

Collective Bargaining Agreement
Between
International Association of Fire Fighters
Local #2964
City of Green Fire Fighters
and
The City of Green



Effective Date

January 1, 2020
Through
December 31, 2022

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PREAMBLE/PURPOSE

Section 1. Parties. This Agreement is made and entered into by and between the City of Green, hereinafter referred to as the “City” or “Employer” and Green Firefighters, IAFF Local 2964, hereinafter referred to as the “Union” or “Local”.

Section 2. Relations. It is recognized that the City is a public trust operated for the benefit of its citizenry. To that end, both parties recognize their mutual obligation to promote efficient City operations and harmonious relations.

ARTICLE 1
UNION RECOGNITION

Section 1.1. Recognition. The City recognizes Local 2964, International Association of Firefighters, as the sole and exclusive bargaining unit certified by the State Employment Board on August 28, 1985 in Case No. 84-RC-12-2615.

Section 1.2. Authority. Union shall have sole authority on behalf of all employees in the bargaining unit to bargain with respect to all matters relating to wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment.

Section 1.3. Representation. The City and the Union agree to enter into good faith negotiations in all matters as required by law. Both parties agree that the Union shall have the right to appoint or elect representatives from its membership and such representatives shall be authorized and recognized by the City to represent the Union. The names of the employees so selected, who may represent the Union, shall be certified in writing to the Mayor.

Section 1.4. Coverage. The employees covered under this agreement presently include:

- Full-time Firefighters
- Full-time Firefighter/Engineers
- Full-time Firefighter/Paramedics
- Full-time Fire Lieutenant/Paramedics
- Full-time Fire Captain/Paramedics

ARTICLE 2
MANAGEMENT RIGHTS

The Union recognizes that except as otherwise expressly limited in this Agreement, the City has the sole and exclusive right to manage its operations and facilities and to direct the working force. The right to manage includes, but is not limited to the authority of the City, and its sole and exclusive discretion and judgment, to:

- A. determine matters of inherent managerial policy which govern; the function and programs of the City; standards of service; its overall budget; utilization of

- technology; and its organizational structure;
- B. direct, supervise, evaluate or hire employees;
- C. maintain and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of its governmental operations;
- D. determine the overall methods, process, means, or personnel by which governmental operations are to be conducted;
- E. suspend, discipline, demote, or discharge for just cause; or layoff, transfer, assign, schedule, promote or retain employees;
- F. determine the adequacy of the work force;
- G. determine the overall mission of the City as a unit of government; and
- H. take actions to carry out the mission of the City as a governmental unit.

ARTICLE 3 **DUES DEDUCTION**

Section 3.1. Authorization/Deductions. The City will deduct regular monthly dues in the amount certified in writing to the City by the Secretary of the Union from the pay of any member who timely executes the Union's authorization form. No other authorization form will be recognized.

Section 3.2. Pay Period. Payroll deductions shall be made each pay period during which an employee is in active pay status. In order to commence check-off, the authorization card must be submitted to the City Finance Director by the tenth (10th) work day prior to the pay day.

Section 3.3. Cancellation. Members who complete dues deduction authorization cards will have their dues deduction continued for the term of this Agreement subject to their right to request cancellation of dues deduction during the twenty (20) work day period immediately preceding any anniversary date of this Agreement. In order to exercise this check-off cancellation right, a member must notify the City and the Union by certified mail during the twenty (20) day period.

Section 3.4. Indemnification. The Union shall indemnify the City against any all claims, demands, suits, or other forms of liability or cost that shall arise out of, or relate to, any action taken or not taken by the City for the purpose of complying with the provisions of this article.

Section 3.5. List of Employees. Within sixty (60) days following the effective date of this Agreement, upon receiving a written request, the City will furnish to the Union a list

showing the number of employees in each classification in the bargaining unit. The list shall be updated quarterly upon written request from the Union.

Section 3.6. Member in Good Standing. Any member of the bargaining unit who has elected to become a member of the Union as of the effective date of this Agreement, or who elects to become a member during the term of this Agreement, shall remain a member in good standing, subject to the right of each member to revoke his membership at same times as specified in Section 3 for revocation of dues check-off.

ARTICLE 4 NONDISCRIMINATION

Section 4.1. Discrimination. The parties agree to abide by all laws pertaining to equal employment opportunity. There shall be no discrimination against any employee on account of race, color, creed, genetic history, military status, age, sex, handicap, national origin, union membership or political affiliation.

Section 4.2. Gender based reference. It is understood that all gender-based references to employees and bargaining unit members in the Agreement refer to both sexes.

ARTICLE 5 SENIORITY

Section 5.1. Definitions. Seniority shall be defined as follows:

- A. **Total Seniority.** Total seniority is an employee's length of full-time service with the City of Green.
- B. **Bargaining Unit Seniority.** Bargaining Unit seniority shall be defined as length of full-time service as a firefighter within the City of Green Division of Fire. Newly hired bargaining unit members shall be considered probationary employees with no Bargaining Unit seniority for the first one (1) year of employment. Upon successful completion of the probationary period, a bargaining unit member's Bargaining Unit seniority shall be retroactive to his date of hire.
- C. **Classification/Rank Seniority.** Classification/rank seniority shall be defined as length of service within a specific classification/rank (e.g. Lieutenant, Captain, etc.).

Section 5.2. Identical Seniority Dates. Bargaining Unit seniority shall be used for determining the order in which vacation, holiday and Earned Day Off selections will be made in October of each year for the following year's schedule. In the event two (2) or more employees are hired or promoted on the same day, the employee's ranking on the Civil Service list will be used to determine Bargaining Unit or Classification/Rank seniority.

Section 5.3. Loss of Seniority. A bargaining unit member's seniority shall terminate if a bargaining unit member:

- (a) quits or resigns (including any failure to report off for two consecutive work shifts);
- (b) is discharged for cause;
- (c) is laid off, or otherwise fails to perform any bargaining unit work for a period of thirty-six (36) or more consecutive months;
- (d) fails to report to work as scheduled after a leave of absence or layoff; or
- (e) retires.

Section 5.4. Seniority List. The City shall post on the City's bulletin board a copy of the Total Seniority and Bargaining Unit Seniority lists showing the respective seniority of each unit member. The seniority lists shall be reviewed or updated no less than once per contract year, with copies furnished to the Union at such time.

ARTICLE 6 **PROBATIONARY PERIODS**

Section 6.1. Initial Hire. All bargaining unit members shall be considered probationary employees for the first one (1) year of employment. Probationary employees shall not be covered by this Agreement and have no recourse to the grievance procedure. Their continued employment is within the discretion of the City.

Section 6.2. Promotional. The probationary period for newly promoted officers shall be six (6) months, during which time the City or the employee may opt to return the employee to his former position.

ARTICLE 7 **LAYOFF AND RECALL**

Section 7.1. It is the intent of the parties, through this article, to establish an objective procedure by which a reduction in force may be accomplished and explicitly supersede the provisions of ORC 124.321 to 124.328, and 124.37, and all local rules and regulations of the City of Green Municipal Civil Service Commission which expressly address order of layoff and displacement, layoff procedures, and reinstatement rights.

Section 7.2. Notice. When it becomes necessary in the Green Fire Division, through lack of work or funds, or for causes other than disciplinary reasons, to have a reduction in force (i.e., layoff or job abolishment), the Employer will provide fourteen (14) days advance notice of a layoff or abolishment to those employees affected by the reduction. Employees shall notify the Employer of their intention to exercise their displacement rights within five (5) days after receiving notice of layoff. Upon the request of the Union the Employer agrees to discuss the impact of the reduction on bargaining unit employees and/or alternatives to layoff/abolishment.

Section 7.3. Procedure. When a reduction in force occurs, the Employer shall first determine the classification/rank (i.e., firefighter/medic, lieutenant, captain, etc.) where the

reduction is to occur. In the event that there is a layoff from or abolishment involving a position within the classification/rank above firefighter/medic, the incumbent with the least amount of classification/rank seniority within the affected classification/rank shall be reduced to the next lowest classification/rank and shall displace the member with the least amount of rank/classification in the rank that he is bumping into. Classification/rank seniority is calculated in accordance with Article 5, Seniority. Displacement shall continue in this manner until such time as the member with the least amount of classification/rank seniority from the classification/rank of Lieutenant is displaced. A member who is displaced from classification/rank of Lieutenant shall be reduced in rank to the rank of Firefighter/Medic and afforded displacement rights, if possible, based on his Division seniority so that the Firefighter/Medic with the least amount of division seniority is subject to reduction. In the event that the layoff or job abolishment is conducted within the classification/rank of firefighter/medic, the member with the least amount of division seniority shall be first subject to reduction.

Section 7.4. Recall Rights. The names of individuals who have been laid off under the provisions of this article shall be placed on an appropriate “recall list” in order of their Classification/Rank seniority and Bargaining Unit seniority for a period not to exceed three (3) years, provided that the individuals remain eligible for reinstatement. Whenever discontinued positions are re-established or other cause for layoff is terminated and a request is made for certification of those eligible, former employees of the department who have been laid off and whose names appear on the “recall list” shall be the first to receive appointments. It shall be the responsibility of the employee to keep the Employer advised, through written notice, of his current and accurate mailing address.

Section 7.5. Training/Certification. It shall be the responsibility of the laid off personnel to obtain training and/or classes necessary to maintain their certification. However, while eligible for recall, the Employer shall provide laid off personnel the opportunity to attend training and/or classes put on by the Employer so that the laid off personnel may maintain their certification.

Section 7.6. Notice of Recall. Affected employees shall be notified in writing by the Employer of their eligibility for reinstatement upon the Employer determining to recall such employees. Written notice shall be given by certified mail. Affected employees shall have fourteen (14) calendar days from the date of receipt within which to notify the Employer, in writing, of their acceptance or rejection of the offer of reinstatement. Failure of the employee to notify the Employer of his decision shall be considered a rejection of the offer of reinstatement and forfeiture of recall rights.

Section 7.7. Promotional Recall Rights. In the event that a promoted position in the Green Fire Division is abolished and made unnecessary, and it is found necessary to re-establish the position within three (3) years from the date of abolishment, the employee who previously held that position shall be entitled to return to the position. The names of individuals holding promoted positions in the classified service who have been demoted shall be placed on an appropriate “recall list” in order of their original date of promotion.

Section 7.8. Waiver of Displacement Rights. An employee who does not exercise the option to displace under this article shall be entitled to reinstatement or reemployment in the classification from which the employee was displaced or laid off.

Section 7.9. Probation and Reinstatement. Any employee reinstated or reemployed under this article shall not serve a probationary period upon reinstatement or reemployment except that an employee laid off during an original or promotional probationary period shall continue his probationary period.

ARTICLE 8 **UNION MEETINGS**

Section 8.1. Frequency. The City agrees that members of the Union may conduct meetings at the Division of Fire as long as they do not interfere with work shifts or other scheduled functions. Such meetings shall normally be held no more than once per month outside normal business hours during the four (4) month period preceding expiration of this Agreement when such meetings shall normally be held no more than twice per month.

Section 8.2. Request for Meeting. All such meetings are subject to the approval of the Chief at his sole discretion and may be required to be pre-scheduled with the Chief. Denied requests shall be in writing, stating the reason.

Section 8.3. Ability to Attend. All on or off duty local members shall be afforded the opportunity to attend said meetings, with on duty members suffering no loss of pay for attendance at said meetings.

Section 8.4. Work Assignments. It is expressly understood by the Union that those employees on duty and at attendance at a Union meeting shall be subject to work assignments by the Chief or his designee, during the period of the meeting, if necessary in order to maintain City operations.

Section 8.5. Union Files. The City shall provide reasonable space at the Fire Station for the storage of Union files and equipment which may be kept under lock by the Union. Such files and equipment shall be maintained only in such area designated by the City.

ARTICLE 9 **BULLETIN BOARD**

Section 9.1. Space. The City agrees to provide space for a bulletin board for use by the Union at each Fire Station. The bulletin board shall be identified with the name of the Union and the Union may designate the person or persons responsible for maintenance of same. The space provided for the bulletin board shall be approximately three feet by four feet. The Union agrees that this shall be the only area used by the Local or its members for the posting of notices of Union business. All notices which appear on the Union bulletin board shall relate to items of interest to the members. Union notices relating to the following matters may be posted without the necessity of receiving the City's prior approval:

- (1) Union recreational and social affairs;
- (2) Notice of Union meetings;
- (3) Union appointments;
- (4) Notice of Union elections;
- (5) Results of Union elections; and
- (6) OAPPPF, IAFF, or AFL-CIO correspondence (except AFL-CIO News and Views).

Section 9.2. Material Restriction(s). All other notices of any kind not covered in (1) through (6) above must receive prior approval of the Chief or his designated representative. It is understood that no material may be posted on the Union bulletin board at any time, which contains the following:

- (a) Personal attacks upon any member of City management or City employees;
- (b) Scandalous, scurrilous or derogatory attacks upon the administration; and
- (c) Attacks on and/or for favorable comments for any candidate for public office.

ARTICLE 10 **NO STRIKE CLAUSE**

Section 10.1. Revised Code. It is expressly recognized by the Union that any strike by members of the bargaining unit is in violation of Chapter 4117 of the Ohio Revised Code. If a strike or any other interruption of work is engaged in by members of the bargaining unit, said bargaining unit members would be subject to immediate termination. If a grievance is filed by a member of the bargaining unit for his termination for violation of this Article, the sole question to be resolved in the grievance arbitration procedure is whether or not the member engaged in conduct violating this Article. If it is determined that the conduct occurred, the discipline imposed by the City will not be altered. Furthermore, it is recognized that the City has the right to seek an injunction against the strike in the Summit County Court of Common Pleas. It is recognized by the Union that in accordance with Revised Code Section 4117.15(b) that the Union or its members cannot rely upon any alleged unfair labor practice by the City in support of any strike activity.

Section 10.2. Union Instructions. In the event that any strike or work stoppage activity occurs pursuant to this Article, the Union will promptly instruct all bargaining unit employees to immediately cease and desist any activities and take appropriate action against anyone who continues to engage in a violation. If the Union discharges its obligations, it shall not be liable for the unauthorized and uncondoned acts of individual bargaining unit members. If the Union fails to discharge its obligations, the dues check-off provisions normally required under this Agreement shall be suspended for one (1) month for each day of any strike in violation of this Article. In any dispute over the suspension of check-off, it will be the burden of the Union to demonstrate a good faith effort to discharge its obligations hereunder. Nothing herein shall be construed as any limitation upon or election of remedies by the City.

ARTICLE 11
GRIEVANCE AND ARBITRATION PROCEDURE

Section 11.1. Definition. A grievance is a dispute between the City and the Union or an employee or group of employees as to the interpretation, application, or alleged violation of the specific provisions of this Agreement. Both parties agree that all grievances should be dealt with promptly and should encourage informal settlement of disputes.

Section 11.2. Sponsorship. A grievance may be brought by any member of the bargaining unit. Where a group of bargaining unit members desire to file a grievance involving a situation affecting each member of the group in the same manner, the grievance shall be processed for the benefit of all affected member.

Section 11.3. Time Limits. The word “day” shall mean calendar day, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays for the purpose of this article. Any grievance not advanced from one step to the next by the employee within the time limits of that step shall be considered dismissed with prejudice. Failure at any step of this procedure to communicate the decision on a grievance by the City within the specified time limits shall permit the employee to lodge an appeal at the next step of the procedure. Any time limits within this article may be extended by the mutual agreement of the City and the Union.

In order to be considered, a written grievance must state the specific article and paragraph of this Agreement which is alleged to have been violated by the City, and set forth a brief set of facts and the relief requested.

Section 11.4. Procedure. The following procedure shall be utilized when a grievance is initiated by an employee, a group of employees, or the Union.

STEP ONE: A grievance must be reported orally, as soon as practicable after the occurrence is known but no later than ten (10) days after the occurrence giving rise to the dispute to the Fire Chief of the Division of Fire. The Union Steward shall, with or without the presence of the aggrieved employee, present the grievance to the Chief of the Division of Fire. If, in the opinion of both parties a grievance does not exist, no further action is necessary.

STEP TWO: If a grievance is not settled at the first Step, the Union or the aggrieved may reduce the grievance to writing. The written grievance must be presented to the Chief within ten (10) days of the meeting that occurred in Step One. The Fire Chief shall reply in writing within ten (10) days after the receipt of the written grievance.

STEP THREE: If the grievance is not settled at Step Two, the Union may appeal in writing to the Mayor. Such appeal must be submitted within ten (10) days after receipt of the Step Two reply or upon expiration of the Chief’s allotted time for a reply. The Mayor, or his designate (1), shall reply in writing to the Union within ten (10) days of receipt of the grievance.

¹ Designate refers to Human Resources or persons other than the Fire Chief.

STEP FOUR: Arbitration. If the grievance is not resolved at Step Three, the Union may, within ten (10) days, request in writing that the grievance be submitted to arbitration. The decision to pursue the grievance to arbitration shall, for the Union, rest with the Executive Board of the Local.

Section 11.5. Selecting Arbitrator. No later than ten (10) days after a notice to arbitrate is given, representatives of the City and the Local shall meet to mutually agree upon an arbitrator selected from the following panel of seven (7) previously agreed upon arbitrators who are located in Ohio:

1. Jonathan Klein
2. Margaret Nancy Johnson
3. Gregory Van Pelt
4. Tom Nowel
5. John Meredith
6. Jerry Fullmer
7. Daniel Zeiser

Section 11.6. Steps. Within ten (10) days after receipt of the notice to arbitrate, the parties shall confer and select the arbitrator. If they cannot mutually agree on an arbitrator to hear the dispute, each party shall alternately strike one name from the list. The party striking first shall be determined by a coin toss.

Section 11.7. Rules. The hearing or hearings before the arbitrator shall be conducted pursuant to the rules of voluntary arbitration of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.

Section 11.8. Costs/Fees. The fees and expenses of the arbitrator will be borne by the party losing the grievance. If the decision does not affirm the position of either party, the arbitrator shall determine which party shall pay the cost of the arbitrator or in what proportion the parties shall share the cost. The cost of the hearing room, if any, shall be split equally by the parties. All other expenses, including the cost of attendance of witnesses, representation, purchase of transcript of proceedings, or other incidental expenses shall be borne by the party incurring them.

Section 11.9. Employee Witnesses. Union representatives or employee witnesses who are principals to the grievance shall not lose pay for time spent in the grievance or arbitration proceedings if same occurs during the employee's regular scheduled working hours, provided the Union's position is sustained by the arbitrator.

Section 11.10. Decision. The arbitrator shall hold the necessary hearings promptly and issue his decision and award in writing within thirty (30) days from the date the record is closed. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding on the parties, subject only to judicial review as provided in Ohio Revised Code Section 2711.

Section 11.11. Arbitrators Authority. The arbitrator shall have no power or authority to add to, subtract from, modify, change, or in any manner alter the specific written provisions of the Agreement or the language contained therein in arriving at a determination. The arbitrator shall not make any awards requiring the commission of any act prohibited by law or make any award that itself is contrary to law or violates any of the terms or conditions of this Agreement. The arbitrator shall expressly confine himself to the precise issue(s) submitted for arbitration and shall have no authority to determine any other issue(s) not submitted to him, or to submit observations or declarations or opinions which are not directly essential in reaching a determination.

Section 11.12. Exclusive Remedy. It is expressly agreed that the grievance/arbitration provisions of this Agreement are the exclusive remedy for resolution of bargaining unit member employment related matters covered by this Agreement.

ARTICLE 12 **CORRECTIVE ACTION**

Section 12.1. Just Cause. No bargaining unit member shall be disciplined or discharged except for just cause, including any violation of City work rules.

Section 12.2. Grace Period. When it is necessary to discipline or discharge a bargaining unit member, such action will be taken within thirty (30) calendar days following the City's discovery of the infraction or misconduct unless this date is extended for up to an additional thirty (30) calendar days after mutual agreement between the City and the Union to allow the City to complete its investigation of the incident. In the event an employee is under criminal investigation, the City and the Union may mutually agree to extend the timelines.

Section 12.3. Conference with Fire Chief. Employees shall not be discharged or given a disciplinary suspension without first being given an opportunity to attend a conference with the Chief or his designate where the employee may give his version of the events at issue. The employee being disciplined may have a Union representative present, if he so requests. Such a pre-suspension/pre-discharge conference will not be required where the City determines that a serious offense has occurred and it is in the best interest of the City and the employee to temporarily remove the employee from service pending a determination as to what, if any, appropriate discipline shall be imposed.

Section 12.4. Minor Offenses. The City shall utilize the principles of progressive discipline in an effort to correct minor offenses.

Section 12.5. Work Record. Upon request the bargaining unit member's work record/personnel file(s) will be made available for inspection by an appropriate Union representative and/or the bargaining unit member during normal working hours and within one (1) working day after receipt of a request. If the request to review a bargaining unit member's work record/personnel file(s) is made by someone other than the bargaining unit

member, the City shall immediately provide notice of the request to the bargaining unit member.

Section 12.6. Written Notices. Copies of all written notices of disciplinary action will be given to the bargaining unit member, placed in the bargaining unit member's work record/personnel file and a copy will be given to the Union.

Section 12.7. Following Orders Required. It is understood that a supervisor's directions are to be followed. An employee may grieve any directive he deems to be in violation of this Agreement. However, pending final resolution of such grievance, all affected bargaining unit members shall comply with this directive. Any failure to do so shall constitute serious misconduct subject to discharge.

Section 12.8. Past Disciplines. In disciplining an employee, the City shall not rely upon instances of discipline which are more than thirty (30) months old, provided that no intervening discipline has occurred.

Section 12.9. Documentary Evidence. At the conference provided for in Section 3, the City will produce, upon request, all documentary evidence upon which it intends to rely in support of its decision for discipline.

Section 12.10. Review of Personnel File. Any bargaining unit employee desiring to review his personnel file may do so annually within one day following his written request to the HR Manager. He shall also be entitled to copies of any documents he requests to be provided by the City in a reasonable period of time.

ARTICLE 13 **MANDATORY PROFICIENCY LEVELS**

Section 13.1. Notification of Deficiency. Employees functioning as paramedics are mandated to maintain proficiency levels which are deemed acceptable to the City's Medical Director in order to function as a paramedic. The City agrees to notify a paramedic in writing anytime the Medical Director expresses a concern as to the proficiency levels of that paramedic. The City reserves the right to take corrective action pursuant to the terms of this article.

Section 13.2. Failure to Maintain Proficiency. If the City's Medical Director notifies the City in writing that a paramedic has failed to maintain proficiency levels which are deemed acceptable and the Medical Director will not allow the paramedic to function under the Medical Director's license, the paramedic shall be immediately suspended without pay until such time as the paramedic has rehabilitated his proficiency to a level which is deemed acceptable to the City's Medical Director. If the paramedic fails to maintain proficiency at a level deemed acceptable to the City's Medical Director for a period of six (6) months, the paramedic shall be dismissed from employment.

ARTICLE 14
JOB CLASSIFICATIONS/SPECIFICATIONS

Section 14.1. Job Classifications/Specifications. Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, the City will maintain its existing job classifications. If the City proposes revisions to the job classifications/specifications covered by this Agreement, it will meet with the Union prior to implementing such revisions.

ARTICLE 15
WORK RULES

Section 15.1.

- a. The City shall promulgate and publish work rules regulating the conduct which shall be deemed as appropriate while on-duty or otherwise representing the City and/or Division of Fire.
- b. With the exception of work rules which directly impact the safety of the employees and/or the community, should the City formulate new work rules, they shall not take effect for five (5) calendar days. The grievance procedure shall be available if the rules are in violation of the labor agreement or applied in a discriminatory manner.
- c. The new work rules shall be placed in the shift blue book for a period of at least fifteen (15) days during which time shift supervisors are to assure that employees read and initial said rules. The Union President may make a copy of said work rules from the blue book posting for Union files.

ARTICLE 16
SHIFT BIDDING/TIME CONVERSION

Section 16.1. Shift Bidding/Time Conversion. The City agrees to allow bidding by classification seniority for shift preferences.

Section 16.2. Posting. Opportunities to move to Day shift or Response shift shall be posted for twenty-one (21) days prior to the new shift assignment. The City reserves the right to assign employees to either of the two (2) Day shifts or any of the three (3) Response shifts at the City's discretion.

Section 16.3. Special Assignments. Assignments to the Inspection and Maintenance Division shall be at the sole discretion of the City and are not subject to shift bidding by seniority.

Section 16.4. Leave Conversion. Employees moved from a Response shift to a Day, or from a Day shift to a Response shift, shall have all accrued leave converted as follows:

- A. **Holiday Time Conversion.** Employees moved from a Response shift to a Day, or

from a Day shift to a Response shift, shall have accrued Holiday leave converted “day” for “day.”

- B. Vacation Conversion. Employees moved from a Response shift to a Day shift shall have accrued Vacation leave converted by multiplying accrued hours by .76911085 to obtain the amount to be credited. An employee moved from a Day shift to a Response shift shall have accrued Vacation leave converted by multiplying accrued hours by 1.30 to obtain the amount to be credited.
- C. Sick Leave Conversion. Employees moved from a Response shift to a Day shift shall have accrued sick leave converted by multiplying accrued hours by .76911085 to obtain the amount to be credited. An employee moved from a Day shift to a Response shift shall have accrued Sick Leave converted by multiplying accrued hours by 1.30 to obtain the amount to be credited.
- D. Floating Holiday Time for Day Shift. Accrued but unused Day shift floating Holiday, provided by Article 32 (Holiday Leave), must be used prior to any Day shift employee moving to Response shift. If, however, the Day shift employee cannot use this floating Holiday prior to the shift adjustment, the employee may sell the Holiday to the City.
- E. Rounding of Hours Converted. All hours will be rounded up for values of .51 or more, and down for values of .50 or less.
- F. Previously Scheduled Leave. If an employee is moved from his current shift to another by the Employer, not as the result of a bid or a promotion, his previously scheduled leave shall be honored on the new shift, without affecting the leave previously scheduled by another employee.
 - 1. If a promotion causes an employee to be moved to a new shift, his previously scheduled primary vacation leave shall be honored on the new shift without affecting the leave previously scheduled by another employee. All other leave previously scheduled on the previous shift will first be scheduled on days still available before making accommodations of incurring overtime or allowing an increased sell back.
- G. Partial Shift Hours after Conversion. Employees will be permitted to take “partial” shift leave for those hours, which do not total a full shift subsequent to the conversion delineated in this article.

Section 16.5. Temporary Assignment. Mandatory conversion of time shall not apply to employees temporarily assigned to either Response or Day shift. However, time shall be converted if an employee on a temporary assignment reschedules or uses leave, including sell back.

ARTICLE 17
HOURS OF WORK/OVERTIME PAY

Section 17.1. Work Cycle. Bargaining unit members assigned to Response will be assigned to a twenty-eight (28) day work cycle.

Section 17.2. Work Hours Defined. During the respective work cycle, shift assignments are to be made at the discretion of the Fire Chief within the provisions of this Agreement with respect to shift bidding. Bargaining unit members shall be designated either as Response Shift employees or Day Shift employees.

- (a) **Day Shift Assignments.** Day Shift employees will be assigned to a forty (40) hour week consisting of either five (5) consecutive eight (8) hour days or four consecutive ten (10) hour days.
- (b) **Response Shift Assignments.** Response Shift employees will be assigned to a work schedule wherein the employee works an average of fifty-two (52) hours per week, or two hundred and eight (208) hours in the twenty-eight day work cycle period, during which the employee shall be scheduled to work shifts of twenty-four (24) consecutive hours followed by forty-eight (48) hours off duty.
- (c) **Float Shift Assignments.** In order to reduce overtime costs the City may utilize up to three (3) “floating” Fire/Medics. “Floating” Fire/Medics are not permanently assigned to A, B or C Shift. The least senior bargaining unit members shall be assigned as float Fire/Medics unless a more senior bargaining unit member volunteers for the assignment. This number may be increased upon mutual agreement.
- (d) Day Shift employees shall commence work at the time designated by the Fire Chief. Non-traditional shift schedules in terms of days of the week and hours of the day may be used to increase day shift coverage for the management of overtime.
- (e) Response shift employees shall commence work at 0700 hours with “normal work hours” from 0800 to 1600 hours. After 1600 hours these employees shall be permitted to use the time as they desire, within the policies and procedures established for the Division of Fire by the Fire Chief.
- (f) Whenever possible, at the sole discretion of the Shift Commander, scheduled evening training and events shall be considered part of the “work day,” and where practical and possible, equivalent hours shall be removed from the 0800-1600 work day.
- (g) Both Day shift and Response shift employees are required to remain available to perform duties as required during “break” or “lunch” periods. The starting/stopping times for the breaks and lunch period are to remain flexible and are to be taken as designated by the shift supervisor.

Section 17.3. Self Improvement.

- (a) Response shift employees may be required to perform “self improvement education” after 1600 hours during their assigned shift, when it is determined by the Chief that they have not met the established minimum proficiency standards of the Division of Fire.
- (b) The amount of time the employee shall be required to participate in said “self improvement education” shall be directly related to the employee’s proficiency level deficit. This type of education is such that the employee can participate without assistance from other employees or officers. Some examples of “self improvement education” are driving apparatus, pumping apparatus, familiarization with equipment locations/operation, studying text materials (spelling, grammar, etc.).
- (c) The “self improvement education” is considered to be each employee’s responsibility to initiate when they are found to be performing below department standards. This is not intended to take the place of normal training sessions held during “normal working hours”.
- (d) The Fire Chief shall make the determination of what type of training shall be considered appropriate to be performed during “normal working hours”, and what type of training shall be considered appropriate for individual employees as “self improvement education” to be performed after 1600 hours during their regular assigned shift.

Section 17.4. Earned Days Off. Response shift employees, except float shift employees, shall be afforded one (1) twenty-four hour shift off with pay termed an Earned Day Off (E.D.O.) every fourteenth (14th) shift which shall not be counted as “hours worked.”

Bargaining Unit Seniority will be used for the annual EDO selection process. The Shift Commander on each shift will be given an EDO selection sheet on October 1 of each year and will be given fifteen (15) calendar days to have the employees assigned to his shift make their EDO day of the week selection.

The Shift Commander will forward the completed EDO selection sheet to the Fire Chief once all of the employees on his shift have made their selection, or by October 15, whichever comes first.

The Fire Chief will post the final approved EDO schedule in a timely manner after receipt of the finalized EDO selection list from the Shift Commander.

In the event overtime becomes available on a shift that a Response Shift employee is scheduled to be off on EDO, the employee on EDO shall have the first option to work the overtime regardless of their position on the overtime list. If two (2) or more employees have the same EDO, the eligibility to work the overtime shall be determined by seniority.

Section 17.5. Overtime. Vacation leave, compensatory time, personal leave, funeral leave, and holiday leave shall be counted as “hours worked” for the purposes of calculating overtime.

- (a) **Base Rate.** For purposes of calculating overtime, an employee’s base rate shall be calculated by dividing the employee’s annual salary by the number of hours the employee is normally scheduled to work in a one (1) year period, termed the employee’s annual scheduled hours. For the purpose of this section only, the employee’s annual scheduled hours shall be 2600 for a Response shift employee and 2080 for a Day shift employee.
- (b) **Day Shift Overtime.** Day shift employees shall receive time and one half (1 1/2) their base rate of pay for each hour worked in excess of forty (40) hours per week.
- (c) **Response Shift Overtime.** Response shift employees shall receive time and one half (1 1/2) their base rate of pay for each hour worked in excess of two hundred and twelve (212) hours in a long cycle, and one hundred ninety-two (192) hours in a short cycle of the established twenty-eight day pay period.
- (d) **Emergency Alarm Overtime.** Hours worked when returning to duty in response to an emergency alarm shall be paid at an overtime rate calculated at the employee’s salary divided by 2080 hours.

Section 17.6. Overtime Eligibility/Rotation. Employees on sick leave are not eligible to work overtime shifts. The City agrees to assign both scheduled and unscheduled overtime using an overtime rotation list, but reserves the right to by-pass said list and assign overtime during emergencies; to fill vacancies created by unscheduled absences; and/or in the event there is no response to the City’s attempt to make overtime notifications.

Section 17.7. Overtime Pay Distribution. Overtime pay shall be distributed in the first paycheck following the work cycle in which it was accrued.

Section 17.8. Mandatory Overtime Assignments.

- (a) Pursuant to Fire Division Policy, a separate mandatory overtime assignment list shall be maintained.
- (b) Employees that are assigned a mandatory overtime assignment will be required to remain at work or return to work, as assigned, or obtain coverage for the assigned period. Failure to work or obtain coverage will result in the employee being docked four (4) hours of pay for the first incident, and eight (8) hours of pay for each subsequent incident. This docking of pay will not be considered disciplinary action.
- (c) Employees that are on approved vacation leave will not be assigned overtime the day of said leave or the two (2) days preceding and following said leave date(s).

Employees that are on approved exchange of hours (switch), holiday leave or compensatory time off will normally not be assigned overtime on the date(s) of said approved leave or switch.

Section 17.9. Zero Time notification.

- (a) After reporting for duty at their normal starting time, an employee may use any accrued leave, other than sick leave, and be excused from any portion, or the remainder of, his shift, provided that minimum staffing levels are maintained and said employee's absence does not adversely affect the planned activities of the shift commander. Once staffing levels are brought to sixteen (16) response personnel per shift, an employee may use any accrued leave, other than sick leave, and be excused from any portion, or the remainder of, his shift, provided that optimum staffing levels are maintained and said employee's absence does not adversely affect the planned activities of the shift commander. In the event an employee opts to utilize holiday or vacation leave during his shift, he will be docked for a full "day" of leave regardless of hours already worked or remaining.
- (b) Employees utilizing zero-time notification leave are required to submit a request for leave form at the time the leave is taken. In the event a shift commander approves allowing an employee to utilize zero-time notification leave without first reporting to work, the Shift Commander shall be responsible for submitting the request for leave form on behalf of said employee.

Section 17.10. Certifications.

- (a) It is the responsibility of each bargaining unit member to maintain certifications essential to meet the job description which he fills.
- (b) An employee attending mandatory training at the City for CME, ACLS, NIMS, and/or other required paramedic and/or fire related certifications shall do so as part of his regular shift duties or, if scheduling does not permit during regular hours, the employee will be paid in accordance with this Agreement for all hours spent in training under the direction of the City. With the exception of a normally scheduled EDO and/or vacation selection made from the initial vacation posting, when an employee is aware of the scheduled training and makes the decision not to attend, he will be responsible for obtaining required training on his own time, and at his own expense.
- (c) An employee certified to instruct other members of the department shall do so as part of his regularly scheduled duties. However, if an employee is required to perform said instruction during other than his scheduled shift, he shall be eligible for compensation in accordance with this Agreement.

Section 17.11. Overtime Opportunities

- (a) Overtime opportunities will be posted in the overtime book and/or texted out by the Shift Commander.

Section 17.12. Call-Backs.

Any employee returning to work in response to a call-back for an emergency alarm(s), (not a hold over or call-in contiguous to the employee's shift) when on active "on call" status, shall receive a minimum of one (1) hour pay at his overtime rate. After one (1) hour of work the pay is rounded up to the next one-quarter (1/4) hour.

ARTICLE 18
SHIFT TRADES

Section 18.1. Trading Shifts.

Bargaining unit employees will be granted the opportunity to trade. Shift trades are a privilege, designed to allow employees time off when other means are unavailable.

Request-for Leave forms must be used for all trades.

Trades of more than four (4) hours must be approved by the Fire Chief. Trades of four (4) hours or less must be approved by the shift commanders of the shifts affected by the trades. Trades will not be approved if the employees' shift is above optimal staffing and the initiating employee can take leave.

Any employee that fails to report to work or fails to provide qualified relief for his absence on a trade will be charged twenty-four (24) hours of Holiday Leave.

Trade on a trade will only be permitted to cover an illness/injury or deployment that prohibits an employee from reporting for their portion of the trade. Said employee is responsible to secure the proper coverage for their absence.

Normally, the trade policies and procedures will not be applicable to employees on approved funeral leave, medical administrative leave, or workers compensation leave.

The bargaining unit member agreeing to work a trade:

- a. assumes full responsibility to work the hours he has agreed to work, is required to find another qualified employee to work on his behalf if for any reason other than illness or injury he becomes unable to work.
- b. is required to follow sick leave policy if he is unable to work because of an unexpected medical problem, illness or injury

The bargaining unit member requesting the trade:

- a. must submit a properly executed request-for-leave form in a timely manner prior to the trade date which has been signed by his shift commander and the employee agreeing to work the trade.
- b. must repay the trade within the calendar year.
- c. must assure the trade does not conflict with the maximum consecutive work shift policy, or any provisions of the labor agreement.
- d. must report for work, or obtain other coverage, for his normal shift if the employee that previously agreed to work becomes unable to work because of paid or unpaid leave or termination of employment.
- e. if an EDO trade, must be made within the same twenty-eight (28) day work cycle.
- f. must not be submitted more than sixty (60) days in advance of the date requested.

Section 18.2 Maximum Consecutive Work Shifts.

Employees are prohibited from signing up for overtime or engaging in trades that result in an employee working two (2), forty-eight (48) hour shifts in seven (7) continuous calendar days more than one (1) time in a calendar year. Deviation from this restriction can only be authorized by the Fire Chief or Assistant Fire Chief.

ARTICLE 19
COMPENSATORY TIME

Section 19.1. Compensatory Time. The City and the Union agree that employees may opt to receive compensatory time off in lieu of pay.

- (a) **Minimum Increments for Usage.** Employees may use their accrued compensatory time in one (1) hour increments.
- (b) **Requests.** All requests to utilize compensatory time off may be required to be submitted to the Fire Chief/designee at least two (2) days prior to the time being requested off. Where the use of accumulated time off has been denied because of staffing levels, the employee shall be offered an alternative day within the next thirty (30) days for use of the requested accumulated time off, or shall be offered cash payment for the number of hours denied at the employee’s regular rate of pay, and those hours will be deducted from the member’s compensatory time balance or the employee may withdraw the request. The parties agree that thirty (30) days constitutes a “reasonable time period” for the granting of a request for compensatory time under the Act.
- (c) **Annual Cashout.** In addition to any compensatory time, which was earned between November 1 and December 31, Response shift employees will be

permitted to carry forty-eight (48) hours, and Day shift employees will be permitted to carry forty (40) hours of compensatory time into the following year. All other compensatory time must either be used during the year in which it was earned, or sold back to the City at the employee's regular hourly rate in the year-end leave sale.

- (d) **Mandatory Comp Time Usage.** The Fire Chief may assign an employee to use his accrued compensatory time off provided (1) the employee is given a minimum of seventy-two (72) hours notice; (2) the assignment is for a full shift off; and (3) doing so leaves the Response employee with a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours of accrued compensatory time and leaves the Day shift employee with a minimum of ten (10) hours of accrued compensatory time.

ARTICLE 20 **MINIMUM STAFFING**

Section 20.1. Core Staffing/Vacancies. The City agrees to maintain a core staffing level of forty (40) full-time bargaining unit members. In the event of an unexpected permanent vacancy which drops the core staffing below forty (40), the City agrees to initiate the process to fill the vacancy within seven (7) calendar days of the vacancy occurring, and filling the position within sixty (60) days of the vacancy occurring. In the event of an expected permanent vacancy, the City will initiate the process to fill the vacancy and have the position filled prior to departure of the employee. The parties specifically acknowledge that any absence where the absent employee has a right to return to the position/right to reinstatement shall not be considered permanent. Notwithstanding this, the parties agree to treat vacancies resulting from disability retirement under OPFDF as permanent and fill such vacancies in accordance with this provision.

Section 20. 2. Staffing/Supervision.

- (a) No more than ten (10) bargaining unit employees shall be assigned to a forty (40) hour work week at any one time.
- (b) The City reserves the right to deny leave and/or make necessary changes in an employee's schedule to maintain a minimum staffing level "per shift." as follows. For the purposes of this section a "full response" station is a station equipped and staffed to respond, at minimum, a medic unit and/or an attack pumper, a "limited response" station is a station that is equipped and staffed to respond a medic unit. Specialty and/or support vehicles may be responded from either a full response or a limited response fire station, depending on staffing and equipment assignments.
- (c) For the purposes of this article, a shift supervisor shall hold the rank of Lieutenant or Captain; a Shift Commander shall hold the rank of Captain, or higher.
- One (1) Fire Station.

Five (5) full time fire medics and a minimum of one (1) full time shift supervisor with rank of Lieutenant, or higher, on-duty “per shift.”

- One (1) “full response” fire station and one (1) limited response fire station. Six (6) full time fire medics and a minimum of two (2) full time shift supervisors, with the rank of Lieutenant, or higher, on duty “per shift.”
 - Two (2) “full response” fire stations. Eight (8) full time fire medics and a minimum of two (2) full time shift supervisors, with the rank of Lieutenant, or higher, on duty “per shift.”
 - Three (3) “full response” fire stations. Eight (8) full time fire medics and a minimum of three (3) full time shift supervisors, with the rank of Lieutenant, or higher, on duty “per shift.”
 - Four (4) or more fire stations. The Union and the City agree to negotiate minimum per shift staffing levels if said expansion occurs during the life of this Agreement.
- (d) The City reserves the right to assign on-duty employees to work at any of the City’s fire station(s) to maintain adequate response staffing levels at each station, at the sole discretion of the Fire Chief.
- (e) The City agrees to maintain a Shift Commander on duty at all times.
- (f) The City, to reduce overtime costs, may utilize dayshift personnel on their regularly scheduled hours of work to meet the minimum staffing requirements of this article.
- (g) Part-time fire medics may be used to supplement above the minimum staffing levels set forth herein.

Section 20.3. Part-time personnel. Any part-time fire medics utilized by the City to supplement the minimum staffing levels set forth herein shall minimally possess a State of Ohio Firefighter Level II Certification and State of Ohio EMT-P Card. Any such part-time fire medics shall not serve as Fire Officers. In the event a part-time fire medic is hired into a bargaining unit position, his or her seniority date shall be based on his full-time hire date.

Section 20.4. Limited Use of Management Personnel. Full-time Fire Division management employees excluded from the bargaining unit may temporarily cover a response shift, up to one (1) response position per shift, when a full-time bargaining unit member is attending trainings or conducting other Fire Division business outside of the response area. Coverage of a bargaining unit response position by a full-time Fire Division management employee shall normally be of a relatively short duration, occasional rather than on a regular basis, and shall not be exercised to reduce the bargaining unit members’ regularly scheduled hours of work or scheduled overtime.

ARTICLE 21
WAGES

Section 21.1. Steps/Differentials. Effective upon approval of this Agreement by the City and the Union, the annual pay for employees in the bargaining unit shall be:

Effective January 1, 2020 2.0 %
Effective January 1, 2021 2.0 %
Effective January 1, 2022 2.0 %

| Classification | Effective 1/1/2020 2.0% Increase | | Effective 1/1/2021 2.0% Increase | | Effective 1/1/2022 2.0% Increase | |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| | Hourly Rate | Annual | Hourly Rate | Annual | Hourly Rate | Annual |
| Firefighter/Engineer (40 hour employee) | \$34.28 | \$71,306 | \$34.97 | \$72,732 | \$35.67 | \$74,187 |
| F/M 1 | \$20.07 | \$54,256 | \$20.47 | \$55,341 | \$20.88 | \$56,448 |
| F/M 2 | \$20.96 | \$56,685 | \$21.38 | \$57,819 | \$21.81 | \$58,976 |
| F/M 3 | \$21.95 | \$59,340 | \$22.38 | \$60,526 | \$22.83 | \$61,737 |
| F/M 4 | \$26.09 | \$70,536 | \$26.61 | \$71,947 | \$27.14 | \$73,386 |
| F/M 5 | \$27.74 | \$75,013 | \$28.30 | \$76,513 | \$28.86 | \$78,043 |
| | | +10% | | | +10% | +10% |
| Lieutenant | \$30.52 | \$82,514 | \$31.13 | \$84,164 | \$31.75 | \$85,847 |
| | | +10% | | | +10% | +10% |
| Captain | \$33.57 | \$90,765 | \$34.24 | \$92,580 | \$34.92 | \$94,432 |

Section 21.2. Years Service. A fire medic shall advance a step upon completion of each year of service based upon his anniversary date of hire.

Section 21.3. Credit Union. Upon request and the completion of the necessary authorization forms, the City will withhold and transmit a designated amount to the Firefighters Credit Union and/or directly deposit all of the employee’s pay (or that left after the Credit Union withholding) to an approved bank or financial institution of the employee’s choice.

ARTICLE 22
LONGEVITY

Section 22.1. Schedule. Employees in the bargaining unit shall be entitled to longevity remuneration consistent with the following schedule. This longevity payment shall be made in a separate check on the first pay date in December of each year, minus all deductions required by law. This benefit will be based on years of completed Bargaining Unit Seniority.

| Years | Longevity Pay (% of annual pay) |
|-------|------------------------------------|
| 5 | 1.50% |
| 10 | 2.00% |
| 15 | 2.50% |
| 20 | 3.00% |

Section 22.2. Prorating. In the event an employee’s longevity pay increases during the year for which he is being paid in December, then such payment shall be prorated within the longevity classifications on a monthly basis with the employee receiving credit for the higher rate for the month in which, by his anniversary date, he is entitled to the higher rate.

Section 22.3. Separation. Any employee leaving for other than termination for just cause shall receive the prorated portion of longevity payment upon the date of leaving.

Section 22.4. Pay Rates. Longevity benefits shall not be considered when calculating the rate of pay for overtime hours or paid legal holidays worked, except for overtime payable under the FLSA (i.e., hours in excess of two hundred twelve hours (212) in a twenty-eight (28) day cycle). Payment for such overtime shall be paid in a separate check on the first pay date in February following the year it was earned.

ARTICLE 23 **HEALTH COVERAGE**

Section 23.1. Coverage. The City agrees that it will continue insurance coverage in effect on January 1, 2020 (or substantially similar) group hospitalization, life, dental, vision, prescription, and accidental death and dismemberment insurance benefits for the duration of this Agreement, except as modified by this Agreement

Section 23.2. Provider Changes. Such insurance plan may be provided through a self-insured plan or an outside provider. In the event the City changes insurance providers or the manner in which it partially self-insures the benefits referenced in this Article, or modifies any Articles, it will first meet with the Union to discuss same prior to implementation. The City will provide the Union with no less than fifteen (15) work days written notice of a change in insurance providers or the manner in which it partially self-insures the benefits referenced in this Article during the term of this Agreement. Notice will be provided through the Health Care Committee. The City will meet with the Union and the Health Care Committee to discuss the same prior to implementation.

Section 23.3. Contribution Rates. Subject to Article 25, Section 7 of this Agreement, employees who participate in the City’s health insurance and fully participate in the City Health Fair shall contribute a sum equal to the below listed percentages of the total monthly premium (for the selected coverage) in effect for single or family coverage as elected by the employee as follows:

Full Health Care Fair Participants

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| Effective 1/1/2020: | 10.0% |
| Effective 1/1/2021: | 10.0% |
| Effective 1/1/2022: | 10.0% |

Less than Full Health Fair Participation/Non-Participants

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Employee Contribution: | +5.0% higher than above percentages |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|

For purposes of the phrase “full participation,” an employee will be considered a full participant by voluntarily undergoing all the screenings, testing, and medical services offered at the City Health Fair. The Health Fair testing and screenings shall consist of body composition and blood pressure measurements, as well as blood testing results (total cholesterol, HDL cholesterol, LDL cholesterol, triglycerides and glucose). In the event that an employee does not wish to receive testing, screening, or medical services through the City Health Fair, he shall be considered a full participant if he undergoes the above-described screenings, testing, and other medical services provided at the Health Fair through his private physician. In order to certify alternative participation, the employee shall be required to complete a City form certifying that the screening, testing, and other medical services have been provided and complete a release that will permit the Employer to verify with the health provider the date/time when completed (not the results). The results of employee screenings shall be kept confidential and shared only with the employee. An employee’s failure to complete the health fair screening or testing, or attain certain levels, shall not constitute a basis for the City to initiate any actions that may result in adverse employment actions against the employee. “Adverse employment actions” does not include the fifteen percent (15.0%) contribution rate associated with less than full/non-participation in the City’s Health Fair or failure to undergo the screenings, testing and medical services through a private physician.

If the increase in individual or family premium or self-insurance costs for the benefits set forth in this Article exceed fifteen (15%) percent per year in any year of this Agreement, the City and Union (or the Health Care Committee referenced in Section 2 of this Article) will meet to discuss whether to (1) revise the benefit coverage to reduce the cost of coverage and/or (2) increase the deductibles and/or cost sharing by additional employee participation in same. Failing mutual agreement, the City may implement such changes to recoup the cost increases over fifteen (15%) percent per annum.

If it is determined that an aspect of the health coverage plan is not in compliance with the Affordable Care Act or as it is amended from time to time during the term of the Agreement, the parties will develop appropriate adjustments in a labor management meeting or the Health Care Committee pursuant to Section 8 of this Article.

Section 23.4. Prescription Drugs. Prescription drugs will be provided as a benefit included in the City’s group hospitalization plan.

Section 23.5. Insurance Opt-Out. Any bargaining unit employee who elects to waive coverage under the City’s group insurance plan may do so as long as the employee shows

proof of other coverage. An employee waiving coverage will receive a stipend paid on a monthly basis of twenty percent (20%) of the premium for single coverage using the PPO plan having the higher premium amount. Any employee who elects to waive coverage may resume coverage during any open enrollment period or if there is a qualifying event.

Section 23.6. Coordination of Benefits. If both spouses are employed by the City, they shall be offered one (1) family coverage, but they may select the spouse that will make the premium contribution.

Section 23.7. Health Insurance Committee. The City will establish a joint committee on health care benefits which includes representative(s) from each of its bargaining units known as the Health Care Committee. The Health Care Committee will evaluate, periodically, the benefits and costs and make recommendations to the City for cost containment measures. Should the City find it necessary to change the level of benefits during the term of this Agreement consistent with Section 3 of this Article, the City will present any proposed changes to the Health Care Committee and the Union at least thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of any such changes. Upon the request of the Union, the Employer will meet with the Union to discuss the proposed changes and any alternatives. If the parties are unable to reach agreement, the City may implement the changes in accordance with Section 3 above.

ARTICLE 24 **LIFE INSURANCE**

Section 24.1. Group life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment insurance shall be provided to all full-time employees of the Department at City expense in the amount of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00).

ARTICLE 25 **WELLNESS/FITNESS FOR DUTY**

Section 25.1. Assessment. The City agrees to maintain a “Health and Wellness” program through a contracted health care provider, which includes the following tests. Employees are required to complete the City’s Health Risk Assessment form. The initial medical examination will be conducted while the employee is on duty.

Section 25.2. Fitness for Duty Exam. The health care provider will provide the necessary scheduling and notifications of testing to employees and will provide the Fire Chief certification showing that the employee is medically certified to function as a fire fighter. Each employee will be provided with a copy of the results for all tests performed by the health care provider.

Section 25.3. Annual TB Testing. All employees will receive TB testing on an annual basis.

Section 25.4. Fitness for Duty. The health care provider shall administer the tests and/or exams listed herein to assess employees' fitness for duty. The health care provider will immediately notify the HR Manager and the employee by written report should the testing procedure identify a health condition that would prevent the employee from functioning as a firefighter. This notification will include the health care provider's recommendation as to whether the employee is unable to work, or is permitted to work under restriction (light duty).

Section 25.5. Fitness for Duty Exam and Disability Separation. Fitness for duty examinations are intended to guard the health and safety of employees and the public and may be ordered when the Employer has reasonable cause an employee may not be able to perform the essential functions of his/her position, i.e., whether the employee is fit for duty. Reasonable cause shall be based on objective observations or information that the employee may not be fit to perform the essential job duties of his/her regular position.

Should reasonable cause exist that an employee may not be "fit for duty" the Employer may require the employee to be examined by an examining professional which includes physician, psychologist or psychiatrist selected and paid for by the Employer. The examining professional selected shall have experience in occupational medicine or experience in the relevant specialty considering the employee's condition. Alternatively, the Employer may select an examining professional suggested by the employee.

At any time during the fit for duty evaluation process the Employer may either reassign the employee without a loss in pay or benefits, or place the employee on paid administrative leave.

Prior to an examination the examining professional shall review the current written job description for the employee's position, the current Job Function Analysis for the employee's position, and documentation detailing the facts indicating the employee may not be sufficiently fit to perform his/her essential job functions. Copies of the documentation provided by the parties to the examining professional shall be provided to the other party. The employee may request that additional information be submitted and/or the employee may submit additional information to the examining professional.

Following the examination, the examining professional shall provide the Employer and the employee a written report detailing the examining professional's determination of whether the employee is fit for duty. At any time during this process, the employee shall have the right to submit a fitness for duty evaluation by an examining professional of the employee's choice. The examining professional may provide specification of action the employee may take to render the employee fit for duty. The Employer and employee, with a Union representative if he/she requests, shall discuss possible reasonable accommodations. The employee shall be entitled to copies of all examination results and documentation associated with the examination.

Should the physician determine the employee will be unfit for duty for the foreseeable future, the Employer reserves the right to initiate separation proceedings. Should an

employee be deemed unfit for duty for the foreseeable future, the Employer shall permit the employee to use any available leave so long as the employee who is eligible applies for a disability retirement as soon as possible, and provides the Employer, upon request, verification of the disability retirement application and the employee's good faith efforts to process the application in a timely manner. Under such circumstances, the employee shall be permitted to use available leave up and until a determination is made by the Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund on the employee's disability application.

An employee who is currently unfit for duty, yet determined to be capable of returning to duty, that employee shall be permitted to utilize available leave until his/her return.

An employee separation on the basis of being unfit for duty shall be non-disciplinary, but for just cause. An appeal of such a separation may be appealed starting at Step 2 of the Grievance Procedure.

Section 25.6. Follow-up Testing. The City will pay for any additional testing which is listed in this Article, regardless of the employee's age, should an employee be referred by the contracted health care provider to undergo further diagnostic testing as a result of the findings of the initial testing procedure(s).

Section 25.7. Testing Criteria.

(a) Fitness testing will be conducted every year, as listed below:

1. Firefighter physical exam
2. Pulmonary functions testing (including proof of passing OSHA respirator and NFPA SCBA testing requirements)
3. Chest X-ray, PA – LAT
4. Urinalysis
5. Complete blood count w/ diff
6. Audiometric testing
7. Lipid profile
8. Prostrate Antigen Test
9. Health risk assessment survey
10. Comprehensive Metabolic Panel
11. Electrocardiogram
12. Titmus Vision Test
13. Cardiovascular Stress Test
14. Ultrasound Exam

(b) Firefighter Physical testing shall include:

1. Height and weight measurements
2. Body fat composition analysis
3. Vital signs monitored
4. Cardiovascular risk factor and analysis
5. Muscle strength and endurance testing

6. Review of medical history and exercise habits
7. Flexibility and range of motion testing
8. Personalized summary of results and recommendations
9. Customized individual exercise prescription
10. Training Guidelines
11. Recommendations to reduce risk factors
12. Dietary analysis and recommendations through a certified dietitian.

Section 25.8. Health Fair Screenings. Employees subject to screening under this Article shall not be required to undergo medical screening as part of the City Health Fair or take equivalent action to be eligible for certain participatory benefit levels in years that they are screened as part of this Article.

Section 25.9. Health and Wellness Committee. The City will establish a joint committee on Health and Wellness which includes up to two (2) representatives from management and up to two (2) representatives from the Union to discuss policy, procedure, and standards for fitness in the City of Green Fire Division. Any recommended change from the Health and Wellness Committee concerning any term and condition of employment of the bargaining unit members, or any mandatory subject of bargaining, must be bargained and agreed upon by the City and the Union prior to its implementation.

ARTICLE 26

SPECIAL CERTIFICATION PAY

Section 26.1. Definition. Any employee of the City who is required by the Fire Chief to function on a specialty team referenced in Section 4 of this Article qualifies for Special Certification pay. Employees are only permitted to be assigned to two (2) special teams. Employees currently assigned to more than two (2) specials teams before 1/1/2020 will be permitted to continue with their assignment.

Section 26.2. Qualification. This Special Certification pay will be earned for each completed calendar month the employee is assigned to a special team. To be eligible for the Special Certification pay the employee must have been assigned to a special team for the entire month and participate in the training for the month. Employees on multiple Special Teams attending training for one team shall receive a monthly credit in the form of \$30, and for employees on multiple teams, \$50 for attending both team trainings. If absence from training for the month is due to an employee being on shift the day of the training, and the training is only offered that day, the employee will be credited for attendance of that training for the month.

Section 26.3. Assignment. Assignment to a special team will be at the sole discretion of the Fire Chief, based on the employee's availability and demonstration of ability and skill level germane to said certification. The Fire Chief will post all special team assignments, listing the employees that have been assigned for the year.

Section 26.4. List.

(a) The following certification(s)/training will be considered to be applicable to this article:

- Tactical Paramedic (Requires Certification)
- Haz Mat Technician (Requires Certification)
- Fire Life Safety Inspector (Requires Certification)
- Cause and Origin / Arson Investigation (Requires Certification)

Technical Rescue Operations Teams, specifically:

- Water Rescue
 - SCUBA (Requires Certification)
 - Swift Water (Requires Certification)
 - Sonar (Requires Certification)
- Trench Collapse Rescue (Operations level – minimum)
- Confined Space Rescue (Operations level – minimum)
- Rope Rescue Team
- Structural Collapse Rescue (Operations level – minimum)

(b) The Fire Chief may add to this list, at his discretion. Employees that obtain the required certification will be eligible for assignment to a “Special Team(s)” but will not receive the compensation until such time that they are assigned to a special team by the Fire Chief.

Section 26.5. Payment. Special Certification pay will be distributed during the month of July for the previous twelve (12) month period. This pay will be distributed in a separate payroll check.

ARTICLE 27
OUT OF CLASSIFICATION PAY

Section 27.1. Lieutenant. When an employee of the City is required to perform the supervisory duties of a Lieutenant, as established by the Fire Chief, that individual shall be paid the rate of pay provided for the position of Lieutenant for all hours worked. Compensation for hours worked will be distributed in the same manner as overtime.

Section 27.2. Captain. When an employee of the City is required to perform the supervisory or managerial duties of a Captain, as established by the Fire Chief, the employee shall be paid at the rate of pay provided for the position of Captain for all hours worked. Compensation for hours worked will be distributed in the same manner as overtime.

Section 27.3. Assignment as Lieutenant/Captain. The assignment as a Shift Lieutenant or Shift Captain may be made on a shift-by-shift basis by the Shift Commander, within the guidelines established by the Fire Chief. Assignment as acting officers for extended

periods of time shall be made in writing by the Fire Chief. The Fire Chief shall designate the start and end dates of all assignments that are made in writing.

Section 27.4. Assignment as Assistant Fire Chief. The assignment as Acting Assistant Fire Chief shall be made in writing by the Fire Chief. Should an employee of the City be required to perform the “administrative duties” of an Assistant Fire Chief, including functioning as command of the fire division during times when the Fire Chief is unavailable to be contacted, that individual shall be paid at the current rate of the Assistant Fire Chief for all hours worked.

Section 27.5. Limitation of Assignment. The assignment of an acting Lieutenant shall be limited to sixty (60) consecutive calendar days. The assignment of acting Captain shall be limited to a period of ninety (90) consecutive calendar days. “Calendar days” for purposes of this Section includes Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays. These assignment limits may be extended by mutual agreement of both parties.

Section 27.6. Limitation of Wages. Employees that are under assignment as an acting officer at the time leave sale is processed will be paid at their normal classification rate for any hours sold back to the City.

Section 27.7. Requisites for Compensation. To be eligible for out-of-classification pay, the employee must have been: (a) assigned said status in writing by the Fire Chief, (b) required to perform the duties germane to said assignment by divisional policy, or (c) informed of a temporary shift assignment to function as such by the responsible Shift Commander.

ARTICLE 28

TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

Section 28.1. Amount. An employee shall submit his education program, certificate or degree program, or class list to the Employer/designee, for prior approval for authorization to participate in the Tuition Reimbursement Program. Provided that an employee attains prior approval, he shall be reimbursed in the amount of eighty (80%) percent for the total cost of tuition and book expenses incurred for any fire degree or related courses or management degree courses provided by any local college, university, or recognized fire service training program. Reimbursement is limited to four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00) annually, contingent upon the employee obtaining a grade B or better when said course(s) is graded, or successfully completing the course when no grade is given.

Section 28.2. Required Service/Reimbursement. Upon receipt of tuition reimbursement from the City, the employee must sign a provision authorizing the City to deduct from his final pay monies due the City if the employee leaves within three (3) years after completing the course work paid for by the City. If the employee leaves within one (1) year after reimbursement by the City, he must return the full amount of money which the City paid him; if the employee leaves more than one (1) but less than two (2) years after the City reimburses him for course work, the employee must reimburse the City for fifty percent (50%) of the amount paid to him; and, if the employee leaves more than two (2) but less

than three (3) years after completing the aforesaid course work reimbursed by the City, he must return to the City one-third of the amount paid to him. These provisions apply to accredited job training provided the employee shows proof of successful completion.

ARTICLE 29
SAFETY EQUIPMENT/UNIFORM ALLOWANCE

Section 29.1. Protective Equipment maintained by City. The City will provide each employee with the following safety equipment and will maintain and replace this equipment when damaged or worn-out from normal and proper use:

- (a) structural fire fighting pants;
- (b) structural fire fighting coat;
- (c) structural fire fighting helmet;
- (d) structural fire fighting boots / Leather;
- (e) structural fire fighting gloves;
- (f) one carabiner;
- (g) SCBA mask; and
- (h) EMS jacket with winter liner.

Section 29.2. Protective Equipment maintained by Employee. The City will provide each employee with the following safety equipment. This equipment will be issued one time and will then be maintained and replaced by the employee using the employee's annual uniform allowance:

- (a) leather non-structural firefighting gloves; and
- (b) work rescue belt (nylon with metal ring)

Section 29.3. Allowance.

- (a) The City will provide each new employee the necessary equipment and clothing to perform his assigned duties.
- (b) On or about January 1 of each year each eligible employee who has completed one (1) year of service will be issued a blanket purchase order in the amount of nine hundred dollars (\$900.00) from which uniform purchases, cleaning, and replacement may be made during the year.
- (c) At the completion of an employee's probationary period, a pro-rated uniform allowance purchase order will be issued to the employee for the remainder of that year.
- (d) Employees' purchase orders may be used to purchase the items listed in this Agreement or as agreed to by the Fire Division Administration. If an employee wishes to purchase an item (items listed in this Agreement or not listed in this Agreement), the employee shall submit a written request to the Fire Division.

Administration for authorization to use the purchase order for the purchase of the item(s). If the Fire Division Administration rejects the request, the Fire Division Administration shall notify the employee of such in writing with an explanation for the denial. Requests to use a purchase order for Fire and/or EMS-related clothing and/or equipment shall not unreasonably be denied.

- (e) The City shall absorb all costs pertaining to uniform or equipment changes that the City initiates and mandates the employee to obtain.
- (f) In an effort to prevent the billing process from a uniform purchase extending into the next year, all uniform purchases on an individual's purchase order number must be ordered by December 1st.

Section 29.4. Uniform List / Appearance.

- (a) The City will provide new employees with the following uniforms prior to the end of their probationary period. Employees will be held responsible for replacement of uniforms that are no longer presentable or functional through normal use, including damage sustained during normal course of duty. Upon separation of employment, employees will be required to return to the City each of the below listed items:

| <u>Item #</u> | <u>Quantity</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| | 1 | Short Sleeve Dress Shirt |
| | 1 | Long Sleeve Dress Shirt |
| | 1 | Dress Trouser |
| | 4 | Work Shirts (Sleeve Style Optional) |
| | 4 | Work Trousers |
| | 1 | Dress Belt |
| | 1 | Work Shoes (Boots) |
| | 1 | Dress Shoes |
| | 1 | Dress Coat |
| | 1 | Dress Hat |
| | 1 | Dress Tie |
| | 1 | Job Shirt |
| | 1 | Name Plate |
| | 1 | Dress Coat Badge |
| | 1 | Dress Shirt Badge |
| | 1 | Hat Badge |
| | 1 | Dress Gloves |
| | 4 | T-Shirts (Navy with lettering) |

- (b) With the exception of T-shirt and/or sweat shirts, off duty employees are prohibited from wearing issued uniforms and/or protective clothing unless they are participating in a sanctioned City event, are acting under the color of the Fire Division, or have received prior approval from the Fire Chief.

Section 29.5. Special Teams/Special Duty Gear. The City agrees to provide the clothing and related gear used by employees assigned to special response teams. Employees not assigned to special teams will be permitted to purchase approved special duty clothing using their uniform allowance.

Section 29.6. Replacement.

- (a) The employee is responsible for replacing issued uniform clothing that is damaged or wears out from normal and proper use during the scope of the employee's duties.
- (b) The employee will be responsible for replacing any uniform clothing and/or issued protective gear/equipment that becomes damaged, or lost, as a result of gross negligence on behalf of the employee.

Section 29.7. Maintenance Bureau. The City will provide and maintain uniforms required by the personnel assigned to the Maintenance Bureau which are not fire retardant. The laundry service used to maintain these uniforms shall be selected by the Fire Chief.

ARTICLE 30
SEMINARS AND TRAINING

Section 30.1. Attendance.

- (a) The City may require that an employee attend an employment related seminar or outside training which is designed to enhance skill directly related to his position with the City.
- (b) An employee will be paid his regular scheduled work hours for time attending a seminar or training. An employee will not earn compensatory time or overtime pay while attending or traveling to or from a seminar.
- (c) An employee will be provided up to a maximum of the standard CONUS location rate per day for food and non-alcoholic beverages when an employee is assigned Fire Division business requiring a stay period exceeding twenty-four (24) hours, or is required to stay overnight for attending a seminar or training. When possible, the City will provide the employee with the per diem payment prior to the date of the seminar or training, and the employee will not be required to submit receipts for this per diem payment.

Per diem rates are subject to change based upon the applicable CONUS location per diem rate.

- (d) Lodging, parking, tolls, registration fees and other pre-approved expenses not covered by the per diem allowance may be advanced to the employee, paid by the City prior to the seminar or training or covered by providing the employee with a

City credit card prior to the employee's departure, upon request. The employee must provide receipts for such advanced expenditures. Failure to do so will require the employee to reimburse the City for the amounts advanced.

- (e) The City will provide transportation, or pay mileage at the rate established by the Finance Director (consistent with IRS reimbursement rates) for attendance at any and all required, or authorized, training which requires drive time.
- (f) The City shall provide employees with a means of handling expenses related to roadside emergencies while traveling in City owned or City leased vehicles.

Section 30.2. Grace Period. Any employee on assigned Fire Division business requiring a stay period exceeding twenty-four (24) hours will be exempt from working eight (8) hours prior to departure, and eight (8) hours after returning from said business. The requirements to work or return to work immediately before or after attending authorized outside training or out of town Fire Division business may be normally waived by the Fire Chief when circumstances exist that would cause the employee to be on Fire Division business for an extended period of time. The Fire Chief may authorize sufficient time off to allow the employee to prepare to make the trip and prepare to return to work after returning from a trip, at his discretion after considering the circumstances involved.

ARTICLE 31 **VACATION LEAVE**

Section 31.1. Vacation Leave Schedule. It is agreed the following schedule will apply to all employees in the bargaining unit accrued at the rates in section 31.2:

| <u>Length of Service</u> | <u>Response Shift</u> | <u>Day Shift</u> |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Less than one year | 0 | 0 |
| After one year | 120 hours | 80 hours |
| After five years | 168 hours | 120 hours |
| After ten years | 240 hours | 160 hours |
| After fifteen years | 288 hours | 200 hours |
| After Twenty Years | 360 hours | 240 hours |

Section 31.2. Accrual of Vacation. Each full-time bargaining unit member shall be entitled to accrue vacation credits for each month of employment. The vacation accrual rate is as follows:

| <u>Length of Service</u> | <u>Response Shift</u> | <u>Day Shift</u> | <u>Equivalent</u> |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 0-4 Years | 10 hrs./mo. | 6.666 hrs./mo. | 2 Weeks/Year |
| 5-9 Years | 14 hrs./mo. | 10 hrs./mo. | 3 Weeks/Year |
| 10-14 Years | 20 hrs./mo. | 13.333 hrs./mo. | 4 Weeks/Year |
| 15-19 Years | 24 hrs./mo. | 16.666 hrs./mo. | 5 Weeks/Year |
| 20 Years + | 30 hrs./mo. | 20 hrs./mo. | 6 Weeks/Year |

All bargaining unit members shall begin to accrue vacation at the highest length of total seniority they will achieve during that year on their anniversary date.

Section 31.3. Carry Over. A maximum of forty-eight (48) hours of vacation leave for Response Shift employees and forty (40) hours of vacation leave for Day Shift employees plus one (1) year's accrual of vacation hours may be carried over into the following year at the discretion of the employee. Any vacation leave in excess of the maximum permitted carryover is forfeited.

Section 31.4. Probationary Employees. Upon completion of the probationary period, full-time bargaining unit members may schedule accrued vacation time off.

Section 31.5. Increments of Use. Response shift employees may be permitted to take vacation leave in increments of one (1) scheduled work day. Day staff employees may be permitted to take vacation leave in one (1) hour increments.

Section 31.6. Annual Leave Selection Procedure.

- (a) Seniority will be used for the annual leave sign-up process. The annual vacation selection procedure will incorporate a four (4) step process, as follows:

Primary Vacation Selection
Secondary Vacation Selection
Final Vacation Selection
Holiday Selection

- (b) **Selection Deadlines.** The vacation selection sheet will be forwarded to the shift commander on or before October 15 of each year. The shift commander is responsible for coordinating the selection process affording employees adequate time to make their selection, and if needed, preventing employees from delaying the selection process.

- (1) Employees may be required by the shift commander to make their primary selection within seventy-two (72) hours of being eligible for selection.
- (2) Employees may be required by the shift commander to make both their secondary and final selections within twenty-four (24) hours of being eligible for selection.
- (3) In order for the employee's selection to be honored by the City, the employee is required to record the date and time he made his selection on the selection form AND inform the shift commander in a timely manner that he has made his selection.

Extensions of the selection time periods are at the discretion of the shift commander. The shift commander will make every effort to contact employees

that are off on extended leave to advise them of the need to make their selection, but it is at the sole discretion of the shift commander if the process will be delayed to accommodate an employee. Failure to comply with the aforementioned time-lines will result in forfeiture of selection. The vacation selection sign-up sheet, which shall include the Primary, Secondary and Final selections, will be collected by the Fire Chief on November 20. The Fire Chief will post the watch schedule for the forthcoming year by December 15.

- (c) Primary Selection. During the primary vacation selection process, each employee will be required to select one (1) continuous block of vacation time and must select a minimum of one (1) week of vacation leave, which is forty-eight (48) hours for response shift personnel and forty hours for day shift personnel. While response shift employees are permitted to incorporate a scheduled EDO within their selection, the EDO will not count towards the required forty-eight (48) hour minimum. Shift Commanders will not allow the shift to be reduced below minimum staffing levels to afford an employee his vacation unless (1) the vacation leave has been requested during the initial vacation posting process, and, (2) the reason for staffing level reduction is because of scheduled earned day(s) off (EDO's). During primary selection only two (2) employees are permitted to take vacation leave when scheduling concurrently with multiple EDO's. During secondary selection only, one (1) employee may schedule vacation when scheduling concurrently with multiple EDO's.
- (d) Secondary Selection. During this process each employee will be afforded the opportunity to select a second continuous block of vacation time. This selection process will continue even when an employee has exhausted accrued vacation leave or opts to not select a block of time.
- (e) Final Selection. Employees will be permitted to schedule any remaining vacation time once both the primary and secondary vacation selection process have been completed. Employees are not required to select continuous blocks of vacation leave during this process.
- (f) Floating Fire/Medics
If Floating Fire/Medics are utilized, they will be exempt from the annual leave selection as they are not permanently assigned to a response shift. Floating Fire/Medics will submit their proposed annual vacation leave selection to the Fire Chief by October 15. The Fire Chief will have final approval.

The block of Vacation Leave selected by the Floating Fire/Medics during the Primary and Secondary selection process shall be honored regardless of the shift that they are on at the time of Vacation.

Floating Fire/Medics shall choose Vacation Leave outside of the competitive Vacation selection process.

- (g) Holiday Selection. Upon completion of all vacation selections, each employee will be afforded the ability to schedule two (2) holidays. These days do not have to be scheduled in a consecutive manner.

Section 31.7. Approval of Vacation Leave after Annual Scheduling Period. On January 1, and from that date forward, employees are required to submit a request for leave form to their Shift Commander and will be awarded the leave on a first come – first served basis. When leave is simultaneously submitted, the Shift Commander shall apply Bargaining Unit seniority.

Section 31.8. Cancellation of Vacation Leave.

- (a) Employees are not permitted to change their initial vacation selection(s) once they have been submitted to the Shift Commander if doing so alters or affects another employee’s vacation selection. Employees are prohibited from canceling vacation selection(s) once the initial vacation posting has been added to the watch schedule.
- (b) It is expressly understood the Fire Chief may cancel previously approved vacation leave for good cause shown. However, said cancellation shall not be for reasons of staffing level shortages when the City has eligible full time fire medics available to work overtime. In the event vacation leave is canceled after being approved in accordance with Section 4 of this article, the employee shall be afforded one (1) year from the date of cancellation to take said leave and will be given first preference for scheduling, regardless of seniority, during the next year’s vacation sign-up process.

Section 31.9 Limitation of Vacation Leave for Officers

No more than two (2) officers from the same shift, regardless of rank, can be off on Vacation or Holiday leave at the same time. The only exception will be that an Officer off on EDO will not block another Officer from his primary Vacation Leave pick.

ARTICLE 32
HOLIDAY LEAVE

Section 32.1. Recognized Holidays Defined. It is agreed that all employees in the bargaining unit shall receive Holiday Leave for all of the following ten (10) Holidays.

- New Year’s Day - January 1st
- Martin Luther King Day - Third Monday in January
- Washington/Lincoln Day - Third Monday in February
- Memorial Day - Last Monday in May
- Independence Day - July 4th
- Labor Day - First Monday in September
- Columbus Day - Second Monday in October
- Veterans’ Day - November 11th
- Thanksgiving Day - Fourth Thursday in November
- Christmas Day - December 25th

Section 32.2. Holidays Earned. All Holidays will be “earned” on the date listed in Section 1 of this article.

Section 32.3. Holiday Accrual/Crediting. All of the listed Holidays will “accrue” to the employee on January 1 of each year.

Section 32.4. Carry Over-Prohibited. Accrued holiday leave cannot be carried over into the year following that in which it was earned.

Section 32.5. Forfeitures upon Separation. Employees will forfeit any and all Holidays which have not yet been earned should an employee’s employment with the City be terminated for any reason. The City will deduct from the employee’s final pay check the cost (employee’s base hourly rate times the number of hours of Holiday leave used) for any and all Holiday(s) which were used should the employee’s employment with the City be terminated prior to the time said Holiday(s) were earned.

Section 32.6. Additional Day Shift Employees Holidays. In addition to the above listed Holidays, Day Shift employees shall also receive the day after Thanksgiving off as a holiday under the terms of this Agreement. This Holiday is not moveable, bankable, or sellable. Day Shift employees shall also receive one floating holiday per year.

Section 32.7. Scheduling Rights. The City reserves the right to schedule holiday leave to be taken on the day when the Holiday is earned for employees’ assigned to work an eight (8) or ten (10) hour shift on the day of said holiday.

Section 32.8. Payment for Holiday Leave Pensionable. Payment for holiday leave made by the City to the employee in the year-end leave sale, as set forth under Article 38, Section 2 (Miscellaneous- Leave Sale) of this agreement, shall be used in the employee’s pension/benefit calculation, per Ohio Administrative Code 742-3-02(c)(1)(b).

ARTICLE 33 **SICK LEAVE**

Section 33.1. Requirements for Use. Each full-time employee shall accumulate sick leave, which may be utilized, upon the approval of the Fire Chief for absences due to personal injury, illness, or medical procedure; illness, injury or medical procedure of an employee’s immediate family (includes parents, spouse and children of the employee or the employee’s spouse, foster children, or person permanently residing with the employee that is dependent on the employee for care); or as otherwise specified in this Article.

Section 33.2. Accrual. Sick leave shall be accumulated as follows:

- (a) Response Shift employees shall receive .07988166 hours of sick leave for each hour in active pay status.

- (b) Day Shift employees shall receive .0605769 hours of sick leave for each hour in active pay status.
- (c) Employees must be on active pay status to be eligible for sick leave accrual. Active pay status includes vacation, sick, personal, Union leave, funeral leave, compensatory time, jury duty, and training or school leave. Overtime hours worked, earned days off, unpaid leaves of absence, and suspensions are not considered active pay status for the purposes of sick leave accrual.
- (d) When an employee is moved from days to response or response to days, he shall be credited with his existing accrued sick leave balance in accordance with Article 16, Shift Bidding/Time Conversion, Section 4(C).

Section 33.3. Overtime and Extended Leave. Overtime and EDO's will not be counted as hours worked for the purpose of calculating an employee's sick time accumulation.

Section 33.4. Deduction/Credit. Sick leave may be used in one quarter (1/4) hour increments and shall be deducted from the employee's credit on the basis of one hour for every hour of absence from previously scheduled work. Sick leave shall not be counted as hours worked for the purposes of calculating overtime. Whenever sick leave is used for approved funeral purposes, time deducted shall be documented as funeral leave and shall not reflect negatively towards the employee for sick leave incentive pay or employee evaluations.

Section 33.5. Proof of Illness. Before an absence may be charged against accumulated sick leave, the Fire Chief may require such proof of illness, injury, or death as may be satisfactory to him, or may require the employee to be examined by a physician designated by, and paid for by, the City. Said proof may be required for the purpose of verifying the illness, determining whether the employee is unable to perform his required duties, and/or determining the expected date of recovery.

Section 33.6. Falsification. Falsification of either the signed statement or physician's certificate shall be grounds for disciplinary action which may include dismissal. Applications for use of sick leave with the intent to defraud, abuse sick leave, or any patterned use of sick leave shall be grounds for disciplinary action up to and including discharge.

Section 33.7. Notification. An employee who is unable to report for work and who is not on a previously approved leave for vacation, sick leave, compensatory leave or approved leave of absence shall be responsible for notifying the Chief or his designated representative that he will be unable to report to work. A reasonable notification requirement may be imposed by the Chief. Any employee failing to fulfill the reasonable notification requirement imposed by the Chief will not be paid for that day.

Section 33.8. Childbirth. Up to five (5) calendar days of sick leave absence may be utilized by the employee for the birth of a child.

Section 33.9. Borrowing/Donation of Sick Leave. Employees shall be permitted to receive and donate accumulated sick leave. An employee wishing to donate sick leave to another employee shall indicate in writing to the Fire Chief the recipient of the donated sick leave and the amount of sick leave hours to be donated. Sick leave must be donated in one (1) hour increments. The donated sick leave will be converted to a dollar amount based on the hourly wage rate of the employee donating the leave, with that amount then converted back to hours based on the hourly wage rate of the employee receiving the leave.

Section 33.10. Separation From Employment.

- (a) Upon separation from employment, due to retirement of any kind, employees shall be compensated at their regular base hourly rate at the time of retirement for fifty (50%) percent of all accumulated and unused sick leave, up to a maximum of nine hundred sixty (960) hours for employees assigned to a forty (40) work week, and up to a maximum of one thousand two hundred forty eight (1,248) hours for employees assigned to a fifty-two (52) hour work week.
- (b) In the event of the death of any employee, the employee’s estate shall be entitled to receive the same benefit as if the employee retired on the date of his death.

Section 33.11. Incentive/Personal Leave.

- (a) Full time employees that have more than one (1) year of service as of January 1, and remain in active pay status for an entire half-year (i.e., January 1 – June 30 or July 1 – December 31), shall be entitled to the following monetary incentives:

| <u>Sick Leave Hours Used</u> | | <u>Bonus (per half)</u> |
|------------------------------|------------|-------------------------|
| <u>Response</u> | <u>Day</u> | |
| 0 | 0 | \$250.00 |
| 0.1 – 16.0 | 0.1 – 7.0 | \$200.00 |
| 16.1 – 24.0 | 7.1 – 10.0 | \$150.00 |

- (b) Sick leave incentive bonuses shall be paid no later than the second pay period following the end of the half-year period.

Section 33.12. No Penalty for Utilization of Sick Leave for Work Related Illness/Injury or Funeral Leave. Sick leave utilized for work-related illness/injury on an initial BWC approved claim or for funeral leave shall not be counted against full-time employees for purposes of determining the employee’s entitlement to sick leave incentive benefits under this Article.

ARTICLE 34
INJURY PAY

Section 34.1. Employees will be provided the option of Injury Pay benefits pursuant to Section 2 or Section 3 under this Article.

Section 34.2. Work Related Illness/Injury. In the event that a regular full-time employee suffers a work-related injury which is compensable under the state workers' compensation provisions, the City employee shall utilize available sick leave commencing with the first day after the date of the injury. On the date of the injury, if the employee is unable to return to work, the employee will be paid his regular earnings. The employee and the City shall cooperate in completing any necessary forms for reimbursement for workers' compensation payments to the employee. Upon receipt of said workers' compensation payments, the employee shall assign said amounts over to the City. The City will then credit the amount of the workers' compensation received against the individual's sick leave utilization.

Section 34.3. Wage Continuation Policy. For so long as the City determines that the wage continuation policy is feasible, employees will be offered the option of participating under the terms of that policy. Should the City determine to discontinue the policy, employees will still be eligible for injury pay benefits pursuant to Section 2.

Section 34.4. Light Duty. An employee who presents evidence that he is unable to perform all of the duties of his classification as a result of an injury or illness may be assigned by the City to a position in the bargaining unit to perform those duties consistent with his medical restrictions. If such light duty assignment is made, the employee must report for duty and perform those tasks assigned.

ARTICLE 35
FUNERAL LEAVE

Section 35.1. Death of Immediate Family. Up to seven (7) consecutive calendar days of absence, without loss of pay, starting with the date of death, will be provided to full-time bargaining unit members as funeral leave in the event of the death of the employee's spouse, parents, step-parents, child, foster child or step child. The City may require proof of death for the employee to be eligible for this type of leave.

Section 35.2. Death of Extended Family. Up to three (3) consecutive days of absence, without the loss of pay, starting with the date of death, will be provided to full-time bargaining unit members as funeral leave in the event of the death of a sibling, grandparent, grandchild of the employee or the employee's spouse or the employee's mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law. The City may require proof of death for the employee to be eligible for this type of leave.

Section 35.3. Sick Leave. In addition to the funeral leave provided in Sections 1 and 2 of this Article, the City may authorize sick leave for an employee to attend the funeral of

relatives referenced in those sections, at the sole discretion of the Human Resources Manager. Furthermore, the City may also authorize sick leave for an employee to attend the funeral of a relative not referenced in Section 1 and 2 of this Article, or of a close friend, at the sole discretion of the Human Resources Manager. The City may require proof of death for the employee to be eligible for this type of leave.

Section 35.4. Date Adjustment. Under extenuating circumstances, such as a prolonged period of time between the date of death and the date of services, the Human Resources Manager may, upon request, adjust the starting date of this benefit.

ARTICLE 36 **UNPAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Section 36.1. Eligibility. Upon successful completion of the probationary period, an employee may be eligible, upon request and upon approval of the Human Resources Manager, for a personal leave of absence without pay without interruption of seniority. During the unpaid leave, accrual based benefits shall be suspended and banked until the employee returns to duty. Such leave of absence shall not exceed seventy-five (75) calendar days unless the leave is qualified as FMLA.

ARTICLE 37 **UNION LEAVE**

Section 37.1. Union Business. The Union shall be granted forty-eight (48) hours each year for use as leave at its discretion for member(s) to attend to Union business as designated by the local President. The leave shall accrue on January 1 of each year of this Agreement and any unused leave from the prior year will not be carried over.

Section 37.2. Scheduling Requirements/Limitations. Leave will be granted by the Fire Chief on the condition that the Fire Chief received at least thirty (30) days notice, and the leave is used in blocks of four (4) hours or more. The use of this benefit shall be limited to a maximum of two employees off on Union Leave at a time. Upon mutual agreement, more than two (2) employees may be permitted to utilize Union Leave at one time.

ARTICLE 38 **MISCELLANEOUS**

Section 38.1. Accommodations.

- (a) The City agrees to provide the employees with food preparation facilities, including stove/oven, microwave, refrigerators(s), dishwasher and dishwashing soap at each fire station.
- (b) The City agrees to provide the employees with access to recreational and exercise area(s) in some portion of each fire station.

- (c) The City agrees to provide the employees with linen and bedding, towels and linen at each fire station, including cleaning services for these amenities.
- (d) The City agrees to provide employees with a television and VCR at each fire station.

Section 38.2. Leave Sale. Upon approval of the Fire Chief, on November 1 of each year, employees may elect to sell up to one hundred and ninety-two (192) hours of their accumulated but unused vacation (Article 31) and holiday leave (Article 32) at the employee's regular base hourly rate as of December 15. The leave sale amount shall be paid to the employee, by separate check, in the last pay in November of each year.

ARTICLE 39
JOINT LABOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Section 39.1. Labor Management Committee. To provide for a means of better communications and understanding amongst Green Division of Fire, its management, and the Green Firefighters Association, without the necessary utilization of the contractual grievance arbitration machinery, a labor management committee may be established.

Section 39.2. Meetings. The City and the Union may, by mutual agreement, convene the labor management committee at a designated time and place which is mutually convenient to both parties. The party requesting the meeting shall endeavor to provide a minimum of two (2) weeks notice to the other party.

Section 39.3. Representation. The Mayor shall designate the Fire Chief and up to two (2) other representatives to attend a meeting of the joint committee. Likewise, three (3) representatives of the Union shall be present. It is understood that either party can request the assistance of a non-employee representative, if it feels that it will assist the meeting. Any employee attending such meeting during his regularly scheduled working hours shall suffer no loss in pay.

ARTICLE 40
RESIDENCY

Section 40.1. Full-time bargaining unit members within the City of Green Division of Fire are not required to maintain residency within the City limits.

ARTICLE 41
SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Section 41.1. Education.

- (a) A ninety (90) day education and information period shall be conducted by the City prior to the implementation of testing hereunder. All employees will be informed of the City's drug testing procedures. Employees shall be provided with information concerning the impact of the use of drugs on job performance.

The City shall inform the employees:

- Of the manner in which these tests are conducted, the reliability of the tests performed.
 - Under what circumstances employees will be subject to testing.
 - What the tests can determine.
 - The consequences of testing positive.
- (b) All new employees shall be provided with the above listed information when initially hired and a record shall be maintained of the employee's receipt of this information.

Section 41.2. City's Authority. This agreement shall not restrict the City's authority to prohibit the non-prescribed use, sale or possession of alcohol and/or other drugs during work hours, or restrict the City's authority to discipline, suspend, or dismiss an employee for being under the influence of, selling or possessing alcohol and/or other drugs during work hours, except as that authority is restricted under this Agreement.

Section 41.3. Drug Testing. Drug testing shall be conducted at time of pre-employment (a) when there is reasonable suspicion (described below); (b) upon an employee's return to duty after completion of a rehabilitation program; (c) upon return to duty after being off duty for six (6) months, or more, as part of an employee's return to work agreement; and (d) on a random basis, at such time that City policy allows it.

Section 41.4. Reasonable Suspicion. Reasonable suspicion that an employee is using or abusing drugs must be based upon objective facts or specific circumstances found to exist which present a reasonable basis to believe that an employee is using or abusing drugs. Examples of where reasonable suspicion shall be deemed to exist include, without limitation, the following:

- Where there has been a serious on-duty injury to an employee or another person, the cause of which is otherwise unexplained.
- Where an employee, while operating a City vehicle, becomes involved in a traffic accident, which results in physical harm to person or property and where the circumstances raise a question as to the existence of substance abuse by the employee involved.
- Where there is observable phenomena, such as direct observation of drug use, possession or distribution, or the physical symptoms of being under the influence of drugs (e.g. slurred, rambling or incoherent speech, dilated pupils or bloodshot eyes, odor of marijuana, unexplained lack of coordination, impaired reaction time, sweaty or flushed skin, staggering and or unsteady walk, changes in affect, dynamic mood swings, etc.)
- Where there is a pattern of abnormal conduct, erratic or aberrant behavior, or

deteriorating work performance which appears to be related to substance abuse and does not appear to be attributable to other factors.

- Where an employee is identified as the focus of criminal investigation into unauthorized drug possession, use or trafficking, or a report of drug use provided by a reliable and credible source.

Section 41.5. Union Representation. After an employee has been ordered to submit to drug testing, for cause, he shall be notified of his right, upon request, to be accompanied to the testing site by a Local 2964 representative, if staffing requirements so permit. The employee may waive the right to Union Representation by executing a written waiver to that effect.

Section 41.6. Authorized Laboratories. The medical provider selected by the City must be experienced and capable of quality control, documentation, chain of custody, technical expertise, and demonstrated proficiency in urinalysis testing. All drug tests shall be conducted by laboratories certified by the Federal Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). The procedure utilized by the testing lab shall include a chain of custody procedure in compliance with the DHHS recommendations and Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry (GC/MS) confirmation of any positive initial drug screening.

Section 41.7. Procedure. Specimen collection will occur in a medical setting and the procedures should not demean, embarrass, or cause physical discomfort to the employee and shall be done to insure that split specimens are kept for additional testing that may be required or chosen. The testing or processing phase shall consist of a two-step procedure, as follows:

- Initial screening test
- Confirmation step

The urine sample is first tested using a screening procedure. A specimen testing positive in the screening procedure will undergo a confirmatory gas chromatography/mass spectrometry (gc/ms) test. An initial positive screen report will not be considered positive, rather it will be classified as confirmation pending. Where a positive report is received, urine specimens shall be maintained under secured storage for a period of not less than one (1) year. Any sample which has been adulterated or is shown to be a substance other than urine shall be reported as such. Results shall be reported to the City as positive or negative and not in numerical or quantitative form. All test results shall be treated with the same confidentiality as other employee medical records. Drug tests shall be administered for the following drugs:

- Alcohol
- Marijuana
- Cocaine
- Amphetamines

- Opiates (including Heroin)
- Phencyclidine (PCP)

Urinalysis or blood tests shall be used to collect employee's samples for drug testing. An employee who initially tests positive shall be immediately removed from duty and placed on unpaid leave. If confirmation results are positive, employees may request additional testing, beyond the confirmation screening, by any approved alternate laboratory. Employees will be responsible for the cost of any additional testing. For chain of custody purposes, the sample will be transferred directly from the initial facility to the alternate laboratory selected by the employee. If the confirmation test is negative, the employee shall be returned to duty and reimbursed for all lost wages.

Section 41.8. Confidentiality. Any information concerning a drug test administered pursuant to this Agreement shall be strictly confidential. Release of such information shall be solely pursuant to a written consent form which must be signed by the person tested. The consent form must contain, at minimum, the following information:

- The person who is authorized to obtain the information
- The purpose of the disclosure
- The precise information to be disclosed
- The duration of the consent

Drug testing shall be conducted solely for administrative purposes and results obtained shall not be used in criminal proceedings. Under no circumstances may the results of this drug testing be released to a third party for the use in a criminal prosecution against the affected employee. The testing procedure shall not preclude the employer from other administrative action.

Section 41.9. Treatment. Upon voluntary admission of abuse, the employee shall be given the opportunity to receive treatment if indicated by a substance abuse professional. If an employee voluntarily enrolls in a qualified treatment program, the City shall permit the employee to participate in a rehabilitation program specified by a substance abuse professional. An employee who participates in a rehabilitation program shall be allowed to use sick leave, vacation leave, or available compensatory time for the period of the program. Apart from such use of paid leave, the employee will be relieved from duty in unpaid status. The City shall, whenever necessary for treatment and reasonably possible, permit an employee to (a) have a part time or modified work schedule, or (b) be temporarily reassigned to an appropriate job, or (c) use administrative, sick or vacation leave and leave without pay to obtain treatment.

The City may change an employee's work assignment, or suspend the employee from active duty, when the drug abuse treatment program in which the employee is participating determines that the employee's drug abuse problem poses a direct threat to the safety of others. The results of any substance abuse tests administered to an employee as part of a drug abuse treatment program may not be released to the City. The City may not administer a drug test to an employee while the employee is undergoing treatment for alcohol and/or

drug abuse until released by a medical professional to return to work status. An employee may not be terminated from employment, or disciplined, for drug use, if the employee successfully completes treatment.

Upon evaluation and certification by a substance abuse professional or medical review officer that the employee has successfully completed the recommended rehabilitation program and a return to duty test that demonstrates that the employee is no longer using/abusing drugs, the employee shall be returned to his position. Such employee shall be subject to follow-up testing for a period of one (1) year from the date of his return to duty.

For the purposes of this article, follow-up testing shall involve a minimum of four (4) unannounced tests during the year following his return except that drug tests may be performed at any time upon reasonable suspicion. Costs of all drug screening and confirmation tests, which are required by the City, shall be borne by the City.

Section 41.10. Employee Discipline. An employee testing positive for alcohol or controlled substances on the first offense will be referred to the City's Employee Assistance Program. An employee will be subject to disciplinary action under this article for any of the following reasons:

- When the employee reports for duty or performs work and tests positive for using a prohibited drug after having once completed a drug rehabilitation program;
- Refuses to submit to a drug test;
- Fails to complete the rehabilitation program the employee has entered pursuant to this article;
- Alters or attempts to alter drug test results;
- If the employee tests positive at any time within one (1) year following his return to work after entrance into a rehabilitation program or pursuant to an agreed upon return to duty program.

Section 41.11. Medical Releases. For the purposes of implementing the provisions of this article, each employee shall execute medical releases in order for the City to obtain the results of the physical examinations and drug testing provided for in this article. Except as otherwise provided by state or federal law with regard to communicable diseases or with the permission of the employee, the release referred to in this section shall authorize only the release of examination results and progress reports pertaining to the drug test results. No other medical finding may be released without the express written permission of the employee, except that without a release from the employee, the City may disclose information pertaining to an employees drug testing to a decision maker in grievance or other proceeding initiated by, or on the behalf of, an employee and arising from the result of a drug test.

Section 41.12. Use of Medication. An employee covered by this policy is required to report the use of prescription or non-prescription use of medicines containing alcohol or controlled substances to his supervisor.

(a) Prescription Medication(s)

1. Prior to using prescription medicine(s) containing alcohol or controlled substance(s), the employee is required to obtain a signed statement from the treating physician that such medication does not impair the employee's ability to perform safety sensitive functions, and/or does not interfere with the safe performance of the employee's job.
2. Such statement must be submitted to the Fire Chief prior to resuming regular duties of any kind.
3. If the treating physician has determined that the medication will impair the employee's ability to perform safety sensitive functions, and at the discretion of the City, the employee may be assigned to perform non-safety sensitive functions during the period he is taking the medication, or will be permitted to utilize sick leave, vacation leave or unpaid leave for the period of time he will be unable to perform safety sensitive functions.

(b) Non-Prescription Medication(s)

1. Prior to using non-prescription medicine(s) containing alcohol or controlled substance(s), the employee must notify the Fire Chief in writing relevant to what type of medication is being used, brand name and length of time he will be using the medication.
2. At the discretion of the City, the employee may be assigned to perform non-safety sensitive functions during the period he is taking the medication, or will be permitted to utilize sick leave, vacation leave or unpaid leave for the period of time he will be unable to perform safety sensitive functions.

Section 41.13. Right to Grievance Procedure. All aspects of the provisions of this article shall be subject to the grievance and arbitration procedure of the collective bargaining agreement, including but not limited to selection of an employee for testing, testing procedures utilized, failure to follow the provisions of this article and any and all discipline that an employee may be subjected to under this article.

ARTICLE 42 **PROMOTIONS**

Section 42.1. Procedure. Vacancies in positions above the classification/rank of Firefighter in the Green Fire Department shall be filled by competitive promotional examination, as set forth herein. It is the intent of the parties that the terms and conditions of this Article which relate to promotions supersede the provisions of Sections 124.45

through 124.48 of the Ohio Revised Code which expressly address promotions, and those Civil Service Rules and Regulations of the City of Green which expressly address promotions.

Section 42.2. Fire Division Promotions. Whenever a vacancy occurs in a promoted rank in the Green Fire Department and no eligible list for that rank exists, the appointing authority shall certify that fact to the City of Green Civil Service Commission. The City of Green Civil Service Commission, within sixty (60) days of the vacancy, shall schedule a competitive promotional examination. All permanent promotions to the rank of Lieutenant, Captain, and Assistant Fire Chief shall be made utilizing a promotional candidate list established by the City of Green Civil Service Commission. The City of Green Civil Service Commission shall contract with the Ohio Fire Chiefs’ Association to establish and govern the testing procedure using a competitive promotional examination process which includes a written test and/or an assessment center. A current study material list will be maintained by the City. (See Attachment A)

Section 42.3. Eligibility Requirements.

- a) To be eligible for the promotional testing process, a Firefighter must have served at least forty-eight (48) months in the classification/rank of Firefighter, excluding the Firefighter’s probationary year (first year) of employment. In order for an officer to be eligible for the promotional testing process for the next higher classification/rank, that officer must have served at least twelve (12) months in the classification/rank from which the promotion is being made. The eligibility requirements established in the classification specifications for Lieutenant, Captain and Assistant Fire Chief shall be given primary consideration when determining qualification for participation in the promotional testing process. When there are less than three (3) persons eligible, qualified and willing to sit for the test, the Civil Service Commission shall open the test to those full-time employees of the Fire Division in the next lower rank.

- b) Employees with a minimum of three (3) consecutive years of full-time employment as a firemedic at another fire department will be credited one (1) year towards the eligibility requirement. The maximum credit of two (2) years toward eligibility will be earned with six (6) or more years of full-time employment as a firemedic at another fire department. This credit does not exclude the firefighter’s probationary year (first year) of employment at Green.

Example:

| Full time Years on outside Department | Eligibility Credit | Years at Green Before Eligible to Promote (Including Probation) |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| 0-2 | 0 | 5 |
| 3-5 | 1 | 4 |
| 6-Over | 2 | 3 |

Section 42.4. Posting / Study Period. The posting shall be fourteen (14) days and the study period for promotional examinations shall be not less than sixty (60) days after the end of the posting. The posting shall contain a description of the source material from which the examination questions are prepared.

Section 42.5. Selection Committee. A Selection Committee shall be convened for all promotions comprised of the following members:

- Fire Chief or Assistant Chief;
- Human Resources Manager;
- Bargaining unit member with the same rank as the position to be filled appointed by the Union President. In the event the position to be filled is Assistant Chief, the Union President may appoint any bargaining unit member not eligible for the position filled.

The Selection Committee is charged with the responsibility of evaluating those factors to be considered in the promotion of an employee that are not captured in the examination process.

1. The candidate's resume;
2. The candidate's history of employment including disciplinary files, attendance records and performance evaluations.

The Selection Committee shall consider the top five (5) candidates certified by the Civil Service Commission to fill the vacancy. A simple majority of the Selection Committee shall make a recommendation to the Mayor for appointment. The member representing the Bargaining Unit will be responsible for reducing the recommendation to writing and forwarding it to the Mayor within five (5) working days.

ARTICLE 43 **NEGOTIATING PROCEDURE**

Section 43.1. Notice. When a party serves a timely notice to negotiate pursuant to this Agreement, the parties shall abide by the negotiating ground rules of this Article.

Section 43.2. Authority. Each negotiating team will have the authority to negotiate tentative agreements. The tentative agreement shall be subject to ratification by the local union membership and subject to the approval of the Mayor.

Section 43.3. Proposals. All proposals shall be reduced to writing, typed and submitted to the other party in sufficient quantity to provide each member of the bargaining committees with the same. At the first bargaining meeting, the parties shall exchange initial proposals. This section does not prohibit parties from making counter-proposals which may or may not include Articles in the initial proposals.

Section 43.4. Tentative Agreements. Written tentative agreements shall be initialed by both parties, but not become effective until a full agreement is approved and executed.

Section 43.5. Bargaining Team. The City and the Union shall each select its own bargaining team which may consist of a total of up to three members. If the parties anticipate utilizing any additional specialists with respect to benefits or other matters, they shall give the other party at least twenty-four (24) hours written notice of the same.

Section 43.6. Chief Negotiator. There shall be one designated spokesperson (the chief negotiator) on each side, except that he may, on occasion, ask one of this team members to speak on a specific issue.

Section 43.7. Issued Statements. It is agreed that during the negotiating period and prior to the execution of a final tentative agreement, neither party will issue a statement regarding negotiations to the news media on a unilateral basis. If a statement regarding negotiations should become necessary, the parties shall mutually agree upon the contents of a news release. If any member of the Local Union or the Green City Bargaining Committee violates this provision, this section shall lapse and shall no longer be of any force.

ARTICLE 44 **SEVERABILITY**

Section 44.1. If any clause, sentence, paragraph or part of this Agreement, or the application thereof, to any person or circumstance, shall, for any reason, be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction or other agency to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of this Agreement, and the application of such provision to other provisions, persons or circumstances, but shall be confined in its application to the clause, sentence, paragraph, or part thereof, directly involved in the decision which judgment shall have been rendered and to the person or circumstances involved. The remainder of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect for its term.

Section 44.2. In the event any provisions herein are so rendered invalid, upon written request of either party hereto, the Employer and the Union will meet promptly for the purpose of discussing a mutually satisfactory replacement for such provision. Either party may file a notice to negotiate over the invalidated subject matter with the State Employment Relations Board (SERB).

ARTICLE 45 **WAIVER IN CASE OF EMERGENCY**

In cases of circumstances beyond the control of the City, such as acts of God, riot, flood, civil disorder, and similar acts, the following conditions of this Agreement shall be automatically suspended without recourse from the Union upon declaration of said emergency by the Mayor.

1. All time limits set forth in this Agreement are suspended during the emergency.
2. Limitations on distribution of overtime.

The City reserves the right, during any such emergency, to assign employees to work without regard to their employment classifications.

ARTICLE 46 **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Section 46.1. Negotiations. The City and the Union acknowledge that during the negotiations which preceded this Agreement, each had the unlimited right and opportunity to make demands and proposals with respect to any subject matter appropriate for collective bargaining as defined by Section 4117, etc. of the Ohio Revised Code, and that the understandings and agreements arrived at by the parties after the exercise of that right and opportunity are set forth in this Agreement. Therefore, the City and the Union, for the life of this Agreement, each voluntarily and unqualifiedly waive the right and agree that the other shall not be obligated to bargain collectively with respect to any subject or matter referred to or covered in this Agreement, or which could have been covered in this Agreement, even though such subject matters may not have been within the knowledge or contemplation of either or both parties at the time they negotiated and signed this Agreement.

Section 46.2. Past Practice. It is expressly agreed between the City and the Union that neither party shall be bound by any past practice to be continued in effect, its terms and conditions must be set forth within the express terms of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 47 **DURATION**

Section 47.1. This Agreement effective January 1, 2020, shall continue in full force and effect until midnight, December 31, 2022.

Section 47.2. No more than one hundred fifty (150) and no less than ninety (90) days prior to December 31, 2022, either party may give written notice to the other of its desire to reopen and renegotiate this Agreement. Upon giving of a timely notice to negotiate, the parties shall meet and negotiate in accordance with the statutory provisions of Section 4117 of the Ohio Revised Code and the negotiating procedures of this Agreement.

SIGNATURE PAGE

FOR THE CITY OF GREEN

**FOR THE CITY OF GREEN
FIREFIGHTERS
ASSOCIATION, IAFF LOCAL
2964**

Honorable Gerard Neugebauer, Mayor

Matt Craddock, President

Jeffery T. Funai, Fire Chief

Michael Mohr, Vice-President

Johnathan Downes, Esq. Counsel

Ryan Lemmerbrock, Esq. Counsel

Virgil Schlabach, Assistant Fire Chief

Pamela Serina, Human Resource Manager

Attachment A

The following is the list of promotional study material as agreed upon between the City and IAFF Local 2964:

Lieutenant

- Green Fire Rules and Regulations, and Standard Operating Procedures
- Green Fire Response Policies
- Green Fire Medical Protocols
- IFSTA Company Officer (Current Edition)
- Building Construction Related to the Fire Service (Current Edition)
- IFSTA Essentials (Current Edition)
- Safety and Survival on the Fire Ground (Current Edition)

Captain

- Green Fire Rules and Regulations, and Standard Operating Procedures
- Green Fire Response Policies
- IFSTA Company Officer (Current Edition)
- Incident management for the Street Smart Officer (Coleman – Current Edition)
- Safety and Survival on the Fire Ground (Dunn – Current Edition)

Assistant Fire Chief

- Management in the Fire Service (Carter and Rousch – Current edition)
- National Incident Management System – NIMS 300 and 400
- Ohio Fire Code
- Fire Chief's Handbook (Current Edition)

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
STAFFING/HIRING COMMITMENT

The terms of this Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) are incorporated into the terms of the Collective Bargaining Agreement and are enforceable through the CBA’s Grievance and Arbitration Procedure (Article 11).

The City agrees to hire enough full-time fire/medics to bring the total response shift staffing to fourteen (14) per shift for 2020. These fire/medics will be utilized to supplement response staffing for three (3) full response stations.

The City agrees to hire enough full-time fire/medics to bring the total response shift staffing to sixteen (16) per shift for 2021. These fire/medics will be utilized to supplement overall response staffing.

The Union agrees to assist the City in the recruitment and hiring process.

In 2021 it is agreed that staffing will be as follows:

Optimal Manning

For the purposes of this article, optimal manning is defined as two personnel above absolute minimum.

Response shift employees will only be permitted to schedule time off to a total of Thirteen (13) per shift, outside of annual leave selection procedure (Article 31, Section 31.6).

Scheduled Minimum

For the purpose of this article, scheduled minimum is defined as one person above absolute minimum.

Response shift employees will only be permitted to take time off in accordance with zero time notification section (Article 17, Section 17.9)

Absolute Minimum

For the purposes of this article, absolute minimum is defined as the least amount of personnel that the shift can be scheduled to.

This staffing will be used in limited circumstances.

| IAFF Leave Restrictions | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| | Current Situation | 2020* | 2021** |
| Number Assigned to Shift: | 12 | 14 | 16 |
| Optimal (Starts in 2021): | N/A | N/A | 13 |
| Scheduled Minimum***: | 10 | 12 | 12 |
| Absolute Minimum: | 9 | 11 | 11 |
| | | | |
| Can schedule leave down to: | 10 | 12 | 13 |
| Can Zero Out if staffing is at or above: | 10 | 12 | 14 |
| Can trade if staffing is equal to or less than: | 10 | 12 | 13 |
| Sick leave can normally drop staffing to: | 9 | 11 | 12 |

* Begins after 8 FT FM are cleared and Station 3 opens

**Begins after 4 additional FT FM are cleared and Station 3 is in its second year of operation

***Primary vacation is an exception to the scheduled minimum (Article 31).