

Certification

I declare to the best of my knowledge and belief that the attached document(s) are true electronic copies of the executed collective negotiations agreement(s) and the included summary is an accurate assessment of the collective bargaining agreement for the term beginning 1/1/2024 thru 12/31/2028.

Employer: Townshi of Upper

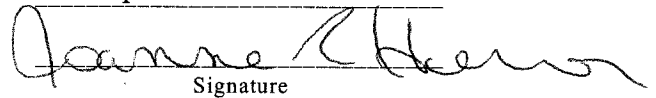
County: Cape May

Date: 11/27/2024

Name: Joanne R. Herron

Print Name

Title: Municipal Clerk


Signature

New Jersey Public Employment Relations Commission
NON-POLICE AND FIRE
COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATIONS AGREEMENT SUMMARY FORM

Line #

SECTION I: Parties and Term of Contracts

1	Public Employer: <input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	County:	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>
2	Employee Organization: <input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	Number of Employees in Unit:	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>
3	Base Year Contract Term: <input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	New Contract Term:	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>

SECTION II: Type of Contract Settlement (please check only one)

4	<input type="checkbox"/> Contract settled without neutral assistance
5	<input type="checkbox"/> Contract settled with assistance of mediator
6	<input type="checkbox"/> Contract settled with assistance of fact-finder
7	<input type="checkbox"/> Contract settled with assistance of super-conciliator
8	If contract was settled in fact-finding, did the fact-finder issue a report with recommendations?
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION III: Salary Base

The salary base is the cost of salaries in the final year of the expired or expiring agreement. This is the base cost from which the parties negotiate the salary increases.

9	Salary Costs in Base Year	\$	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>
10	Longevity Costs in Base Year	\$	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>
11	Total Salary Base	\$	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>

SECTION IV: Salary Increases for Each Year of New Agreement*

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
12 Effective Date (month/day/year)	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>
13 Cost of Salary Increments (\$)	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>
14 Salary Increase Above Increments (\$)	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>
15 Longevity Increase (\$)	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>
16 Total \$ Increase (sum of lines 13-15)	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>
17 New Salary Base (\$)	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>
18 Percentage increase over prior year	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/> %	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/> %	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/> %	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/> %	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/> %

**If contract duration is longer than five years, please add an additional page.*

Employer:

Employee Organization:

SECTION V: Increases in Other Contractual Economic Items or Newly Added Economic Items*

19	Item Description	Base Year Cost (\$)	Year 1 Increase (\$)	Year 2 Increase (\$)	Year 3 Increase (\$)	Year 4 Increase (\$)	Year 5 Increase (\$)
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
20	Totals(\$):	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

**If contract duration is longer than five years, please add an additional page.*

SECTION VI: Medical Costs

		Base Year	Year 1
21	Health Plan Cost	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
22	Prescription Plan Cost	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
23	Dental Plan Cost	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
24	Vision Plan Cost	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
25	Total Cost of Insurance	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
26	Employee Insurance Contributions	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
27	Employee Contributions as % of Total Insurance Cost	<input type="text"/> %	<input type="text"/> %

Employer:

Employee Organization:

Section VI: Medical Costs (continued)

28 Identify any insurance changes that were included in this CNA.

SECTION VII: Certification and Signature

29 The undersigned certifies that the foregoing figures are true:

Print Name:

Position/Title:

Signature:

Date:

Send this completed and signed form along with an electronic copy of the contract and the signed certification form to: contracts@perc.state.nj.us

NJ Public Employment Relations Commission
Conciliation and Arbitration
PO Box 429
Trenton, NJ 08625
Phone: 609-292-9898

Revised 8/2016

AGREEMENT

Between

TOWNSHIP OF UPPER

And

AFSCME NJ COUNCIL 63 AMERICAN FEDERATION
OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES,
AFL-CIO MAJORITY REPRESENTATIVE

January 1, 2024 Through December 31, 2028



CONTRACT

BETWEEN

TOWNSHIP OF

UPPER AND

AFSCME NJ COUNCIL 63 AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY
AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO MAJORITY REPRESENTATIVE

FOR THE TERM
JANUARY 1, 2024 TO DECEMBER 31, 2028

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PREAMBLE

THIS AGREEMENT by and between the **TOWNSHIP OF UPPER**, in the County of Cape May, New Jersey, a Municipal Corporation of the State of New Jersey, hereinafter called the "**TOWNSHIP**", and **AFSCME NJ COUNCIL 63 AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO MAJORITY REPRESENTATIVE**, hereinafter called the "**AFSCME**", covering employees in the designated unit, has as its intent and purpose the promotion of harmonious employee relations between the employer and employees represented by the **AFSCME**; the establishment of equitable and peaceful procedures for the amicable resolutions of all disputes and grievances and determination of wages, hours of work and other terms and conditions of employment. The effective date of this agreement shall be **JANUARY 1, 2024 to DECEMBER 31, 2028**.

As the Employer recognizes the Union; it is the responsibility of the Employer to forward all new hire, disciplines/grievances, promotions, etc. to AFSCME NJ, Council 63 as the Majority Representative to 1373 Chews Landing Road, Laurel Springs, New Jersey 08021, or Fax (856) 512-2193. This will occur simultaneously as the employee is served provided, however, the employee may opt out of disclosure to union officials pursuant to Article 4, Section C below.

American Federation for State, County and Municipal Employees, AFSCME NJ, Council 63 reserves the right to begin negotiations a year prior to the expiration date of the current contract.

ARTICLE 1

RECOGNITION

In accordance with the "Certification of Representative" of the Public Employment Relations Commission dated April 21, 1980 (Docket. No. RO-80-121), the **TOWNSHIP** recognizes **AFSCME** as the exclusive collective negotiations agent for all employees covered in the aforementioned Certifications and more specifically including all laborers, truck drivers, equipment operators, mechanics, recreation maintenance workers, building maintenance workers, carpenters, and all non-professional employees employed by the **TOWNSHIP OF UPPER**, but excluding managerial, confidential and professional employees, police, emergency medical and craft employees and supervisors within the meaning of the Act.

ARTICLE 2
DUES CHECK-OFF

A. The **TOWNSHIP** agrees to deduct the monthly members dues from those employees who individually request that such deductions be made. Such request must be made, in writing, to the Employer (**TOWNSHIP**). The amounts to be deducted shall be certified in writing to the **TOWNSHIP** by **AFSCME** and the aggregate deductions shall be remitted to **AFSCME** by the **TOWNSHIP** together with a list of the names of all employees for whom the deductions were made.

B. Dues deducted by Upper Township shall be transmitted to the designated Union official of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, New Jersey Council 63, AFL-CIO. Upper Township agrees to provide to the Union, on a monthly basis, a complete up-to date electronic listing of all employees covered by this Contract. Such listing shall be in Excel Format and include the employee's department, job classification, work location, home address, employment status, membership status and the amount of dues deducted as it appears on the records of Upper Township. For the purpose of the deduction of dues for titles covered by this agreement; Any member working 40 or fewer, but more than 20 hours per week shall be considered a full-time member. Any member working 20 or fewer hours per week, but more than 12 hours per week shall be considered a part-time member, and any member working 12 or fewer hours per week shall be considered a lower part-time member. The union shall provide a secure e-mail address for the receipt of the electronic listing and disclose such information only to its officials and representatives whose duties require access. Upper Township shall provide the Union with a list of departmental payroll codes in order to identify the Department name on the above -mentioned electronic listing.

ARTICLE 3
MANAGEMENT RIGHTS

A. The **TOWNSHIP** hereby retains and reserves unto itself, without limitations, all powers, rights, authority, duties and responsibilities conferred upon and vested in it prior to the signing of this Agreement by the Laws and Constitution of the State of New Jersey and of the United States, including, but without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the following rights:

1. To the executive management and administrative control of the **TOWNSHIP** Government and its properties and facilities and the activities of its employees;

2. To hire all employees and, subject to the provisions of law, to determine their qualifications and conditions for continued employment or assignment and to promote and transfer employees;

3. To suspend, demote, discharge or take other disciplinary action for good and just cause according to law.

B. The exercise of the foregoing powers, rights, authority, duties and responsibilities of the **TOWNSHIP**, the adoption of policies, rules, regulations and practices in furtherance thereof, and the use of judgment and discretion in connection therewith shall be limited only by the specific and express terms of this Agreement and then only to the extent such specific and express terms hereof are in conformance with the Constitution and Laws of New Jersey and of the United States

C. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to deny or restrict the **TOWNSHIP** of its powers, rights, authority, duties and responsibilities under

Title 40, Title 40A, Title 11 of the Revised Statutes of the State of New Jersey, or any other Federal, State, County or Local Laws or Ordinances.

ARTICLE 4

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

A. PURPOSE:

1. The purpose of this procedure is to secure, at the lowest possible level, an equitable solution of the problems which may arise affecting the terms and conditions of this Agreement. The parties agree that this procedure will be kept as informal as may be appropriate.

2. Nothing herein contained shall be construed as limiting the right of any employee having a grievance to discuss the matter informally with any appropriate member of the department supervisory staff and having the grievance adjusted without the intervention of **AFSCME**.

B. DEFINITION:

The term "grievance" as used herein means any controversy arising over the interpretation or adherence to the terms and conditions of this Agreement and may be raised by an individual, **AFSCME** or the **TOWNSHIP**.

C. NOTICE OF DISCIPLINE AND DISCHARGE:

Other than an oral reprimand, the employee, the Local Union and the **AFSCME** shall be furnished with a written copy of any disciplinary action taken. Upon receipt of the notice of disciplinary action the employee may be given a form which the employee may use to opt out of disclosure to union officials. The reasons for such disciplinary action(s) shall be included in this written notification. As the **TOWNSHIP** recognizes **AFSCME**, it is the responsibility of the

Employer to forward all new hire, disciplines, promotions, etc. to AFSCME at 1373 Chews Landing Road, Laurel Springs, New Jersey 08021 or Fax (856) 512-2193. This will occur simultaneously as the employee is served.

D. STEPS OF THE GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE:

The following constitutes the sole and exclusive method of resolving grievances between the parties covered by this Agreement and shall be followed in its entirety unless any step is waived by mutual consent, in writing:

STEP ONE:

(a) An employee and/or Chapter Chair shall institute action under the provisions hereof within five (5) working days of the occurrence of the grievance and an earnest effort shall be made to settle the differences between the aggrieved employee and his immediate supervisor for the purpose of resolving the matter informally. Failure to act within said five (5) working days shall be deemed to constitute an abandonment of the grievance.

(b) The immediate supervisor shall render a decision within five (5) working days after receipt of the grievance. A copy of that decision shall be immediately filed with the Administrator or Personnel Officer who shall distribute a copy of such decision to the members of the Township Committee.

(c) In the event the grievance involves the Department of Public Works and a satisfactory resolution has not been reached under STEP ONE (b) above, and if the **TOWNSHIP** has appointed a Superintendent of Public Works, the employee shall, in writing, file his grievance with the Superintendent of Public Works within five (5) working days following the determination by the immediate supervisor. A copy shall also be filed with the Administrator or Personnel Officer.

The Superintendent of Public Works shall render a written decision on the grievance within ten (10) working days following receipt of the grievance. A copy of that decision shall be immediately filed with the Administrator or Personnel Officer, who shall distribute a copy of such decision to the members of the Township Committee.

STEP TWO:

(a) In the event a satisfactory settlement has not been reached under Step One, the employee and/or Chapter Chair shall, in writing and on forms supplied by the **TOWNSHIP or AFSCME**, file the grievance with a member of Township Committee having general administrative and oversight responsibility for the Department within eight (8) working days following the STEP ONE determination. A copy shall also be filed with the Administrator or Personnel Officer.

(b) The member of Township Committee, or a representative appointed by such member of the Township Committee, shall render a written decision on the grievance within ten (10) working days following receipt of the grievance. A copy of that decision shall be immediately filed with the Administrator or Personnel Officer, who shall distribute a copy of such decision to the members of the Township Committee.

STEP THREE:

(a) In the event that the grievance has not been resolved at Step Two, then within eight (8) working days following the decision under Step Two, the grievant and **AFSCME** may then have the matter submitted to the Township Committee. The grievant and **AFSCME** shall initiate Step Three by filing the written grievance with the Administrator or Personnel Officer.

(b) The Township Committee shall provide the grievant and **AFSCME** the opportunity for a full and impartial hearing of the dispute with both sides (**AFSCME** and management) offering argument and testimony where necessary. Said hearing is to be held within ten (10) working days after receipt by the Administrator or Personnel Officer of a demand for such a hearing, which demand may be filed by any party to this Agreement. A written decision shall thereafter be rendered by the Township Committee within ten (10) working days from the date of the hearing. In the event that a hearing is not demanded, the Township Committee shall, nevertheless, review the matter and make a determination within twenty (20) working days from the filing of the grievance with the Administrator or Personnel Officer.

STEP FOUR: ARBITRATION.

(a) In the event that the aggrieved employee and/or **AFSCME** is dissatisfied with the decision of the Township Committee, such employee may have grievance submitted to The Public Employment Relations Commission (hereinafter PERC), to appeal said decision. An arbitrator shall be selected in accordance with the rules and regulations of PERC.

(b) Any request to PERC must be initiated by the aggrieved employee within fifteen (15) days of the decision of the Township Committee. Failure of the employee to file an appeal within such time period shall constitute an abandonment and waiver of the right to appeal to PERC.

(c) The arbitrator shall be bound and governed by the provisions of this Agreement and restricted to the application of the facts presented to him/her involved in the grievance. The arbitrator shall not have the authority to

add to, modify, detract from or alter in any way the provisions of this Agreement or any amendment or supplement thereto.

(d) The decision rendered by any arbitrator selected pursuant to this Article shall be final and binding upon both parties to this Agreement.

(e) The **TOWNSHIP** expressly reserves the right to seek a judicial review of any appeal filed with PERC and, if appropriate, to seek an Order of a Court of competent jurisdiction restraining such appeal and/or arbitration.

(f) The cost for the services of the arbitrator shall be borne equally by the **TOWNSHIP** and **AFSCME**. Any and all other additional costs including legal fees shall be paid by the party incurring same.

AFSCME REPRESENTATIVE IN GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE:

1. At the request of the aggrieved employee, **AFSCME** Chapter Chair (Shop Steward) may participate in the grievance procedure at Steps One and Two. The grievance form shall contain a checkoff which the employee may use to opt out of union participation.

2. The Council 63 Representative of **AFSCME** and **AFSCME** Chapter Chair (Shop Steward) may participate in the grievance procedure at all subsequent steps.

ARTICLE 5

SENIORITY

A. Seniority, which is defined as continuous employment with the **TOWNSHIP** from the date of last hire, will be given due consideration by the **TOWNSHIP** under the following circumstances:

1. The most senior employees shall be given preference in the selection of vacations provided that there is no interference with the normal operations of the **TOWNSHIP**.

2. The employer shall assign overtime, preferential days off, working out of title and shifts based upon an employee's seniority to the fullest extent possible and provided that there is no interference with the normal operations of the **TOWNSHIP**. For example, the operations of the **TOWNSHIP** may require the specific skills of a particular employee or, in order to complete a special project, the same employee should receive the overtime assignment. Taking into consideration **TOWNSHIP** operations, to the greatest extent possible, assignments shall be made on a rotating basis. This means that in the assignment of overtime, for example, management shall offer such work to that employee with the most seniority. On the next occasion when overtime is required, management shall offer it to the employee with the next highest seniority and such a schedule shall be followed until a complete cycle is completed with regard to the employees in the bargaining unit. If a particular employee waives his seniority rights with respect to preferential assignment of overtime on a particular occasion, it shall be offered to the employee next in line based on seniority principles. There shall be no obligation on the **TOWNSHIP's**

part to offer preferential assignment to an employee who has waived seniority preference until there has been a complete rotation within the department. However, there shall be no rotation (but seniority will be applied) with respect to least desirable task assignments, including any employee working out of title, provided there is no interference with the normal operations of the **TOWNSHIP**.

3. Seniority for overtime purposes with regard to snowplowing shall be determined in accordance with Article 8(A).
4. Job titles in the bargaining unit shall be filled in accordance with Civil Service Rules and Regulations.
5. In the event of a dispute between the parties hereto, an earnest effort shall be made to resolve the differences and an informal meeting shall be held between the affected employee(s), **AFSCME** representatives and the **TOWNSHIP**. In the event that the parties cannot agree, then the grievance procedure specified herein shall control.

B. ROTATIONAL ORDER LIST:

Lists showing a rotational order of each employee, the total Overtime worked and the total Overtime refused by each employee shall be maintained in the work unit. Such lists shall be made available for semi- annual reviews upon requests to Union Officers, Stewards and employees. This review is for the purpose Overtime Equalization.

C. LAY-OFFS:

1. Any lay-offs which may be necessitated during the term of This Agreement shall be in accordance with Civil Service Rules and Regulations.

ARTICLE 6

AFSCME RIGHTS, ACTIVITIES AND REPRESENTATION

A. Accredited representatives of **AFSCME** may enter the **TOWNSHIP** facilities or premises at reasonable hours for the purpose of observing working conditions or assisting in the adjustment of grievances. When **AFSCME** decides to have its representative enter the **TOWNSHIP** facilities or premises, it shall request permission from the Township Committee through notification to the Administrator, stating the reasons therefore, and such permission shall be obtained by the Administrator who shall communicate such permission to **AFSCME**. Such permission will not be unreasonably withheld, provided there will be no interference with the normal operations of the business of the **TOWNSHIP** government or the normal duties of employees. There shall be no **AFSCME** business transacted nor meetings held on **TOWNSHIP** time or property.

B. A Chief **AFSCME** Chapter Chair (Shop Steward) and a **AFSCME** Chapter Chair (Shop Steward) shall be the representatives of **AFSCME** in the **TOWNSHIP**. Whenever changes are made by the election of a Chief **AFSCME** Chapter Chair (Shop Steward) and/or **AFSCME** Chapter Chair (Shop Steward), the names of the newly elected representatives shall be submitted, in writing, to the Administrator within two (2) working days of such election.

C. All elected and/or appointed **AFSCME** officials of the **TOWNSHIP OF UPPER** shall be permitted time off, without loss of pay or benefits, to investigate grievances by employees covered under this Agreement, or to engage in other **AFSCME** activities and education provided, however, that the maximum time permitted all such elected and/or appointed **AFSCME** officials shall be an aggregate of seven (7) days or fifty-six (56) man hours during each calendar year

of this Agreement. It is understood that the total of seven (7) days or a maximum of fifty-six (56) man hours shall apply in the aggregate during each calendar year during the term of this Agreement and it is expressly understood that each elected and/or appointed official shall not individually be entitled to seven (7) days per year for such activities. The **TOWNSHIP** shall not unreasonably deny permission for time off in order to engage in such activities, provided that such activities do not interfere with the normal operations of the business of the **TOWNSHIP** or the normal duties of the employees. Any employee who will be off work and engaged in such activities shall notify the Administrator of such fact at least ten (10) days prior to the intended absence. The **TOWNSHIP** reserves the right to request such date be altered when it is reasonable to do so: (i) in order to insure the orderly and efficient transaction of **TOWNSHIP** business; and (ii) to insure there will not be any unreasonable interference with the conduct of **TOWNSHIP** business and operations.

D. An employee covered by the within Agreement shall be permitted to attend grievance hearings, arbitration hearings or Civil Service (Department of Personnel) hearings or any meeting called by the **TOWNSHIP** which may, in any way, affect the employee's terms and conditions of employment and/or the terms and conditions of this Agreement without loss of pay or benefits to said employee. Any preparation for grievance hearings, arbitration hearings or Civil Service Commission hearings shall be conducted by the affected employee on his own time and preparation for such hearing shall never be conducted on **TOWNSHIP** time.

E. Each employee shall, if he/she requests, be given an opportunity to review any evaluation of his/her work performance or conduct prepared during the term of this Contract. This provision would include all information and documentation found in personnel folders or permanent supplementary personnel files.

ARTICLE 7

HOURS AND OVERTIME; COMPENSATORY TIME

A. The normal work week shall consist of forty (40) hours per week, five (5) days per week, Monday through Friday.

B. All work performed by an employee on Saturday or Sunday shall be compensated for at the premium rate of time and one-half (1-1/2). This provision does not apply where an employee is scheduled to work on a Saturday or Sunday and is scheduled for time off during Monday through Friday.

C. All work performed by an employee beyond the normal eight (8) hour workday shall be compensated for at the premium rate of time and one-half (1-1/2). When this occurs on a holiday, the employee will be compensated at two and one-quarter (2-1/4) times the employee's regular rate. This is the holiday rate of one and one-half times the overtime rate of one and one-half (1.5 x 1.5) for work performed by an employee beyond 8 hours on a holiday. After sixteen (16) consecutive hours of work an employee shall be compensated at double the normal rate commencing with the sixteenth (16th) hour and for each hour thereafter. When this occurs on a holiday, the "normal rate" to be doubled upon the 16th consecutive hour is the holiday rate of time and one-half of the employee's regular rate. In other words, if the 16th consecutive hour occurs on a holiday, the employee will be compensated at three times the employee's regular rate.

D. The provisions of Paragraphs (B) and (C) shall apply notwithstanding the fact that the Township Administrative Offices may be closed either for the entire day or some portion thereof because of storm, snowfall, other weather conditions or other emergency or disaster. Stated differently, Department of Public Works (DPW) personnel are frequently required to report for work when other **TOWNSHIP** offices

are closed and other employees do not report for work or may be sent home prior to the conclusion of the normal work day. The fact that **TOWNSHIP** employees other than DPW personnel are excused from reporting for duty shall not result in any change in the amount of compensation for DPW personnel. Moreover, DPW personnel shall not be entitled to any compensatory time for working during such conditions.

E. The overtime provisions of this Article shall apply only to full-time employees in permanent or probationary status and not to summer, seasonal, part-time or temporary employees.

F. **At the discretion of management, the workday shall be either of the following schedules. The Township shall give employees thirty (30) days notice prior to changing from one of the two schedules:**

1. **An eight (8) hour days with either two fifteen (15) minute breaks or one thirty (30) minute break, to be scheduled by the supervisor depending upon the operations of the department.**
2. **An eight (8) hour days with two (15) minute breaks and one unpaid thirty (30) minute lunch** All employees shall receive a fifteen (15) minute break in the morning, and a fifteen (15) minute break in the afternoon. A break may not be combined with lunch and shall not occur within the first hour of work that day or within one-half hour of the end of the day or the lunch break. The break shall be taken at the employee's present location at the specified time. At the discretion of the supervisor, breaks may be staggered throughout the day provided that employees not at the same location as a supervisor must call the supervisor at both the start

and end of the breaks. Employees not at the same location as a supervisor must call the supervisor at the start and the end of a lunch break.

G. Overtime shall be offered because of generally accepted seniority principles and in accordance with Article S(A)(2) hereof.

H. Nothing contained herein shall prevent the **TOWNSHIP** from hiring temporary employees, part-time employees, summer or seasonal employees.

I. Employees specifically identified in Paragraph "H" above shall not be used with the purpose of avoiding overtime for regular full-time employees covered by this Agreement.

J. The mechanics shall not be included in the overtime rotation with respect to snow plowing and salting operations.

K. At the employee's option, he/she may elect to receive compensatory time in lieu of payment for overtime hours worked. The election to use compensatory time in lieu of payment for overtime hours worked must be exercised before the close of the pay period during which the overtime situation occurs. Compensatory time shall be subject to the following:

- (1) The total number of accumulated hours which may be carried to the following calendar year shall not exceed 60 hours, except that any hours accumulated in December may also be carried to the following calendar year.
- (2) The employee shall be entitled to receive cash compensation for unused accumulated compensatory time when the employment relationship is terminated.
- (3) The employer shall allow for the use of compensatory time

within a reasonable period of time following the employee's request to take time off unless the operation of the department would be unduly disrupted by the employee's absence from work.

- (4) Employees may not accrue more than 60 hours of compensatory time at any time. Once an employee has accrued 60 hours of compensatory time, they shall not be eligible to accrue any additional compensatory time until their accrued compensatory time is below 60 hours.

ARTICLE 8

WORKING CONDITIONS PERTAINING TO TRASH TRUCKS

A. Utilization of manpower on trash trucks is a management prerogative; however, any substantial changes from existing routines shall occur after notification to and consultation with shop stewards.

B. When a laborer is absent from a trash or recycling truck crew, the replacement for the absent laborer shall be the available laborer of the Department of Public Works with the least seniority and if there is not a laborer available, then the replacement shall be the employee with the least seniority from among the other employees of the Department of Public Works.

C. The crew working the rear of the trash truck shall be entitled to certain hazardous duty pay as set forth in Article 13 hereof.

ARTICLE 8A

SPECIFIC CONDITIONS DURING SNOW PLOWING OR SALTING:

ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY BETWEEN DEPARTMENTS

(A) Only one (1) employee shall be required in a truck when it is engaged in snow plowing or salting.

(B) The assignment of overtime for snow plowing and salting activities shall be made on the basis of a seniority list within the Department of Public Works in accordance with the provisions of Article 5 of this Agreement.

(C) The mechanic shall not be included in the overtime rotation with respect to snow plowing and salting operations. Supervisors and Assistant Supervisors that will be operating snow plowing and salting trucks shall participate in such overtime assignments pursuant to a seniority list which includes union employees and Supervisors and Assistant Supervisors. Supervisors and Assistant Supervisors that are not operating such trucks are not subject to this limitation.

ARTICLE 9

HOLIDAYS

A. The following days shall be recognized as holidays with pay:

1. New Year's Day (January 1)
2. Martin Luther King, Jr's Birthday
3. President's Day
4. Good Friday
5. Memorial Day
6. Juneteenth Day (effective 2021)
7. Independence Day (July 4)
8. Labor Day
9. Columbus Day
10. Veteran's Day
11. Thanksgiving Day
12. Friday Following Thanksgiving Day
13. Christmas Day
14. Six (6) days for personal emergency (Personal days shall not carry

forward from year to year. Any unused personal days at the end of the calendar year shall be converted to sick days.

B. In addition to the holidays listed above, any other day designated as a holiday by Executive Order of the President of United States, the Governor of New Jersey or Township Committee shall be treated as a holiday.

C. Employees who are scheduled to work on the recognized holidays noted in this Article shall be paid for the holiday plus time and one-half (1-1/2) for the holiday as such.

D. If the following holidays fall on a Saturday or Sunday, they shall be celebrated on the State holiday schedule; if the following holidays are celebrated on a Monday per State holiday schedule, they shall be celebrated on the State schedule

as opposed to the traditional date for the day:

President's Day

Columbus Day

Veteran's Day

The following holidays shall be celebrated on the traditional date regardless of the day on which they actually fall:

New Year's Day

Independence Day

Christmas Day

E. Employees must work their regularly scheduled workday before and their regularly scheduled workday after a holiday in order to be paid for the holiday. This does not apply to those employees who are on an approved leave.

ARTICLE 10

VACATIONS

A. Annual vacation leave, with pay, shall be earned according to the schedule shown below

1. During the first twelve (12) months of employment, new employees shall earn one (1) vacation day for each full month of employment. After twelve (12) months of consecutive employment, employees shall be entitled to access any vacation leave expected to accrue through the remainder of the calendar year. Beginning on January 1st following the first twelve (12) months of consecutive employment, vacation time shall be frontloaded on January 1st, of each year. However, upon separation of employment, employees who separate from service shall be paid a prorated amount based on the number of months worked (annual allotment divided by number of months worked).

2. Second through 4th year - 14 days per year.

3. Over 4 years (starting year 5) - 17 days per year.

4. Over 10 years (starting year 11) - 20 days per year.

5. Over 20 years (starting year 21) - 23 days per year.

B. Vacation allowance must be taken during the current calendar year and, to the extent possible, may be taken at such time as requested by employees unless the supervisor or the appointing authority determines that it cannot then be taken because of pressure or demands of work. Any unused vacation time may be carried forward into the next succeeding year only. **Employees who use fewer than 7 sick days in the calendar year shall be eligible to sell back up to one year's**

worth of their accrued vacation time. Employees who use 7 or more sick days in the calendar year shall be eligible to sell back up to 50% of their annual vacation allotment. Once vacation has been sold back, it cannot be reclaimed.

C. The selection of vacation time shall be in accordance with seniority principles with the employee having the most seniority given first preference. Selection shall be made as follows:

1. By December 1st of each year, employees shall have selected and posted vacation schedules for the period January 1st through June 30th next following.

2. By June 1st of each year, employees shall select and post vacation schedules for the period July 1st through December 31st next following.

3. There shall be no minimum vacation period, provided that an employee requesting a vacation day must submit his request for approval by 9:00 a.m. at least two (2) working days in advance of the scheduled vacation period and the employee must receive either a verbal or written confirmation from his supervisor that the request has been granted.

7. If an employee fails or neglects to make a vacation selection by the dates indicated above, then such employee may select a vacation schedule which does not conflict with the work schedule of other employees, but in making such selection, that employee may not rely on seniority.

ARTICLE 11

GROUP INSURANCE

A. Subject to any and all applicable legal and regulatory requirements, the **TOWNSHIP** shall provide medical insurance; a dental plan; a prescription plan, a life insurance plan and a Health Reimbursement Plan (HRA). The employee shall pay a contribution to the cost of health benefits in the minimum amount required by state law. These benefits will be made available to eligible employees only after completion of the entry probation period.

B. The insurance currently consists of the following:

(1) Selection of medical plan through the NJ State Health Benefits Plan, with the Township retaining prerogative to select the preferred plan on an annual basis from within the NJ State Health Benefit Plan offerings; the preferred plan for 2024 is Direct 20/30 and for 2025 will be Direct 20/35;

(2) NJ State Health Benefits Plan Prescription Drug Coverage;

(3) Delta Dental PPO Plus Premier Plan;

(4) Fifteen Thousand Dollar (\$15,000.00) life insurance plan currently with Equitable.

(5) Eligible employees enrolled in the Township's medical benefits plan are provided a Health Reimbursement Account (HRA). The amount shall vary each year depending on the plan selected, and consistent with the following:

a) For 2024, employees enrolled in the preferred plan (Direct Access 20/30) at the single benefit level shall receive \$2,000; employees enrolled in at the parent/child, 2adult plan, or family benefit level, shall

receive \$3,200.

b) For 2025, employees enrolled in the preferred plan (30/35) at the single benefit level shall receive \$3,400, employees enrolled at the parent/child, 2 adult, or family benefit level shall receive \$6,700. Employees not enrolled in the preferred plan shall receive \$1,200. This HRA shall be limited to those medical care expenses originating from medical plan co-pays, co-insurance and deductibles, prescription plan co-pays, vision care expenses and dental expenses excluding orthodontia. It will not roll over from year to year.

e) The Township's contributions to the HRA accounts in 2026 and future years are subject to change, based upon plan costs and offerings, consistent with the following:

a. The HRA amount may be reduced when anticipated out of pocket expenses under the preferred plan are reduced;

b. In no event shall the HRA be less than \$1,200.

(6) The current medical insurance broker and consultant for

the **TOWNSHIP** is Marsh & McLennan Agency.

Employees shall be eligible to select any SHBP (State Health Benefit Plan) that is more costly than the preferred plan but will be 100% responsible for the difference in plan premiums. When an employee selects a more costly plan, employees shall pay the Chapter 78 contribution based upon the SHBP plan cost and will be responsible for the full difference in premium costs between the preferred plan and the selected plan. The following example illustrates the increased premium

costs for the 2024 calendar year between Direct 20/30 and Direct 10:

Single Plan	\$1,928.04 annually or \$80.34 per pay
2 Adult Plan	\$3,856.08 annually or \$160.67 per pay
Parent/Child Plan	\$3,451.32 annually or \$143.81 per pay
Family Plan	\$5,379.36 annually or \$224.14 per pay

C. The **TOWNSHIP** represents that each of the plans based on the above is currently in full force and effect.

(1) In the event that the **TOWNSHIP** elects to leave the New Jersey State Health Benefits Plan, the benefits available under such alternate coverage shall be better than or equal to those benefits payable under the preferred plan of the year in which the Township elects to leave the New Jersey State Health Benefits Plan. (By way of example, if the Township leaves the SHBP in 2025, it must provide alternate coverage consistent with Direct 20/35).

(2) In the event the Township leaves the New Jersey State Health Benefits Plan, The TOWNSHIP and AFSCME will work in good faith to review the costs of better than or equal to benefits from alternate plans, and shall consider the Township's contribution to employee HRA accounts when doing so.

(3) Any such alternative plan must provide better than or equal to benefits to those benefits under the Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey Direct Access Plan 20/30 for 2024, and 20/35 for 2025.

(4) The parties understand that selection of the carrier is a managerial prerogative not subject to the terms of this collective bargaining agreement.

D. The terms of the Delta Dental Plan will be identical to the terms of said Plan offered to all employees and staff.

E. An employee who retires after twenty-five (25) years or more of continuous employment with the **TOWNSHIP** shall be entitled to the continuance of medical coverage under such uniform conditions for retirees as the governing body shall prescribe and as are permitted by law. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an employee who retires after twenty-five (25) years or more years of employment with the **TOWNSHIP** who was hired after January 1, 2021 shall only be entitled to health care benefits for a single person. If the employee desires more coverage (i.e., employee plus, family, etc.), the employee must contribute the additional cost to the **TOWNSHIP** for the additional coverage.

F. In the event that an employee in the Bargaining Unit is eligible to be covered under the insurance plans specified in this Article, and such employee voluntarily waives such coverage because such employee is covered under a policy issued to his/her parent or spouse through the parent or spouse's employment, the **TOWNSHIP** employee waiving coverage under the **TOWNSHIP** plan or plans shall be entitled to receive a payment in the amount of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) as a result of waiving **TOWNSHIP** insurance coverage if the **TOWNSHIP** plan or State law permits such payment. Said amount shall be payable to eligible employees at the first pay period in December of each year when such employee has not been covered under the **TOWNSHIP'S** policy at any time during that preceding calendar year. In order to qualify for this bonus payment, an employee must complete the necessary forms and file same with the Finance Office by December 1st of each year for the current calendar year. In order to qualify for such bonus payment, such employee must also comply with all regulations established by the **TOWNSHIP** in this regard. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in accordance with state

requirements an employee is not entitled to such waiver benefit if his or her parent or spouse is covered under NJSHBP.

G. Employee Health Benefits Plan contributions from employee salary shall be calculated throughout the term of this Agreement on an annual basis in the same manner and using the same formula as calculated under the State Law commonly known as Chapter 78 (Tier 4). Effective January 1, 2022, the Tier 4 freeze is eliminated.

ARTICLE 12

SICK LEAVE, BEREAVEMENT LEAVE

A. SERVICE CREDIT FOR SICK LEAVE:

1. All permanent employees shall be entitled to sick leave with pay in accordance with the schedule noted below.

2. As used in this Article, sick leave shall mean paid leave that may be granted to an employee who, through sickness or injury, becomes incapacitated to a degree that makes it impossible for him or her to perform the duties of his or her position or who is quarantined by a physician because he or she has been exposed to a contagious disease. Sick leave may also be used for the attendance of the employee upon a member of the immediate family who is seriously ill. Immediate family shall be defined as the spouse, child or grandchild of the employee; and the mother, father, sister/brother of the employee or employee's spouse.

3. An employee shall be entitled to use any available leave time (sick,

vacation, compensatory) in the event of a death for bereavement.

B. AMOUNT OF SICK LEAVE:

1. Sick leave shall accrue on the following basis:
 - (a) Full-time employees employed on January 1st of each year shall accrue fifteen (15) sick days per year.
 - (b) New employees hired after January 1st of any year shall, during the first twelve (12) months of employment, earn one (1) sick day for each full month of employment. After twelve (12) months of consecutive employment, such employee shall be entitled to accrue the balance of any sick leave commencing with the start of the thirteenth (13th) month until January 1st next. Beginning on January 1st following the first twelve (12) months of consecutive employment, the annual allotment of sick time shall be available on January 1st, of each year.
 - (c) Part-time employees shall accrue sick leave in accordance with the NJ Earned Sick Leave Law.
2. Employees shall be permitted to accumulate sick leave from year to year.

C. REPORTING OF ABSENCE ON SICK LEAVE:

1. If an employee is absent for reasons that entitle him to sick

leave, his supervisor shall be notified promptly prior to the employee's usual reporting time.

2. The employee's failure to notify his/her supervisor may be cause for denial of sick leave for that absence and shall be construed as absence without leave and may be cause for disciplinary action.

3. An employee's absence without notice for five (5) consecutive days shall constitute a resignation.

4. Any abuse of sick leave by an employee shall constitute cause for disciplinary action.

D. VERIFICATION OF SICK LEAVE:

1. When an employee is out on sick leave for three (3) or more consecutive working days they shall be required to submit a medical statement from the employee or family member's physician.

2. The following shall control in the event of sick leave lasting LESS than three (3) consecutive days, which shall be referred to as an "occurrence" in this paragraph:

a. An employee may have a maximum of three (3) sick leave occurrences during a calendar year which need not be accompanied by a medical statement. An employee may be required to submit a medical statement for any sick leave occurrences in excess of three (3), in the sole judgement and discretion of the Township. After three (3) sick leave occurrences, an employee may be placed on Proof of Illness Status, if, in the sole judgement and discretion of the **TOWNSHIP**, the

employee shows an abusive pattern of sick leave occurrences. Once placed on a Proof of Illness Status, an employee shall be required to submit a medical statement for all sick leave occurrences thereafter. An employee that has been placed on Proof of Illness Status may be removed by the **TOWNSHIP** after that employee shows no pattern of abuse for a twelve (12) month period.

3. When required, a medical statement must indicate the nature of the illness and the fact that the employee could not report for work, the medical treatment prescribed, and that the employee is now medically fit to return to his/her job and perform the duties thereof.

4. The **TOWNSHIP** may require an employee who has been absent because of a personal illness, as a condition of returning to duty, to be examined, at the expense of the **TOWNSHIP** by a physician designated by the **TOWNSHIP**. Such examination shall establish whether the employee is capable of performing his/her normal duties and that his/her return will not jeopardize the health of other employees.

E. PAYMENT FOR ACCRUED BUT UNUSED SICK LEAVE UPON RETIREMENT

Payment for accrued but unused sick leave upon retirement applies only to Township employees eligible to retire with benefits under the provisions of the Public Employees Retirement System and will not apply to employees who retire prior to that time for any reason. Employees who give one (1) year advance notice of their intent to retire shall be paid for earned but unused sick time upon retirement in the fiscal year following the notice of intent to retire. Payments shall be made in quarterly installments unless an alternative payment schedule is

mutually agreed to between the Township and the employee. Employees who give less than one (1) year notice of their intent to retire shall be paid for earned but unused sick time in the fiscal year following the next fiscal year. Payments shall be made in quarterly installments unless an alternative payment schedule is mutually agreed to between the Township and the employee.

Employees hired prior to May 21, 2010 shall receive 100% of earned but unused sick time.

Employees hired after May 21, 2010 shall be paid for earned but unused sick time not to exceed \$15,000.

F. DEATH OR TRAGEDY LEAVE:

Leave for this purpose shall be charged against the employee's accrued sick, vacation, personal or compensatory time, at the employee's option.

ARTICLE 13

SALARIES AND COMPENSATION

A. COMPENSATION:

1. Each employee covered under this Contract shall receive a pay increase during the term of this Contract as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Increase</u>
a. January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024	\$4,000
b. January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025	\$3,000
c. January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026	\$2,000
d. January 1, 2027 to December 31, 2027	\$2,000
e. January 1, 2028 to December 31, 2028	\$2,000

2. Such increases shall be increases to the employee's base salary. Step increases shall be paid with the employee receiving the step level pay the employee is entitled to based on his or her years of service.

3. The **TOWNSHIP** reserves the right to establish a separate salary scale for any employee covered by this Contract who is hired on or after January 1, 2018 and to establish such scale by Ordinance or such other manner as permitted by law.

B. UNIFORMS OR CLOTHING TO BE WORN ON THE JOB:

1. Each employee shall be allowed a clothing allowance during

each calendar year in the maximum amount of \$600.00. Said clothing allowance is intended to cover work clothes, work boots and outer-wear suitable and appropriate to the employee's job description and duties. In order to obtain reimbursement, the employee must present receipts for work-related clothing and apparel to the Finance office.

2. Employees shall not be required to wear uniforms on the job, but the clothing worn by an employee must be appropriate and acceptable and is subject to the approval of the Superintendent of Public Works. Whenever the Superintendent of Public Works determines that the clothing worn by an employee is inappropriate, the Superintendent of Public Works may send such employee home for a change of clothing and such employee shall be docked and shall not be compensated for the time during which the employee returns home to become properly attired and returns to the job.

3. Each employee will be required to wear work boots, which shall be adequate and appropriate to preserve the employee's safety and to minimize injury. All employees in the Bargaining Unit shall be required to wear shirts during all hours of employment.

C. LONGEVITY:

1. Employees hired prior to January 1, 1996 shall be entitled to an additional sum known as "Longevity Pay", which shall be in addition to the compensation and benefits otherwise payable.

2. Longevity payments shall be computed or calculated as a percentage and solely on the base salary of an employee for the then current year. In calculating the amount, the employee's projected total base salary for the entire year shall be used, even though such salary may be increased by

one (1) or more increments throughout the year.

3. Longevity payments shall be paid in accordance with the following schedule:

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Amount of Increase Based on Longevity</u>
After 5 years/60 months	2
After 10 years/120 months	4%
After 15 years/180 months	6%
After 20 years/240 months	8%
After 25 years/300 months	10%

4. Longevity payments shall be paid in a lump sum and by separate check not later than the first (1st) pay period in January, after adoption of the annual Salary Ordinance and following the anniversary of an employee's date of hire.

Example: An employee hired on April 1, 1995 will complete five (5) years or sixty (60) months of employment on March 31, 2000. Such employee will be entitled to a longevity payment in January, 2001. The amount will equal two percent (2%) of such employee's total base salary for 2001.

This same employee will have completed ten (10) years or one hundred twenty (120) months of employment on March 31, 2005 and will be entitled to a longevity payment in January, 2006. That amount will equal four percent (4%) of that employee's total base salary for 2006.

5. Any employee entitled to be paid longevity who retires, resigns or otherwise terminates employment with the **TOWNSHIP**, shall be paid longevity in accordance with the above schedule and in accordance with the date scheduled for such payment. Nothing contained herein, however, shall be construed as prohibiting the **TOWNSHIP** from making a longevity payment under such circumstances in advance of the time when it would otherwise be scheduled to be made.

6. Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph 3 above, longevity pay for eligible employees (those hired prior to January 1, 1996) will be capped and longevity pay will be payable up to a maximum of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00). Any employee who was at or above the capped amount of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00) on January 1, 1996 shall be capped at the 1996 amount.

7. Longevity pay has been eliminated for any employee hired on or after January 1, 1996.

D. WORKING OUT OF CLASS:

If an employee works in a higher paid classification for one (1) or more days, such employee shall be paid at the higher rate of pay for all days worked in the higher classification.

E. ADDITIONAL PAY TO CREW OF SANITATION VEHICLES:

Laborers employed in the collection of trash and assigned to the rear of a trash truck shall, in addition to any other compensation payable pursuant to this Contract, receive an additional sum to be known as "Hazardous Duty Pay", which shall be payable at the rate of \$.25 per hour. The hours so worked shall

be certified to the Township Treasurer by the Road Supervisor for payroll purposes.

F. **THANKSGIVING BONUS**

Each employee in the bargaining unit will be provided with a Holiday Card or a certificate in the amount of fifty dollars (\$50.00) in advance of the Thanksgiving holiday. In lieu of a gift card, the **TOWNSHIP** may provide a sweatshirt to the employee.

ARTICLE 14

WORK RULES AND TOWNSHIP POLICY

A. The **TOWNSHIP** may adopt and post or otherwise disseminate such rules, regulations and **TOWNSHIP** policies as it may desire, provided that the same are not contrary to this Agreement and further provided that the employees shall have the right to grieve with reference to the same within five (5) working days after the same are posted and served upon the Local Union Representative and the **AFSCME**.

ARTICLE 15

NO-STRIKE PLEDGE

A. **AFSCME** covenants and agrees that during the term of this Agreement neither **AFSCME**, nor any person acting in its behalf, will cause, authorize or support, nor will any of its members take part in a strike (i.e., the concerted failure to report for duty, or willful absence of any employee from his position, or stoppage of work or abstinence in whole or in part, from the full, faithful and proper performance of the employee's duties of employment), work stoppage, slowdown, walkout or other job action against the **TOWNSHIP. AFSCME** agrees that such action would constitute a material breach of this Agreement.

A. In the event of a strike, slowdown, walkout or other job action, it is covenanted and agreed that participation in any such activity by an employee covered under the terms of this Agreement shall be deemed grounds for termination of employment of such employee or employees, subject, however, to the application of the Grievance Procedure contained in Article 3.

B. Nothing contained in this Agreement shall be construed to limit or restrict the **TOWNSHIP** of its right to seek and obtain such judicial relief as it may be entitled to have in law or in equity for injunction or damages or both in the event of such breach by **AFSCME** or its members.

ARTICLE 16

NON-DISCRIMINATION

A. There shall be no discrimination by the **TOWNSHIP or AFSCME** against an employee on account of race, color, creed, sex, sexual preference or national origin.

B. There shall be no discrimination, interference, restraint or coercion by the **TOWNSHIP** or any of its representatives against any of the employees covered under this Agreement because of their membership or non-membership in **AFSCME** or because of any lawful activities by such employees on behalf of **AFSCME**. **AFSCME**, its members and agents, shall not discriminate against, interfere with, restrain or coerce any employees covered under this Agreement who are not members of **AFSCME** and shall not solicit membership in **AFSCME** or the payment of dues during work time.

ARTICLE 17

SEPARABILITY AND SAVINGS

A. If any provision of this Agreement or any application of this Agreement to any employee or group of employees is held invalid by operation of law or by a Court or other tribunal of competent jurisdiction, such provision shall be inoperative but all other provisions shall not be affected thereby and shall continue in full force and effect.

ARTICLE 18

PROBATIONARY PERIOD; INITIAL SALARY

A. Every new person hired or appointed shall be deemed to be a probationary employee and on probation in the position to which he is hired or appointed for a period of ninety (90) days. Prior to his completion of the probationary period, the employee shall be evaluated by the Department Head to determine whether he shall be granted permanent status.

B. Any employee failing to satisfactorily complete his/her probation shall be demoted, in the event such becomes necessary, to his/her last permanent position, or if such employee does not have a permanent classification, such probationary employee may be dismissed.

C. A probationary employee shall be hired at a salary designated by Resolution of the Township Committee. That salary shall remain in effect until the probationary period of ninety (90) days is completed. Upon the successful completion of the probationary period, such employee shall then be compensated at the maximum salary authorized for such position as determined by the Salary Ordinance then in effect in the **TOWNSHIP**, unless the **TOWNSHIP** has established a separate salary scale pursuant to Article 13, Section A(3).

ARTICLE 19

WORKERS COMPENSATION

A. **JOB-RELATED INJURY:** When an employee sustains a job-related injury, he/she shall be entitled to receive his/her full salary from the **TOWNSHIP** and such employee shall be required to endorse over the **TOWNSHIP** any and all funds received from Workmen's Compensation.

JOB-RELATED INJURY - SEVEN (7) DAYS OR LESS:

Whenever an employee sustains a job-related injury and is not absent for more than seven (7) days, no time will be charged against such employee's sick or vacation time provided that such employee immediately notifies his/her Department Head or immediate supervisor of the occurrence of such job-related injury.

B. **EFFECTIVE DATE:** The provisions of Article 19 shall become effective on the date of signing of this Contract by the **TOWNSHIP** and by **AFSCME** representatives.

ARTICLE 20

CALL-IN TIME; MEAL ALLOWANCE

A. An employee who is required to return to work during periods other than his/her regularly scheduled shift, shall be guaranteed pay for two (2) hours at time and one-half his/her normal rate of pay, notwithstanding the fact that the employee may be required to work less than two (2) hours.

B. In the event that the call-in period exceeds two (2) hours, any additional time will be at the rate of time and one-half.

C. An employee shall receive a meal allowance of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) after each twelve (12) hours of continuous work.

D. An employee who is required to work on weekends shall be entitled to a meal allowance of Six Dollars (\$6.00) after each four (4) hours of continuous work. The provisions of Subparagraph (C) above do not apply to weekend work.

ARTICLE 21

HEALTH AND SAFETY

A. The **TOWNSHIP** will, at all times, maintain a work environment that is safe and healthful. When necessary, the **TOWNSHIP** will provide employees with protective clothing or wearing apparel, tools or devices that are or may be reasonably necessary to protect the health and safety of the employees. The **TOWNSHIP** reserves the right, as a management prerogative, to establish rules, regulations and procedures for the safety of **TOWNSHIP** employees. The failure of an employee to abide by such rules, regulations and directives may result in disciplinary action.

B. The provisions of this Article are not intended and shall not be construed as providing any additional rights or remedies which are in addition to those already provided by New Jersey Law.

ARTICLE 22

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

A. LICENSE AND CDL LICENSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. All employees are expected to have and maintain a valid New Jersey driver's license as a condition of employment. All job titles except laborer and building maintenance worker shall be required to have a Commercial Driver's License ("CDL") in the performance of that employee's duties. Such CDL shall be obtained by the employee and shall

be maintained in good standing as a condition of employment. However, the **TOWNSHIP** shall reimburse the employee that portion of the Division of Motor Vehicles fee for a CDL renewal that is above the standard drivers license renewal fee, provided such employee uses his or her CDL for job duties with the **TOWNSHIP**.

2. If an employee required to maintain a CDL loses such license said employee shall be demoted to the title of laborer provided said employee possesses a valid New Jersey driver's license.

3. If any employee shall have his or her New Jersey driver's license suspended for any reason said employee shall be offered a one time opportunity for demotion to laborer if said position is available within the TOWNSHIP and the TOWNSHIP can accommodate the employee's lack of a license during the period of suspension without interfering with normal TOWNSHIP operations. This opportunity is not available for a license suspension of greater than seven months. If a laborer or building maintenance worker shall have his or her New Jersey

driver's license suspended he or she shall be offered the same opportunity to continue in the position if the **TOWNSHIP** can accommodate the employee's lack of a license during the period of suspension (not to exceed seven months) without interfering with normal **TOWNSHIP** operations. In the event more than one employee has his or her driver's license suspended the offer of an available laborer position shall be given to the employee with the most seniority. The **TOWNSHIP** does not guarantee a position will be available or remain available. If a position is not available or if the suspension is greater than seven months or if an employee loses his or her license a second time the employee may be terminated. It is understood and agreed that, except for a short term isolated occurrence, the lack of a valid driver's license causes a significant disruption to TOWNSHIP operations.

4. The **TOWNSHIP** shall provide time during normal working hours for an employee to study and practice for the examination for a CDL.

5. Any prior practice inconsistent with the terms of this Article is hereby superseded and replaced by the provisions of this Article.

C. PART-TIME EMPLOYEES:

The Township may from time to time hire part time employees for various positions. Other than as required by Township policy or applicable law, part time employees are not entitled to any benefits or salaries set forth in this agreement. Any such salary or benefits shall be set by the Township from time to time as permitted by law. For purposes of this agreement, part time employees are defined as:

a) seasonal or temporary employees that may work a full week (40 hours); and

b) long term employees working less than 30 hours a week No such part time employee shall be hired to effectuate the layoff of an existing employee. Part time employees shall be hired to supplement the workforce in the event of retirements or to achieve added efficiency without the expense of additional full time staff. Part time employees shall not be union members or pay union dues.

D. PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE LIMITATION:

With respect to an employee involved in a current disciplinary action, the **TOWNSHIP** agrees to a five year limit for the length of time a prior disciplinary infraction may be considered in a current disciplinary action with the exception of drug and/or alcohol offenses, a last chance agreement, and any infraction that violates New Jersey or federal laws or regulations.

ARTICLE 23

FULLY BARGAINED PROVISIONS

This Agreement represents and incorporates the complete and final understanding and settlement by the parties on all bargainable issues which were or could have been the subject of negotiation.

ARTICLE 24

EFFECTIVE DATE

The provisions of this Contract shall become effective January 1, 2024.

Title	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3, 4, 5	2023 Salary	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Mechanic (0-9)	4000	3000	2000	\$ 64,427	\$ 68,427	\$ 71,427	\$ 73,427	\$ 75,427	\$ 77,427
Mechanic (10+)	4000	3000	2000	\$ 65,487	\$ 69,487	\$ 72,487	\$ 74,487	\$ 76,487	\$ 78,487
Equipment Operator (0-9)	4000	3000	2000	\$ 64,427	\$ 68,427	\$ 71,427	\$ 73,427	\$ 75,427	\$ 77,427
Equipment Operator (10+)	4000	3000	2000	\$ 65,487	\$ 69,487	\$ 72,487	\$ 74,487	\$ 76,487	\$ 78,487
Truck Driver, Heavy (0-9)	4000	3000	2000	\$ 62,305	\$ 66,305	\$ 69,305	\$ 71,305	\$ 73,305	\$ 75,305
Truck Driver, Heavy (10+)	4000	3000	2000	\$ 63,366	\$ 67,366	\$ 70,366	\$ 72,366	\$ 74,366	\$ 76,366
Maintenance Worker 1, Grounds (0-9)	4000	3000	2000	\$ 62,305	\$ 66,305	\$ 69,305	\$ 71,305	\$ 73,305	\$ 75,305
Maintenance Worker 1, Grounds (10+)	4000	3000	2000	\$ 63,366	\$ 67,366	\$ 70,366	\$ 72,366	\$ 74,366	\$ 76,366
Maintenance Worker 2, Grounds (0-9)	4000	3000	2000	\$ 64,427	\$ 68,427	\$ 71,427	\$ 73,427	\$ 75,427	\$ 77,427
Maintenance Worker 2, Grounds (10+)	4000	3000	2000	\$ 65,487	\$ 69,487	\$ 72,487	\$ 74,487	\$ 76,487	\$ 78,487
Laborer 1, 1st Year	4000	3000	2000	\$ 46,785	\$ 50,785	\$ 53,785	\$ 55,785	\$ 57,785	\$ 59,785
Laborer 1, 2nd Year	4000	3000	2000	\$ 49,245	\$ 53,245	\$ 56,245	\$ 58,245	\$ 60,245	\$ 62,245
Laborer 1, 3rd Year	4000	3000	2000	\$ 51,707	\$ 55,707	\$ 58,707	\$ 60,707	\$ 62,707	\$ 64,707
Laborer 1, 4th Year	4000	3000	2000	\$ 54,169	\$ 58,169	\$ 61,169	\$ 63,169	\$ 65,169	\$ 67,169
Laborer 1, 5th Year	4000	3000	2000	\$ 56,631	\$ 60,631	\$ 63,631	\$ 65,631	\$ 67,631	\$ 69,631
Laborer 1, (6-9 yrs.)	4000	3000	2000	\$ 58,511	\$ 62,511	\$ 65,511	\$ 67,511	\$ 69,511	\$ 71,511
Laborer 1, (10+)	4000	3000	2000	\$ 60,248	\$ 64,248	\$ 67,248	\$ 69,248	\$ 71,248	\$ 73,248
Maintenance Repairer (0-9)	4000	3000	2000	\$ 64,427	\$ 68,427	\$ 71,427	\$ 73,427	\$ 75,427	\$ 77,427
Maintenance Repairer (10+)	4000	3000	2000	\$ 65,487	\$ 69,487	\$ 72,487	\$ 74,487	\$ 76,487	\$ 78,487
Building Maint Worker (10+)	4000	3000	2000	\$ 46,785	\$ 50,785	\$ 53,785	\$ 55,785	\$ 57,785	\$ 59,785
				\$ 1,195,079	\$ 1,275,079	\$ 1,335,079	\$ 1,375,079	\$ 1,415,079	\$ 1,455,079

ARTICLE 25

TERM AND RENEWAL

This Agreement shall be in full force and effect as of January 1, 2024 and shall remain in effect to and including December 31, 2028. This Agreement shall continue in full force and effect from year to year thereafter unless one party or the other gives notice, in writing, at least one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the expiration date of this Agreement of a desire to change, modify or terminate this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have hereunto set their hands and seals at Upper Township, New Jersey on the date set forth below.

AFSCME NJ COUNCIL 63 AMERICAN
FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND
MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO
MAJORITY REPRESENTATIVE
Deputy Director
Title:


Name:

11/7/24
Date

TOWNSHIP OF UPPER
CAPE MAY COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

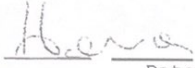

Jay Newman, Mayor Date 10/28/24

ATTEST:

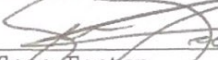
AFSCME NJ COUNCIL 63 AMERICAN
FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND
MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO
MAJORITY REPRESENTATIVE



Brian Keenan Date 10/28/24
Local Union Chapter Chair

JOANNE R. HEKRON
Township Clerk


Date 10/28/24

ATTEST:


Sean Fenton Date 11/4/24
Local Union
Assistant Chapter Chair


Gary S. DeMar Date 10/28/24
Administrator & Member of
Township Negotiating Committee

**TOWNSHIP OF UPPER
CAPE MAY COUNTY
RESOLUTION**

RESOLUTION NO. 349 -2024

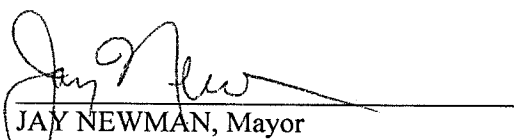
RE: AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF UPPER AND THE AFSCME NJ COUNCIL 63 LOCAL 3779, AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO MAJORITY REPRESENTATIVE, FOR THE TERM JANUARY 1, 2024 TO DECEMBER 31, 2028

WHEREAS, the Township Committee appointed a negotiating team to meet with a negotiating team appointed by the AFSCME NJ Council 63 Local 3779, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO Majority Representative ("Local 3779"), (hereinafter "Bargaining Unit"); and

WHEREAS, a memorandum of agreement has been reached by the respective negotiating teams with respect to the contract terms which terms have been ratified by the members of the Bargaining Unit and by the Township Committee; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Upper, in the County of Cape May and State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The allegations of the preamble are incorporated herein by this reference.
2. The Township Committee of the Township of Upper hereby ratifies, confirms, and approves a contract between the Township of Upper and the Bargaining Unit for the term commencing January 1, 2024 until December 31, 2028, a copy of which is attached hereto as "Exhibit A" and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk and available for public inspection. This approval is subject to the ratification and approval of the contract by the members of the Bargaining Unit and AFSCME NJ Council 63 Local 3779, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO Majority Representative.
3. The Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized, directed and empowered to sign said contract on behalf of the Township of Upper.


JAY NEWMAN, Mayor


JOANNE R. HERRON, Township Clerk

Resolution No. 349 -2024

Offered by: Hayes

Seconded by: Newman

Adopted: October 28, 2024

Roll Call Vote:

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Corson	x			
Hayes	x			
Nappen	x			
Pancoast				x
Newman	x			

*Certified as a true copy of a Resolution passed by the Township Committee of the Township of Upper at a regular meeting held on 10-28-24.

Joanne R. Herron, Clerk