that the Township bears the initial cost of such change.

<u>Section 3</u>. <u>Annual Replacement</u>. The Township on an Annual basis shall supply each full-time Member with the following uniform articles on an as needed basis:

- 3 Polos
- 3 Tee Shirts
- 1 Sweat shirt
- 3 Trousers
- 3 Uniform Shorts
- 1 belt (every two years)

Should any of these (shirts, pants, coat) get damaged in the line of duty or during regular working conditions the Township shall replace these items at no cost to the Member.

<u>Section 4.</u> Annual Shoe Allowance. Members will be entitled to an annual shoe allowance in the amount of \$150,00 per calendar year for the purchase of required shoes. For purposes of payment of this allowance, the Township and Union may mutually agree and designate vendors where Members can purchase required shoes. Members shall be responsible for any amounts exceeding \$150.00. Alternatively or in addition, the Township may establish a reimbursement program to reimburse Members for required shoe purchases, up to the \$150.00 per calendar year limitation, upon receipt of the Member's paid invoice.

<u>Section 5.</u> <u>Inspections Of Uniform Parts.</u> Members shall maintain required uniforms in good and acceptable condition. For these purposes, Members shall produce all required uniforms at such time or times as may be directed by the Fire Chief. Members shall also report to their immediate supervisor uniforms which are worn out or damaged in the line of duty. Uniforms shall not be worn off duty unless prior approval of the Fire Chief is obtained, and Members shall, at their own cost, replace those uniform parts which are damaged or lost through their neglect.

# INSURANCE

<u>Section 1.</u> <u>Health Care Insurance.</u> Health care insurance, dental care insurance and vision insurance uniformly provided to all other full-time employees of the Township will be made available to members at their option. All such insurance shall be subject to the terms and conditions contained in the applicable insurance policies and/or plan documents maintained, from time to time, by the Township.

Section 2. Member Contributions. Members electing to participate in the health care, dental care and vision insurance programs referenced in Section 1, above, shall pay the Township 10% of the annual insurance cost attributable to the insurance coverage chosen by the Member. A Member's payment of such Member's annual insurance cost shall be due and payable in installments on a biweekly basis by payroll deduction. (Where the Member's enrollment covers less than a full calendar year under this contribution obligation, his/her contribution will be only that required for the period of enrollment.) The Member's payments shall be made through an automatic bi-weekly payroll deduction, and the Township is hereby authorized to automatically make such a deduction from each Member's wages. While this deduction shall not require the authorization of a Member, the Member shall, upon request of the Township, sign an authorization in favor of the Township reflecting this deduction if the Township so desires. Furthermore, if a bi-weekly deduction is not made in or for a particular pay period, the Township may make the deduction in a subsequent pay period. The term "insurance cost" shall mean the total premium paid by the Township on behalf of a Member (and, if applicable, the Member's family) for health, premiums and, in the case of a self-funded plan (whether wholly or partially self-funded), the aggregate claim potential, all as calculated by the provider and/or the administrator of such coverage. The township shall pay the full cost of dental and vision coverage for all fulltime employees and families.

Section 3. Insurance Review Committee. The Union may form a committee whose sole purpose shall be to review the current insurance coverage(s) and to make recommendations directly to the Board of Trustees with respect to possible changes in coverage(s). Meetings and activities of this committee shall not interfere with Departmental and/or Township operations. Unless otherwise approved by the Fire Chief, meetings and related activities shall not be conducted during working hours, and any disruptive activity shall immediately cease upon the request of the Fire Chief or designee. It is further understood and agreed that the Board of Trustees has the sole and exclusive right and authority to determine and change carriers, plans and/or coverage(s) and recommendations made by the committee shall be deemed advisory only and not binding upon the Township.

# HOLIDAYS

<u>Section 1</u>. <u>Holidays Recognized</u>. A member having six (6) months full-time continuous active service prior to the month in which a holiday occurs shall be entitled to eight (8) hours of holiday pay credit for each of the following legal holidays which, except as otherwise hereinafter specifically provided for Christmas Day, shall occur and be credited at the following times:

- (a) the first day of January, known as New Years Day;
- (b) the third Monday in January, known as Martin Luther King Day;
- (c) the third Monday in February, known as Washington-Lincoln Day;
- (d) the day designated in the "Act of September 18, 1975", 89 Stat. 479, 5 U.S.C. 6103, as now or hereafter amended, for the commemoration of Memorial Day;
- (e) the fourth day of July, known as Independence Day;
- (f) the first Monday in September, known as Labor Day;
- (g) the second Monday in October, known as Columbus Day;
- (h) the eleventh day of November, known as Veterans Day;
- (i) the fourth Thursday in November, known as Thanksgiving Day; and
- (j) the twenty-fifth day of December, known as Christmas Day.

Section 2. Payment of Holiday Credit. Members shall work their regularly scheduled shift regardless of whether or not that shift occurs on a holiday. On the last biweekly pay period in November of each calendar year, a qualifying member shall receive a holiday bonus payment for the number of holiday hours accrued and credited to the member during the applicable calendar year, with payment being based upon the member's regular hourly rate as of that biweekly pay period. In addition, for those members qualifying for holiday credit on or as of the last biweekly pay period in November of each calendar year, such members shall receive and be credited with eight (8) hours of holiday credit for the holiday known as Christmas Day which would otherwise fall on December 25 of that calendar year. Upon a separation from employment, unpaid holiday hours accrued and credited to a member shall be handled in the same manner as unused vacation leave, all as set forth in Article 20, Section 5 hereof.

Section 3. Repayment of Holiday Bonus. If a member is credited with eight (8) hours of holiday credit representing Christmas Day and subsequently leaves the employ of the Township prior to the date otherwise recognized as Christmas Day, then the holiday time credited which represents those hours for Christmas Day shall be forfeited. In the event the member has been paid for such day, then the member shall repay the Township for the amount so paid, which repayment may be deducted from the member's wages and/or any other monies

owed the member, and the Township is hereby authorized to automatically make such deduction. If the Township requests, a member shall sign an authorization in favor of the Township reflecting this deduction.

# ARTICLE 20

# **VACATION LEAVE**

<u>Section 1</u>. <u>Accrual Of Vacation Time</u>. Upon a Member's first anniversary date, such Member shall be credited with the applicable number of vacation time hours listed in the schedule below. From and after that Member's anniversary date, Members shall accrue vacation time at the rate listed on the schedule below for each fully completed calendar month in which the member is in active and paid service with the Township.

	40 Hour Shift	56 Hour Shift	
At least 1 year of continuous active service but less than 5	80 Hours	144 Hours	
At least 5 years of continuous active service but less than 10	120 Hours	216 Hours	
At least 10 years of continuous active service but less than 15	160 Hours	288 Hours	
At least 15 years of continuous active service but less than 20	200 Hours	360 Hours	
At least 20 years of continuous active service	216 Hours	408 Hours	

Section 2. Use Of Vacation Time. All vacation leaves shall be taken at such time or times at the discretion of and as approved by the Fire Chief. No leave time shall be scheduled during a period previously set aside for a training session. Vacation time shall be taken in four (4) hour increments. The Fire Chief retains the right to limit the number of Members who may be off at any one time and to change or otherwise cancel vacations and requests for the same. Only one member may be off on vacation leave at one time per shift. All requests for vacation shall be submitted to the Fire Chief by January 15th of each calendar year. Members are not required to have the amount of accrued vacation time to their credit prior to scheduling their vacation preferences by January 15th. However, in the event that a Member does not have enough vacation time to their credit at the time of the actual vacation, the Township will not be responsible for any costs the Member incurs as a result of canceling their vacation. A Member who fails to schedule his vacation preference on or before January 15th of each calendar year may, subject to the approval of the Fire Chief, schedule his vacation after such time. However, such scheduling shall not result in any change, alteration, or otherwise affect the previously scheduled vacation preference of any other Member. Conflicts between requests will ordinarily be resolved by seniority, except in instances of those Members desiring to take their entire vacation at one time for purposes of taking a trip or engaging in a similar activity, in which case, such purpose may prevail over seniority.

Section 3. Denial and/or Cancellation Of Leave. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein or elsewhere, in emergency types of situations and those involving unforeseen and/or substantially changed circumstances, the Fire Chief shall have the authority to modify the number of personnel that may be off at any one time, while said situation and/or circumstance exists. Those Members who have had their vacation denied and/or canceled by the Fire Chief as a result of such situation or circumstance will have the ability to carry over the same number of days denied and/or canceled by the Fire Chief into the next following calendar year. In the event a Member has incurred a financial obligation associated with a previously approved vacation, which is subsequently canceled by the Fire Chief or his or her designee, the Township

shall reimburse the Member for this cost. The Member shall provide written evidence of the costs to the Fire Chief prior to reimbursement from the Township.

<u>Section 4.</u> Carryover of Vacation Time. A Member assigned to a fifty-six (56) hour work week shall be able to carry-over a maximum of one year of the Member's current annual accrual amount as shown on the vacation schedule shown above. Any vacation time in excess of this amount not so used shall be forfeited without compensation or payment therefor.

# Section 5. Vacation Payout.

- A. A Member who intends to terminate employment with the Township or who is to be separated from the Township service through layoff will be paid for earned but unused vacation time. Members removed from Township service during a probationary period or pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Sections 505.38 and 733.35 et seq. shall not be entitled to be paid for any earned but unused vacation time.
- B. If a Member dies while in active service with the Township, any earned but unused vacation time shall be paid to the surviving spouse; otherwise, to the estate of the deceased Member.

#### **ARTICLE 21**

# SICK LEAVE

<u>Section 1.</u> <u>Sick Leave Accrual.</u> A member designated to work an average fifty-six (56) hour work week shall accrue sick leave with pay at the rate of twenty four (24) hours for each fully completed calendar month in which the member is in active and paid service with the Township.

<u>Section 2</u>. <u>Accumulation of Sick Leave</u>. Sick leave may accrue and be accumulated and carried over from year to year; Accrual of sick time will be unlimited.

### Section 3. Use of Sick Leave.

- A. When sick leave is used, it shall be deducted from the member's credit on the basis of one (1) hour for every one (1) hour of absence from previously scheduled work. Sick leave with pay may be granted only upon the approval of the Fire Chief for the following reasons:
  - Sickness of the member where such sickness renders the member incapable of performing the member's regular duties or restricted duties, if available, during the period of convalescence. Sickness shall also include a pregnancy related condition of a pregnant member, where such condition renders the member incapable of performing the member's regular duties or restricted duties, if available, during the member's pregnancy.
  - Injury to the member where such injury renders the member incapable of performing the member's regular duties or restricted duties, if available, during

- the period of convalescence, except where such injury is incurred in the performance of the member's employment with the Township.
- 3. Medical, dental, or optical consultation or treatment of the member when the same cannot be obtained during off duty time, provided that the member schedules such appointment with the Fire Chief at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance. Sick leave used for such appointments shall be limited to reasonable travel time and appointment time. Upon the member's return to duty, the Fire Chief may require the member to furnish a certificate from the doctor confirming the member's attendance at the consultation or treatment.
- 4. Sickness or injury of a person of the member's immediate family residing in the member's household which urgently requires the presence of the member at home. Once the initial emergency is over, sick leave will not be granted merely because continuing care is desired. Members shall be granted no more than two (2) work days in any calendar year for sickness in the immediate family requiring the presence of the member at home; provided, however, that in cases of the birth of a member's child, members may be granted up to an additional two (2) work days in any such calendar year if needed for such event. The member may be required to furnish a medical certificate from a licensed practitioner to verify this use of sick time.
- Quarantine of a member because of exposure to a contagious disease or chemical spills. The member may be required to furnish a medical certificate from a licensed practitioner to verify this use of sick leave.
- 6. In the event a member uses all injury leave time, and is still unable to return to duty, the member may, with the approval of the Board of Trustees, use any sick leave and vacation time to which the member is otherwise entitled.
- 7. The Fire Chief may, from time to time, require a member to be examined and approved fit for duty by a licensed medical practitioner designated and paid for by the Township in those instances where it is believed that the member may not be able to fulfill all of the duties of the member's position without restriction. In such event, the Fire Chief may place the member on sick leave or any other form of accrued paid leave or, if none, unpaid leave until a satisfactory medical certificate is received.
- 8. When sick leave is used, the member shall notify the member's immediate supervisor and/or such other person(s) as the Fire Chief may, from time to time, designate, of the member's use of sick leave as soon as reasonably possible and the circumstances under which sick leave is being used, which notification shall, except in cases of emergency making such notification impossible, occur no later than one (1) hour prior to the start of the member's assigned shift, or at such other time or times as may, from time to time, be prescribed by the Fire Chief.
- 9. If a member's illness or injury results in a member exhausting such member's sick leave balance, the member may apply to either the Board of Trustees for an unpaid leave of absence (the approval or denial of which is subject to the Board's sole and absolute discretion) or to applicable authorities for a disability

- retirement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, members unable to return to full duty may also be subject to removal by the Board.
- Members failing to comply with any rule or regulation dealing with the use of sick leave (including, but not limited to, those outlined in this Article) may be refused payment for time otherwise taken as sick leave.

Section 4. Payment for Unused Sick Leave. Except as otherwise specifically provided herein, upon a separation of service, other than retirement or death, a member shall not be entitled to receive any payment for any unused sick leave. Upon retirement from active service with the Township with fifteen (15) or more years of continuous full-time service or upon death occurring in the line of duty, a member (or, if applicable, the surviving spouse or, secondarily, the estate) shall be paid for the member's accrued but unused sick leave in accordance with the following schedule:

- A. For members having up to 600 hours, at the rate of one (1) hour of pay for each six (6) hours of accrued but unused sick leave;
- B. For members having from 600 hours to 1,000 hours, at the rate of one (1) hour of pay for each four (4) hours of accrued but unused sick leave;
- C. For members having 1,000 hours to 1,440hours, at the rate of one (1) hour of pay for each three (3) hours of accrued but unused sick leave;

Payment shall be based upon the member's regular fifty-six (56) hourly rate of pay at the date of retirement or death.

Section 5. Verification of Sick Leave. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the Fire Chief, the Board of Trustees or their designee may, from time to time, require evidence as to the adequacy of the reason for any member's absence during the time for which sick leave is requested, including, but not limited to, a medical certificate from a licensed practitioner of the member's choosing or, if specified by the Township, a medical certificate from a licensed practitioner designated and paid for by the Township verifying proper use of sick leave pursuant to the provisions hereof. Failure to furnish such a certificate at the time requested shall result in the member forfeiting, without pay, the sick leave hours so used. Additional certificates may be required in cases of prolonged illness or injury. If a member uses sick leave on a holiday or on the day immediately preceding or following a member's use of vacation or personal time, such member shall, immediately upon the member's return to duty. provide the Fire Chief with a signed certificate from a licensed practitioner which verifies the member's proper use of sick leave and failure to provide such certificate immediately upon the member's return to duty shall result in the member forfeiting, without pay, the sick leave and all other forms of paid leave so used during the member's absence. In all cases of sick leave usage, a member shall furnish to the Fire Chief or designee a written, signed statement to justify the use of sick leave in the form attached as Attachment D. These forms will be made available to members at the members' stations. Failure to submit this completed statement to the Fire Chief or designee immediately upon the member's return to duty shall, in addition to being grounds for severe disciplinary action, result in the member forfeiting, without pay, the sick leave so used. Furthermore, a Township representative and/or designee may, at any time, call upon a member at such member's home or other place of confinement or convalescence while the member is absent from work based upon a claim of sick leave use.

Section 6. Abuse of Sick Leave. Sick leave is a privilege and falsification of a written request, physician's excuse or any other false statement, as well as any abuse of sick leave, shall be grounds for severe disciplinary action. As previously noted, the Township may, at any time and from time to time, require a medical examination of any member whose illness or injury is used as a basis for a sick leave request. In addition, or in the alternative, a Township representative and/or designee may call upon a member at such member's home or other place of confinement or convalescence while the member is absent from work based upon a claim of sick leave use. A member suspected of abusing sick leave will be given an opportunity to explain the circumstances of the member's use of sick leave.

- A. Grounds for suspicion of abuse shall include, but not be limited to, information received by the Township that the member is, or was, during any day for which sick leave is claimed:
  - Engaging in other employment;
  - Engaging in strenuous physical exercise or recreation, including work around the home, other than as ordered or recommended by a doctor;
  - Present in a tavern or other place inconsistent with a claim of illness or injury;
  - 4. Absent from home or place of confinement or convalescence when called or visited by a representative of the Township, except in cases where the member can produce verification (such as a hospital or medical clinic admission or treatment slip or a dated receipt for the purchase of medicines from a pharmacy or an acceptable explanation) that the member's absence was for reasons directly related to the treatment of such member's illness or injury. A failure to answer the telephone when called by a Township representative shall be deemed being absent from home and an actual abuse of sick leave, and shall be grounds for such disciplinary action as may be determined by the Fire Chief;
  - Using sick leave on a holiday. (If a member uses sick leave on a holiday and furnishes an acceptable physician's medical certificate in accordance with this Article which satisfactorily verifies proper use of sick leave, then that particular absence shall not be deemed grounds for suspicion of abuse.);
  - 6. Using sick leave immediately before and/or after a holiday or a member's use of personal and/or vacation time. (Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, a member using sick leave in this manner shall provide a certificate from the member's own doctor, or if directed by the Fire Chief, from a physician designated and paid for by the Township, verifying proper use of sick leave pursuant to the provisions hereof. Failure to provide such a certificate upon the member's first return to duty shall result in the member forfeiting, without pay, the sick time and all other forms of paid leave so used during the member's absence.); and
  - Engaging in a pattern of sick leave use.
- B. Actual abuse of sick leave (including, without limitation, failure to answer the telephone when called by a Township representative or verification as to the accuracy of any other ground upon which a suspicion of abuse was based) or falsification of either a written

signed statement by the member or a physician's certificate shall also subject a member to severe disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.

Section 7. Wellness Incentive. Beginning July 1, 2016, for each full calendar quarter (i.e. July 1 through September 30, October 1 through December 31, January 1 through March 31 and April 1 through June 30) in which a member does not use any sick leave, such member shall be paid eight (8) hours of pay during the month next following the close of each such calendar quarter.

<u>Section 8</u>. <u>Sick Leave Donation</u>. Members may donate sick leave to and for use by other members only in accordance with the terms of this Section 8.

- A. A member who has depleted all of such member's sick leave may receive donated sick leave for use only up to the number of hours the member is scheduled to work in a work period.
- B. Members may request to donate their sick leave to another qualified member if the donating member:
  - voluntarily elects to donate sick leave and does so with the understanding that the donation will not be returned;
  - donates sick leave no more than twice a year in increments of 24 hours, with the maximum donation not to exceed 48 hours in a calendar year;
  - 3. has a sick leave balance of at least 500 hours following the donation; and
  - submits a fully completed and signed "Request to Donate Sick Leave Form" (a copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment C) to the Fire Chief before the receiving member's sick leave balance falls below 72 hours.
- C. The Fire Chief shall, upon or with such conditions as he deems necessary, approve or disapprove the proposed donation. The decision of the Fire Chief as well as any action taken hereunder by the Fire Chief shall not be subject to grievance, challenge or appeal.
- D. Donated sick leave hours will not be returned to a donating member. If such hours are not used in the work period in which these hours were to be applied, the donated hours will be forfeited unless the First Chief allows such hours to be carried over for use in the next following work period.
- E. Members who resign or are terminated are not permitted to donate or otherwise transfer any remaining sick leave balance.
- F. Any sick leave accrued by a member while using donated sick leave shall be used before any additional donated sick leave is used.

# INJURY LEAVE

# Section 1. Injury Leave With Pay.

- A. All members working an average fifty-six (56) hour work week may, subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees, be granted injury leave with pay not to exceed forty five (45) calendar (not duty) days for each service-connected injury, provided such injury is reported in writing to the member's immediate supervisor not more than three (3) calendar days from the date such injury occurs; and further provided that paid injury leave time for each service-connected injury shall not exceed three hundred sixty (360) hours for such members.
- B. Service-connected injuries are defined as injuries received while acting within the scope of and arising out of the member's employment as a full-time firefighter with the Township. Injury leave may be granted for all service connected injuries. Injuries occurring other than in the scheduled and paid working hours shall be presumed to be non-service-connected.
- C. If there is a recurrence of a previous service-connected injury, the member may be granted injury leave with pay not to exceed the balance of forty-five (45) calendar days, provided such recurrence is reported to the member's immediate supervisor not more than three (3) calendar days from the date such recurrence occurs.
- D. As a condition of receipt of injury leave benefits and unless otherwise directed by the Board of Trustees, the member shall apply for worker's compensation benefits under the Ohio Worker's Compensation program as soon as possible. This condition shall apply to all alleged service-connected injuries and all alleged recurrences of the same. Furthermore, these filings shall include requests for any available compensatory program designed to compensate the member for lost wages, as well as filings with any other compensation fund or insurance company to which the Township contributes. Copies of all such applications and filings shall be submitted to the Board of Trustees. The member shall endorse over to the Township any worker's compensation benefits (as well as proceeds from any other compensation fund or insurance company to which the Township contributes) received that extend over the same time period for which the member is granted injury leave. In compliance with the Rules and Regulations of the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation, a member on injury leave will be required to execute a written agreement reflecting the provisions of this paragraph.

# Section 2. Injury Leave Administration and Reporting.

- A. Upon a member's timely report of a service-connected injury, the report of the cause of the injury, signed by the immediate supervisor and the Fire Chief, shall be submitted to the Board of Trustees as soon as practicable.
- B. No member shall be granted injury leave with pay unless authorized by the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees may periodically require the member be examined by a physician appointed and paid for by the Township. As a further condition of receipt of injury leave, the member shall release to the Board of Trustees all medical information and reports generated by or used in connection with any such examination. No member

on injury leave shall return to work without the written approval of a physician or the Board of Trustees. If, in the judgment of the Board of Trustees, the injury is or becomes such that the member is capable of performing the member's regular duties or restricted duties during the period of convalescence, the Board of Trustees shall so notify the member and the Division in writing and deny and/or cancel injury leave with pay.

- C. While a member's request for injury leave is pending, the member may use and/or be placed on accrued but unused sick leave, vacation leave, and/or personal leave, which time usage shall be recredited to the member's appropriate leave balance(s) upon certification by the Board of Trustees that injury leave has been approved. If injury leave is not approved by the Board of Trustees, the member will be charged the designated leave initially used. In addition, the Fire Chief may, at the time of the injury and at the sole discretion of the Fire Chief, temporarily place a member on injury leave pending a decision by the Board on the member's request. If the Board denies the request, the time so used shall be recouped by charging such time to the member's other paid leave balance(s) as directed by the Board.
- D. If injury leave is approved by the Board of Trustees and the Bureau of Worker's Compensation disapproves wage and/or salary benefits in connection with the claimed service connected injury, then injury leave shall be discontinued and the injury leave initially granted shall be charged to the member's accrued but unused sick leave, vacation leave, and/or personal leave balance(s). In the event that these balances are insufficient to cover the injury leave time initially granted, then the member shall repay the Township for the excess amounts so paid the member, which repayment may, at the option of the Board of Trustees, be automatically deducted from any other monies owed or become owing to the member, or, if the Board so desires, the amounts may be recouped from any type of future leave time to be credited, or in any combination thereof, or in such other or additional manner as the Board of Trustees may direct.
- E. A member is prohibited from performing any other work for compensation while on injury leave. Also, a member on injury leave shall make himself/herself available at such time or times as directed by the Fire Chief in order to discuss, in person, work and leave related matters.

Section 3. Additional Injury Leave. The Board of Trustees, in its sole and absolute discretion, may, from time to time, grant additional injury leave with or without pay and upon such conditions as it may determine when a member has exhausted the amount of injury leave to which the member is entitled under this Article. Unless otherwise determined by the Board of Trustees, a member shall not be granted additional injury leave until the member has exhausted all other forms of paid leave otherwise available to the member. The Board may, on its own initiative, place a member on such other form(s) of available paid leave prior to or in conjunction with its determination on the granting of additional injury leave. If the Board of Trustees grants additional injury leave without pay, the member shall not be entitled to any benefits or other forms of compensation. If, however, the Board grants additional injury leave with pay, this additional grant shall be subject to such conditions as the Board may, in its sole and absolute discretion and from time to time determine, including, but not limited to: limitations on the crediting of holiday time; reductions in personal time and uniform allowance; and limitations on the accrual of sick and vacation leave.

#### ARTICLE 23

### ASSIGNMENT DURING SICK, DISABILITY OR INJURY LEAVE

Section 1. Light Duty Assignment. Members who are unable, by virtue of injury or illness, whether or not job related, to perform their regular assigned duties, may, with the written approval of the member's personal physician, request assignment to a temporary light duty position. This request shall be submitted to the Fire Chief and shall be accompanied by a doctor's statement authorizing the activity. It is not compulsory, nor is it an obligation on the part of the Township, to grant requests for temporary light duty assignments. Accordingly, the Fire Chief, in the Fire Chief's sole and absolute discretion, has the right to grant or disallow the placement of members on these temporary assignments. Furthermore, the Fire Chief may, from time to time, require a member to be examined by a physician appointed and paid for by the Township prior to the grant of a temporary light duty assignment request.

<u>Section 2. Work Hours.</u> If a member's request for a light duty assignment is granted, the Fire Chief may, in the Fire Chief's sole and absolute discretion, adjust the member's work hours during the light duty assignment such that the work hours average a forty (40) or fifty-six (56) hour work week. Furthermore, the work hours during a light duty assignment may, from time to time, be changed or otherwise revised by the Fire Chief.

Section 3. No Conflict. Nothing contained in this Article shall preclude the Fire Chief from ordering a member who is otherwise off-duty by reason of injury or illness, whether or not job related, to a temporary light duty assignment in the absence of a request for such an assignment. Accordingly, the Fire Chief shall have the right to order a member to temporary light duty assignment after the approval of a physician is obtained. To this end, the Fire Chief shall have the right to require one or more medical examinations (which, if required, shall be paid for by the Township) of a member in order to ensure that the member is able to perform the duties of the position. In the case of any medical examination, the member shall authorize the release to the Fire Chief or designee(s) of the results of each examination. Furthermore, nothing in this Article shall restrict or otherwise modify the rights granted to cancel and/or deny sick leave and/or injury leave in accordance with the Articles therefor or from otherwise mandatorily assigning a member to light and/or restricted duties in accordance with the terms contained herein.

#### **ARTICLE 24**

#### SPECIAL LEAVES

<u>Section 1</u>. <u>Special Leave</u>. In addition to other leaves authorized herein, the Board of Trustees may, in its sole and absolute discretion, authorize special leaves of absence without pay, which exercise of discretion on the part of the Board of Trustees is not subject to challenge, appeal or review.

Section 2. Jury Duty Leave. A member, while serving upon a jury in any court of record, will be paid such member's regular salary for the time actually served. Upon receipt of payment for jury service, the member shall submit jury duty fees to the Fire Chief who will then deposit such funds with the Township Fiscal Officer. Time so served shall be deemed active and continuous service for all purposes.

Section 3. Military Leave. Except as may otherwise be specifically provided herein, a member may be granted a leave of absence without pay to be inducted or otherwise enter military duty. Upon separation or discharge from military duty under honorable conditions, such member shall be entitled to those rights and privileges, and subject to those conditions, provided in Ohio Revised Code Section 5903.03, or any future statute of like tenor and effect. Members in a probationary period may be granted such leave; provided, however, that if such probationary member returns to the Township service, then such member shall serve in a probationary status for that period of time remaining in the member's initial probationary period.

A member who, as a member of the Ohio National Guard, the Ohio Defense Corp, the Ohio Naval Militia, or as a Reserve member of the Armed Forces of the United States, is called upon to receive temporary military training or active duty shall, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5923.05, be entitled to a temporary leave of absence with pay not to exceed thirty-one (31) calendar days during any one (1) calendar year; provided, however, that the maximum amount of paid military leave shall not exceed one hundred seventy six (176) hours in any one (1) calendar year; and further provided that such member provides the Fire Chief with written verification of the dates of departure and return at least sixty (60) days prior to such departure or, in the event sixty (60) days notice cannot be given, seventy-two (72) hours after the member receives notice of such member's training or duty, and evidence of satisfactory completion of such training upon such return, at which time, the member will be restored to the member's previous or similar position with the same status, pay and seniority.

### Section 4. Funeral Leave.

A. In the event of death in the immediate family, a member shall be granted time off without loss of pay for the following number of consecutive work days (if the member is scheduled to work such days) occurring within seven (7) calendar days of the date of death, if needed for these purposes:

Schedule	Days	
56 hours	2 (48 hours)	
40 hours	3 (24 hours)	

- B. The term "immediate family" shall include: parent, step-parent, mother-in-law, father-in-law, sister, brother, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, spouse, son, daughter, step-son, step-daughter, grandparent and grandchild.
- C. Members shall notify the Fire Chief as soon as possible of the death and prior to the time of taking funeral leave.

<u>Section 5. Unpaid Leave of Absence.</u> Unless otherwise directed by the Board of Trustees, a member who is absent as a result of the use of an unpaid leave shall not be entitled to receive or accrue any benefits or other forms of compensation while on an unpaid leave status. Accordingly, the following shall occur while a member is on an unpaid leave:

- A member shall not accrue sick or vacation leave;
- A member shall not be entitled to any Township provided insurance (subject to any available insurance continuation program paid for by the member);

- A member shall receive no holiday credit for holidays occurring while the member is on unpaid leave;
- D. A member shall not be credited with personal time;
- E. For any calendar month (or any portion thereof) in which a member is on an unpaid leave, the member's uniform allowance, annual EMS incentive shall be reduced by onetwelfth (1/12th);
- F. For purposes of calculating a member's longevity bonus and vacation, the member's anniversary date shall be extended for any time spent on an unpaid leave; provided, however, that a break in continuous active service shall occur if a member is absent while on unpaid leave for 120 hours, whether or not consecutive.

#### **ARTICLE 25**

### DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE

Section 1. Policy. The parties recognize that the nature of the fire service requires that personnel conduct themselves in a manner consistent with high standards of health and safety. Alcoholism and drug abuse and/or addiction are recognized by the parties as interfering with the Department's services and as posing a real and substantial danger to other employees and to the general public. The parties agree that the Township has the right to insist on an alcohol and drug-free workplace; to expect all members to report for work in a condition to perform their duties; and to expect members to comply with all federal, state and local alcohol and drug laws. While the parties agree that members afflicted with a substance abuse problem are to be encouraged to seek qualified assistance and will not be disciplined solely for seeking assistance for a substance abuse problem, the presence of drugs or alcohol on the job and the influences of these substances on members during working hours will not be tolerated. Any violation of the following policy or the refusal to comply with it may result in discipline, up to and including discharge.

- A. The illegal use, sale, transfer, or possession of narcotics, drugs or controlled substances, including, but not limited to, those substances under the provisions of the U.S. Government Controlled Substance Act of 1970 as amended, while on the job or Township property or work site is prohibited. All illegal substances will be turned over to the appropriate law enforcement agency.
- B. The use, sale, transfer or possession of alcohol while on the job or Township property or work site is prohibited. Property includes Township vehicles as well as private vehicles on Township property or work sites.
- C. Members are forbidden to work while under the influence of alcohol or having used illegal drugs. This will also apply to members taking prescription or over-the-counter medication that may cause impairment. Members who are determined to be unfit may be released from duty and sent home.
- D. Off-the-job use, sale, transfer or possession of illegal drugs or alcohol which could adversely affect a member's job performance or which could jeopardize the safety of other employees, the public, or Township facilities, or where such activities adversely

affect the public trust in the ability of the Township to carry out its responsibilities, is also prohibited.

E. The decision to seek diagnosis and accept treatment for a drug or alcohol problem is the responsibility of the member. Continued failure of a member to seek and pursue treatment when job performance and attendance are affected will not be tolerated. Members who have a substance abuse problem should contact their physician, a drug abuse counselor or other qualified person, or if they so choose, they may contact their supervisor and/or Union.

Section 2. Testing Procedures. Upon reasonable suspicion that a member has used or is under the influence of illicit drugs or controlled substances, or has used or is under the influence of alcohol on the job, the member may be ordered to undergo a screening test(s). Reasonable suspicion must be based upon specific facts or observations and reasonable inferences drawn therefrom indicating the member in question has used or is under the influence of illicit drugs or controlled substances, or has used or is under the influence of alcohol on the job. If the test(s) is positive, indicating that the member has used or is under the influence of illicit drugs or controlled substances, or has used or is under the influence of alcohol on the job, the member may be ordered to undergo a confirmatory test. A positive result from an alcohol test means a level of .010 percent, as outlined in Ohio Revised Code Section 4511.19(3). The NIDA levels, as established from time to time, for each drug tested for shall be used to determine whether a test is positive with respect to that drug. For screening or confirmatory testing purposes, an employee may be ordered to submit to a breath test, urine test, blood test and/or such other reasonable testing methods. The Fire Chief or Board of Trustees may suspend a member without loss of pay before the time the confirmatory test results are complete. Confirmatory tests shall be made only by persons or institutions qualified to administer such a test. A member taking any prescription and/or non-prescription drug(s) that may adversely affect job performance and/or any testing results has an obligation to inform such member's supervisor in advance of assuming the member's duties. The Township shall have the right to promulgate such other and/or additional procedures, not inconsistent with the provisions contained within this Article, with respect to sample collection, chain of custody procedures, and the like.

<u>Section 3.</u> <u>Test Results.</u> If the screening and confirmatory tests are positive, the Township may discipline the member up to and including discharge for a first offense. Furthermore, a member who refuses to submit to any ordered test shall be deemed insubordinate and shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge.

Section 4. Counseling and Rehabilitation Program. A member who notifies the Department of such member's alcohol and/or drug dependency problem may be required to participate in an approved counseling and rehabilitation program. A member participating in such a program will be allowed reasonable use of such member's accrued but unused sick leave, vacation leave and/or personal time for absences due to actual participation. If no such leave time is available, the member may be granted a leave of absence without pay for a reasonable period of time for purposes of actual participation in such a program. A member approved for participation in such a program shall be obligated to successfully initiate, participate in and complete such program at the member's own cost. While participating in such a program, the member shall be required to authorize the release of sufficient information so as to enable the Fire Chief and/or Board of Trustees to determine that the member is actively participating in and/or has completed such program. Upon completion of the program, a member shall be retested in order to demonstrate that the member is no longer abusing any

prohibited substance. If the retest demonstrates that the member is no longer abusing any prohibited substance, the member may be returned to an available position for which the member qualifies. Furthermore, the member shall be subject to periodic retesting for drugs and alcohol upon such member's return for a period of five (5) years. A member shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge if the member: (1) refuses to take a screening or confirmatory test, or to initiate an approved counseling and rehabilitation program if ordered to do so; (2) fails to successfully complete an approved counseling and rehabilitation program; or (3) tests positive at any time within five (5) years after the member's return to work upon completion of an approved counseling and rehabilitation program.

- <u>Section 5.</u> <u>Confidentiality.</u> Unless otherwise required by applicable law, all test results will be kept confidential in accordance with applicable state and federal law.
- <u>Section 6</u>. <u>Costs</u>. The Township shall pay for all drug and alcohol screening and confirmatory tests ordered by the Fire Chief and/or Board of Trustees.
- <u>Section 7</u>. <u>Reporting</u>. Any member convicted of any federal or state criminal drug statute violation shall notify the Board of Trustees of that fact within five (5) calendar days of the conviction. A member who fails to report such a conviction will be terminated from employment, forever barred from future employment and held civilly liable for any loss of federal funds directly resulting from the failure to report the conviction.
- <u>Section 8.</u> <u>Random Testing/Policy Modifications.</u> The parties understand that the Bureau of Worker's Compensation ("BWC") provides incentives to those employers implementing a drug-free work place policy. The parties also understand that random drug and/or alcohol testing is part of such policy. To this end, the parties understand and agree that the Township shall have the right to unilaterally modify the provisions of this Article 25 in order to qualify for any BWC incentive, including premium discounts, and then to implement such provisions as modified. The Township will notify the Union of any modifications prior to implementation.

#### **ARTICLE 26**

### WELLNESS ASSESSMENT

<u>Section 1. Occupational Health Program.</u> The Township Board of Trustees may, at its option, institute and require members to participate in an occupational health program designed, in part, to provide: rehabilitative services in cases of illness or injury; alcohol and drug testing and/or treatment services; physical evaluations, assessments or review; and such other programs and/or services as may, from time to time, be determined by the Board.

<u>Section 2.</u> <u>Physical Examinations.</u> The Township will provide each member with a physical examination once every two years. The physical exam will consist of the following procedures outlined below. The results of the exam shall be mailed to the member and a pass/fail designation shall be given to the Fire Chief.

Comprehensive History & Physical Exam Comprehensive Metabolic Panel CBC Chest X-ray Lipid Panel (cardiac risk) Pulmonary Function (fvc) Electrocardiogram Audiogram TB-Mantoux HIV 1-2 PSA & Digital Exam @ 40 years or past history for males CA 125 @ 40 years of age or past history for females Snell Vision Exam Urine Dip Hepatitis C Test Hepatitis B Titers

#### ARTICLE 27

### TRAINING COURSE TUITION CREDIT

Section 1. Tuition Credit. Members may receive up to a maximum of one hundred twenty (120) hours per calendar year, for training courses of instruction voluntarily undertaken that are approved in advance by the Fire Chief and Board of Trustees and are deemed necessary and job related. Job relatedness and the need for the training will be determined by the Fire Chief and Board of Trustees in their sole and absolute discretion. In addition to the remaining Sections in this Article, the training course tuition program shall be subject to the following additional conditions:

- A. Course Approval. All course work and the sponsor shall be approved in advance by the Fire Chief. Board of Trustees approval is needed for any course costing more than \$500. The member's request for approval shall be submitted to the Fire Chief in writing and shall contain the name and description of the proposed training course, the sponsor, the grading policy for the proposed course, the scheduled locations, times and dates of the course, the actual tuition cost and the amount of any financial assistance available to the member. Unless otherwise directed by the Fire Chief, the member shall make such request at least thirty (30) days before the start of the course.
- B. <u>Attendance</u>. Training courses are to be taken on other than scheduled working hours. Furthermore, any situation which requires a member's presence on the job (i.e., mandatory classes, training, emergency, overtime or the like) shall take complete and final precedence over any times scheduled for courses. Furthermore, the Fire Chief reserves the right to cancel any previously approved training course based upon the needs of the Department.
- C. <u>Financial Assistance</u>. Financial assistance from any governmental or private agency available to a member, whether or not applied for and regardless of when such assistance may be received, shall be deducted in the entire amount from the tuition credit the member may otherwise be eligible for under this Article.
- D. <u>Ineligible Fees</u>. No payment will be made for transportation, meals or any other expenses connected with any course other than the actual tuition cost for the approved training course.
- E. <u>Scheduling</u>. Unless otherwise approved by the Fire Chief, only one (1) member at a time may attend a training course. Scheduling conflicts for training courses will ordinarily be resolved on the basis of seniority unless otherwise determined by the Fire Chief.
- F. <u>Ineligible Course</u>. The purpose of this Article is to afford training opportunities to members in areas that are job related and approved by both the Fire Chief and Board of Trustees. It is not intended to apply to courses which satisfy a requirement for or otherwise relates to an associates or bachelors degree.
- G. <u>Decisions</u>. All decisions approved or disapproving a member's request for training course tuition credit are within the sole and absolute discretion of the Fire Chief and Board of Trustees, and a decision approving or disapproving such request shall not be grievable.

Section 2. Repayment of Tuition Credit. If a member retires, resigns, is discharged or otherwise separates from Township service for any reason whatsoever prior to the completion of one (1) year of continuous active service following the completion of any course work, the member shall immediately repay the entire amount of the tuition paid by the Township for courses taken and completed within the previous one (1) year period. Furthermore, a member shall immediately repay the entire amount of the tuition paid by the Township for courses which the member fails to complete with a passing grade. The Township is authorized to automatically deduct all or any portion of the amount owed by the member from the member's wages and/or any other monies otherwise due the member. If the Township requests, members shall sign an authorization in favor of the Township reflecting this deduction.

#### **ARTICLE 28**

### MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- Section 1. Adjustment of Benefits. As previously noted, the Township retains the right to schedule any member's work week so that the normal work schedule averages fifty-six (56) or forty (40) hours per week. In the event a member is reassigned to a work week other than a fifty-six (56) hour work week, then all remaining unused vacation time and sick leave standing to the credit of the member in the calendar year and at the time in which the reassignment occurs shall be recalculated and recredited in such manner so as to reflect the changed work hours to which the member has been assigned. To illustrate, five (5) days of vacation leave under a fifty-six (56) hour work week would, in the case of a forty (40) hour work week convert to eighty (80) hours of vacation leave, so as to enable the forty (40) hour member to take off proportionally the same number of vacation days as otherwise permitted under a fifty-six (56) hour work week. Likewise, a member, who after working a work week other than a fifty-six (56) hour work week is reassigned to and working a fifty-six (56) hour work week, shall have the remaining unused vacation and sick time to the member's credit recalculated and recredited in the manner outlined above. In all cases, the accrual rate for these benefits would likewise be revised so as to reflect the changed work hours to which the member has been assigned.
- Section 2. Leap Day. Unless otherwise directed by the Fire Chief, Leap Day shall be divided into two (2) platoon shifts of twelve (12) hours each, with members working the shift assigned by the Fire Chief.
- <u>Section 3.</u> <u>Gender and Number.</u> Whenever words are used herein in any gender, they shall be construed as though they were used in the gender appropriate to the circumstances; and whenever words are used herein in the singular or plural form, they shall be construed as though they were used in the form appropriate to the circumstances.
- <u>Section 4.</u> Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed simultaneously in several counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.
- <u>Section 5. Term.</u> The term of this Agreement shall commence on January 1, 2020 and terminate December 31, 2022.
- Section 6. Agreement Copies. As soon as practicable following the signing of this Agreement, the Township and the Union shall have printed fifteen (15) copies of this Agreement. Five (5) copies shall be provided to the Township, and the remainder shall be provided to the Union for distribution to members. The actual cost of printing this Agreement,

and any future printing that the parties may later agree to be necessary, shall be shared equally by the parties. The Union shall be responsible for distributing copies to all members.

<u>Section 7.</u> <u>Successor Negotiations.</u> If either party desires to terminate or modify an existing collective bargaining agreement, or negotiate a successor collective bargaining agreement, written notice of such intent shall be delivered to the other party no earlier than one hundred twenty (120) calendar days prior to nor later than ninety (90) calendar days prior to the expiration date of this Agreement. The provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 4117.14 shall apply to successor negotiations; provided, however, that the parties retain the right to propose a new and/or different dispute resolution procedure. Upon receipt of a notice to negotiate a successor collective bargaining agreement, the parties shall enter into collective bargaining.

Section 8. Severability. If any term or provision of this Agreement is, at any time during the life of this Agreement, adjudged by a court or administrative body of competent jurisdiction to be invalid and unenforceable then, notwithstanding the provisions of this Article, the Township and the Union shall meet to negotiate a clause to replace the clause adjudged to be so invalid and unenforceable. Neither party shall be required to meet with the other for the purpose of negotiating a replacement clause after thirty (30) days have expired since the issuance of the decision or order of the court or administrative body adjudging such a clause to be invalid and unenforceable. Neither the parties' failure to reach agreement on a replacement clause nor the invalidity or unenforceability of the clause adjudged to be invalid and unenforceable shall impair or affect any other term or provision of this Agreement.

Section 9. Entire Agreement. The parties acknowledge that during the negotiations which resulted in this Agreement, each had the unlimited right to make demands and proposals on any subject matter as to which Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4117 imposes an obligation to bargain and that the understandings and agreements reached by the parties after the exercise of that right and opportunity are fully and completely set forth in this Agreement. Therefore, the Township and the Union, for the duration of this Agreement, each voluntarily and unequivocally waives the right, and each agrees that the other shall not be obligated, to bargain collectively or individually with respect to any subject or matter as to which Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4117 imposes an obligation to bargain, whether or not such matters are specifically referred to in this Agreement, such matters were discussed between the parties during the negotiations which resulted in this Agreement, or such matters were within the contemplation of the parties at the time this Agreement was negotiated and executed. This waiver includes the waiver of the right to require the other party to negotiate. This Agreement, which finally concludes and determines all matters of collective bargaining for its duration, contains the entire understandings, undertakings and agreements between the parties, and all other agreements, whether written. oral, or otherwise, are hereby canceled. Changes in this Agreement, whether by addition, waiver, deletion, amendment or modification, must be reduced to writing and executed by both the Township and the Union.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the parties have signed this Agreement on or as of November  $25^{\rm th}$ , 2019.

FOR THE UNION:	FOR THE TOWNSHIP:
Cory Spires, President	Dave Cotner, Trustee
Carlton Reaves, Vice-President	Lonnie Kosch Sr., Trustee
Sean Tobin, Treasurer	Kent Searle, Trustee
Lée Hayes, Member	
Colin Osterman, Member	
Ryan Smith, Member	
	CERTIFIED AND APPROVED:
	Dawn Wyne, Fiscal Officer

### ATTACHMENT A

### **GREENFIELD TOWNSHIP**

### PAYROLL DUES DEDUCTION FORM

The undersigned hereby authorizes the Fiscal Officer of Greenfield Township, Fairfield County, Ohio to deduct from the undersigned's wages regular Union membership dues in the amount certified to the Township by the Treasurer of the International Association of Firefighters Local 3344.

The undersigned understands and agrees that the Township will be relieved from making such deduction by the undersigned's:

- termination of employment;
- transfer to a job other than one covered by a bargaining unit;
- layoff from work;
- unpaid leave of absence;
- revocation of this authorization;
- 6. resignation from the Union;
- lack of sufficient wages.

Signature of Member-Employee:	Date:

# ATTACHMENT B

# (NOTE - GRIEVANCE FORMS <u>MUST</u> BE OBTAINED FROM UNION)

# **GRIEVANCE FORM**

			Form Provided By Local No. 4422 By:
1.	Req	uired Information:	Date:
	1.	Name of Grievant:	Rank:
	2.	Date submitted to Grievance Review Co	ommittee:
	3.	Date grievance was first discussed with	supervisor:
	4.	Name of supervisor with whom grievand	ce was discussed:
	5.	Date presented in writing:	
	6.	Date, time, and location of grievance: _	
	7.	Description of incident giving rise to violated:	the grievance and Article and Section
8.	8.	Remedy requested:	
		Signature of Grievant:	Date:
		STEP TWO	
II.	Lieu	tenant Response:	
	1.	Received by:	Date received
	2.	Trustees' response:	
	3.	Date response submitted to Grievant:	
		Signature of Lieutenant:	Date:

# STEP THREE

Fire	Chief Response:	
1.	Received by:	Date received
2.	Trustees' response:	
3.	Date response submitted to Grievant:	
	Signature of Fire Chief:	Date:
Trus	STEP FOUR	
1.	Received by:	Date received
2.	Trustees' response:	
3.	Date response submitted to Grievant:	
	Signature of Chairperson	Date:

# ATTACHMENT C

# REQUEST TO DONATE SICK LEAVE FORM

1.	Req	Required Information:		
	1.	Date of request:		
	2.	Name of member donating time:		
	3.	Number of hours being donated: (Must be in increments of 24 hou	rs, not to exceed 48 hours per year.)	
	4.	Name of member receiving time:		
	5.	Donating member's sick leave ba	lance following donation:	
II.	Cert	tification		
abou	e and leave is	the benefits accrued to or attached irrevocable and that no donated lea	h all rights to the leave being donated as shown to the same. I understand that the donation of ve will be refunded to me.  Date	
III.		on Approval:		
	The	Union hereby approves the foregoin	g request.	
	Unio	on President's Signature:	Date	
IV.	Fire	Chief Decision:		
requ			(Insert "approved" or "disapproved"). This	
(Nor	ne if no	thing is inserted.)		
Fire	Chief's	s Signature:	Date	

# ATTACHMENT D

# SICK LEAVE REQUEST VERIFICATION

1.

Req	uired Information:	
1.	Name of member:	
2. 3. 4.	Sick leave requested from Total sick leave hours requested Reason for sick leave use (check applicable	to
	Sickness of the member where such sickness of the member's regular duties of the period of convalescence. Sickness sl condition of a pregnant member, where incapable of performing the member's reavailable, during the member's pregnancy.	restricted duties, if available, during hall also include a pregnancy related such condition renders the member
	Injury to the member where such injury performing the member's regular duties or the period of convalescence, except who performance of the member's employment of the member where such injury performance of the member's regular duties or the member where where the member where where the member where where the member where where the member where where the member where	r restricted duties, if available, during nere such injury is incurred in the
	Medical, dental, or optical consultation or same cannot be obtained during off du schedules such appointment with the Fire advance. Sick leave used for such appoint travel time and appointment time. Upon the Chief may require the member to furnish a the member's attendance at the consultation	ty time, provided that the member Chief at least forty-eight (48) hours in atments shall be limited to reasonable the member's return to duty, the Fire certificate from the doctor confirming
	Sickness or injury of a person of the mem member's household which urgently requ home. Once the initial emergency is over, because continuing care is desired. Member (2) work days in any calendar year for sickly the presence of the member at home; probirth of a member's child, members may be work days in any such calendar year if need be required to furnish a medical certificate this use of sick time.	ires the presence of the member at sick leave will not be granted merely ers shall be granted no more than two ness in the immediate family requiring ovided, however, that in cases of the pe granted up to an additional two (2) ded for such event. The member may
	Quarantine of a member because of exchemical spills. The member may be rec from a licensed practitioner to verify this use	quired to furnish a medical certificate
	In the event a member uses all injury leav duty, the member may, with the approval of leave and vacation time to which the memb	of the Board of Trustees, use any sick

### II. Certification

I hereby certify that the sick leave requested is for the reason(s) indicated above. I understand that I must comply with the Greenfield Township Fire Department's rules and procedures for requesting sick leave (and provide additional documentation, including medical certification, if required) and that falsification of any information on this form or elsewhere will subject me to severe disciplinary action up to and including discharge and may also be referred to outside agencies for further action.

Member's signature:		Date signed:	
111.	Administrative Action		
disa	This request has beenpproved, the reason(s) for disapproval ar	(Insert "approved" or "disapproved"). re as follows:	
Fire			