

AGREEMENT BETWEEN

CITY OF DUNEDIN

AND

**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS
DUNEDIN FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION LOCAL 2327**

OCTOBER 1, 2021 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

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ARTICLE 1
PREAMBLE

This Agreement is entered into by the CITY OF DUNEDIN, Florida, hereinafter referred to as the "City" and Local #2327 of the INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS, AFL-CIO, hereinafter referred to as the "Union" to provide for the continuous efficient operation of the Fire Department, for the purpose of promoting harmonious relations between the City and the Union, to establish an orderly and peaceful procedure to settle differences which might arise, and to set forth the full agreement between the parties concerning terms and conditions of employment and employee benefits.

ARTICLE 2
RECOGNITION

The City hereby recognizes the Dunedin Fire Fighters Association, Local 2327, the organization, as defined in PERC Certification Number 115, as the exclusive representative for the purposes of collective bargaining for the employees in the unit described below:

INCLUDED: All Fire Fighters and Lieutenants

EXCLUDED: Chiefs.

ARTICLE 3
NON-DISCRIMINATION

Neither the City nor the Union will discriminate against any employee covered by this Agreement because of membership in the Union or on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, marital status, religious creed, sexual orientation, political affiliation.

ARTICLE 4

MANAGEMENT RIGHTS

Except as expressly provided for in this Agreement, the City retains the sole right: (1) to manage its operations and direct the working force, including the rights to decide the number and location of stations, the operating of motorized equipment, the level of service to be performed, the method of the work required in its operations performed by employees covered by this Agreement; (2) to maintain order and efficiency in its stations and locations; (3) to curtail or discontinue temporarily or permanently, in whole or in part, operations whenever in the opinion of the City, good business judgment makes such curtailment or discontinuance advisable; (4) to hire, lay off, assign, transfer, limit outside employment, promote and determine the qualifications of employees; and (5) to determine the starting and ending time of work schedules and the number of hours to be worked, and to have complete authority to exercise those rights and powers incidental thereto, including the right to make changes, subject only to such regulations governing the exercise of these rights as they are expressly and specifically provided in this Agreement.

The City retains the sole right to discipline, suspend and discharge full time permanent employees for just cause. Probationary and temporary employees may be disciplined, suspended and discharged in the sole discretion of the City, and no right of appeal of any kind, including the grievance procedure regarding such action shall exist. The above rights of the City are not all-inclusive, but indicate the type of matters or rights which belong to and of the City of Dunedin. Any of the rights, powers, and authority the City had prior to entering into this Collective Bargaining Agreement are retained by the City, except as expressly and specifically abridged, delegated, granted or modified by this Agreement.

All those inherent management functions and prerogatives, which the City has not expressly modified or restricted by a specific provision of this Agreement, are not in any way, directly or indirectly subject to the grievance procedure. The City has the right to adopt and to change Standard Operating Procedures and Departmental Regulations, which are not in violation of any specific provision of this Agreement and to enforce the same.

The parties acknowledge that during negotiations which result in this Agreement, each had the unlimited right and opportunity to make demands and proposals with respect to any subject or matter not removed by law from the area of collective bargaining, and that the understandings and agreements arrived at by the parties after the exercise of the right and opportunity are set forth in this Agreement.

The City and the Union for the duration of this Agreement unqualifiedly agree that the

other party shall not be obligated to bargain collectively with respect to any matter covered by this Agreement or any matter which could have been the subject of negotiations which resulted in this Agreement.

The Union agrees it will not, in any manner whatsoever, either directly or indirectly, support, condone or in any way assist with any movement or effort in the City of Dunedin which might in any fashion have the effect of changing or altering management rights or this Agreement. This Agreement includes, but is in no way limited to, supporting, either directly or indirectly, any City legislation, which would result in the alteration of any of the terms of this Agreement.

If, in the sole discretion of the City Manager, it is determined that a civil emergency exists, including, but not limited to riots, civil disorders, hurricane conditions or similar catastrophes, the provisions of this Agreement may be suspended by the City Manager during the time of the declared emergency; provided, that wage and monetary fringe benefits shall not be suspended.

ARTICLE 5

NO STRIKE

The Union and its members agree to this no strike pledge in return for a full and fair hearing of disputes as a peaceful means of resolving differences as outlined in the grievance procedure.

The Union and the City will attempt to settle any disputes in a fair and reasonable manner in accordance with applicable laws.

There will be no strikes, picketing, job action, work stoppage, slow downs, boycotts or concerted failure or refusal to perform assigned work during the term of this Agreement ("job action" as used in this Article, shall mean any action which has the intent or effect of other employees covered by this Agreement not reporting to or continuing to perform their assigned work).

Any employee found in violation of the above shall be subject to discipline up to and including discharge and only the question of whether or not the employee instigated, condoned, ratified, sanctioned or participated in such action shall be subject to the grievance and arbitration procedure.

Further, it is understood and agreed by the parties that the nature of the work in this Department bears directly upon the safety and welfare of the public at large and that

any violation would give rise to irreparable damage. To that end, the Union agrees that neither it nor any of its agents, representatives or members shall sanction, ratify, approve, condone or participate in any of the above activities and that if such proscribed activities take place that the Union, through its representatives and agents, will make every reasonable effort to insure that such action immediately ceases. The City agrees that neither the Union nor any of its representatives shall be held liable for violation of this Article, if it can demonstrate that it has taken all reasonable actions to prevent or insure the cessation of those proscribed activities.

The parties agree that members can support private sector union members who are on strike against their employers during off-duty hours.

ARTICLE 6

LABOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

There shall be a Labor Management Committee established to consist of not more than four (4) members appointed by the City Manager to include the Chief or his/her designee and not more than four (4) members appointed by the Union to include the Union President or his/her designee.

The purpose of this Committee shall be to meet and confer about issues of a general nature concerning either Management or the Union, and to discuss any disciplinary action that is otherwise not grievable that either side desires to address. The Committee shall meet at least once per quarter

The Committee shall mutually agree that a meeting of the Labor Management Committee is needed and the time and place will be mutually agreed by both parties within fifteen (15) days or as otherwise agreed upon. The Committee shall determine its own rules of operation. Should the meeting occur during a participant's tour of duty, there shall be no loss of pay or benefits.

ARTICLE 7
GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

DEFINITION: A grievance shall be defined as a dispute regarding an alleged violation of the terms of this Agreement or the issuance of disciplinary action at or above the level of Written Reprimand.

Every effort will be made by the parties to resolve differences verbally with the employee's immediate supervisor, before making use of this Article. Any employee may request permission to discuss the issue with a higher supervisor without violating the grievance procedure, but shall not be guaranteed such a discussion.

All grievances submitted under this agreement or submitted under the Employee Service System Rules shall be in writing, contain a Grievance Record Form and as a minimum shall contain the following items of information:

1. The employee will properly indicate on the Grievance Record Form whether or not the grieving employee is proceeding under the grievance procedures set forth in this contract or under the existing terms of the City's Employee Service System Rules, this choice when made shall be final and shall determine the procedural steps involved in processing the grievance.
2. An excerpt of the Agreement language allegedly violated.
3. The facts or circumstances giving rise to the alleged violation.
4. The manner in which the grieving employee is affected by the alleged violation.
5. The remedy or grievance conclusion desired by the employee.
6. The employee will fill out and attach to the grievance a Grievance Record Form. All parties are responsible for properly signing and dating the Grievance Record Form. At Step 2 through Step 4, the grievance may be received by clerical staff if the appropriate person is not available.

Grievances or disputes, which may arise during the term of this Agreement shall be resolved in the following manner:

STEP 1 - The individual employee shall present the grievance in writing to the employee's District Chief within seven (7) days of the issue, giving rise to the grievance. The District

Chief will have five (5) days from the receipt of the grievance to schedule and conduct a meeting with the aggrieved employee to discuss the grievance. The District Chief will have five (5) days from the date of the meeting to give the employee a written answer to the grievance.

STEP 2 - If the grievance is not satisfactorily resolved in Step 1, the employee, within five (5) days of the receipt of the answer in Step 1, may submit the grievance and the District Chiefs written answer to the Deputy Fire Chief. The Deputy Fire Chief will have five (5) days from the receipt of the grievance to schedule and conduct a meeting with the aggrieved employee to discuss the grievance. The Deputy Fire Chief will have five (5) days from the date of the meeting to give the employee a written answer to the grievance.

STEP 3 - If the grievance is not satisfactorily resolved in Step 2, the employee, within five (5) days of the date of the answer in Step 2, may submit the grievance and the written answers from Step 1 and Step 2 to the Fire Chief. The Fire Chief will have five (5) days from the receipt of the grievance to schedule and conduct a meeting with the aggrieved employee to discuss the grievance. The Fire Chief will have five (5) days from the date of the meeting to give the employee a written answer to the grievance.

STEP 4 - If the grievance is not satisfactorily resolved in Step 3, the employee may submit the grievance and all written answers from previous steps to the City Manager, with a copy to the Director of Human Resources & Risk Management within five (5) days after the conclusion of Step 3. The City Manager or his designee may meet with the employee and the Union Representative to attempt to resolve the grievance within seven (7) days of receipt of the grievance. The City Manager or his designee shall then respond to the grievance within ten (10) days of the meeting or, if no such meeting is held, within ten (10) days of the deadline for holding such meeting.

The time limits on the employee shall begin at the time of such notification. The term "days" as used, herein, shall be deemed to be regular business days, not including Saturday and Sunday, legal holidays, and the day on which the occurrence happened or the day from which such time period is measured. By mutual consent the time frames and/or steps in the grievance procedure may be amended. An incident grieved by more than one employee shall be considered a Combined Grievance. The grieving employees shall elect a spokesman from the grieving employees and present the grievance once at each step as a single grievance. The spokesman shall have the authority to resolve the grievance during the grievance meetings. An employee who did not originally file at Step 1 shall have no claim to any benefits received by the grieving employee when a grievance is resolved. This shall in no way infringe an employee's access to the grievance procedure within the prescribed time limits.

ARBITRATION: Any grievance, which is not satisfactorily resolved through the above grievance procedure may be referred within ten (10) calendar days of the time the

City Manager's response was due in Step 4 to arbitration by the Union, in which case the Union must provide the City Manager with its written request for arbitration within that ten (10) day period. The parties will attempt to mutually agree upon an independent arbitrator. If they cannot do so, within twenty (20) days of the Union's request for arbitration, the Union will request a panel of seven (7) arbitrators from the Federal Mediation Conciliation Service (FMCS). The parties will thereafter select an arbitrator after alternatively striking from the panel provided by FMCS. A coin toss shall be used to determine which party shall strike first. The parties will thereafter alternately strike names from the panel provided by FMCS until there is only one name remaining; this person shall then serve as arbitrator.

The arbitrator shall have the power to decide a grievance and prescribe a remedy if the grievance is sustained. However, the arbitrator shall not have the power to add to, subtract from, modify or alter the Agreement. Further, the arbitrator shall submit an award within thirty (30) calendar days of the hearing, which award shall be final and binding upon both parties. The cost of the arbitrator procurement and services shall be borne equally by the City and the Union. Each party shall bear the expense of its own witnesses and advocate and either party requiring a transcript shall bear the expense of the transcript. The arbitrator shall be empowered to determine whether the City's discipline of an employee should be upheld, and if not, to determine which remedy requested by the parties shall be implemented, if any.

Any grievance not processed by the employee in accordance with the time limitations above shall be considered conclusively abandoned.

Any grievance not responded to by the City in accordance with the time limitations above shall automatically advance to the next highest step in the grievance procedure.

Employees shall be required to do the following in an internal investigation: to answer questions, respond to lawful orders and to render material and relevant statements, when such orders, questions, and statements are directly related to job responsibilities. Nothing in this Section shall violate an employee's federal or state constitutional rights.

GRIEVANCE RECORD

NAME _____ DATE OF INCIDENT _____

CONTRACT ARTICLE/SECTION _____ ESSR ARTICLE/SECTION _____

GRIEVANCE TO BE PROCESSED UNDER _____ ESSR _____ CONTRACT (INITIAL ONE)

EMPLOYEE'S SIGNATURE

DATE

STEP 1

DATE GRIEVANCE RECEIVED BY
DISTRICT CHIEF

SIGNATURE OF DISTRICT CHIEF

Employee Initials

DATE GRIEVANCE RETURNED
TO EMPLOYEE

EMPLOYEE'S SIGNATURE OF RECEIPT

District Chief Initials

STEP 2

DATE GRIEVANCE RECEIVED BY
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

SIGNATURE OF DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

Employee Initials

DATE GRIEVANCE RETURNED
TO EMPLOYEE

EMPLOYEE'S SIGNATURE OF RECEIPT

Deputy Chief Initials

STEP 3

DATE GRIEVANCE RECEIVED BY
FIRE CHIEF

SIGNATURE OF FIRE CHIEF

Employee Initials

DATE GRIEVANCE RETURNED
TO EMPLOYEE

EMPLOYEE'S SIGNATURE OF RECEIPT

Fire Chief Initials

STEP 4

DATE GRIEVANCE RECEIVED BY
CITY MANAGER

SIGNATURE OF CITY MANAGER

Employee Initials

DATE GRIEVANCE RETURNED
TO EMPLOYEE

EMPLOYEE'S SIGNATURE OF RECEIPT

City Manager Initials

ARTICLE 8
REPRESENTATION

Section 1 - There shall be one (1) Union representative for each shift. The names of shift Union representatives shall be given, in writing, to the Fire Chief or his designee; notification will be made by an officer of the Union. Notice of any change in Union representative assignment shall be given to the Fire Chief, in writing or by email, within ten (10) calendar days of the change.

Any employee having a grievance shall have the right to take the matter up with his shift Union representative at his station, or other designated Union representative during working hours, if such action in no way interferes with normal departmental activities. Union representatives will not leave assigned duty stations without first obtaining permission from the District Chief.

Section 2 - The City and the Union will observe the statutory requirements of Florida Statute 112.80.84 in all formalized disciplinary procedures within the purview of the Statute.

ARTICLE 9
CHECK-OFF OF DUES

Employees covered by this Agreement may authorize payroll deductions for the purpose of paying Union dues. No authorization shall be allowed for payment of initiation fees, assessments, or fines.

The Union will initially notify the City as to the amount of dues. Such notification will be certified to the City, in writing, over the signature of an authorized officer of the Union. Changes in Union membership dues will be similarly certified to the City, and shall be done at least one (1) month in advance of the effective date of such change.

Dues shall be deducted each pay period and the funds deducted shall be remitted to the Treasurer of the Union within thirty (30) calendar days. The Union agrees to indemnify, save and hold the City harmless against any and all claims, suits or judgments arising because of the City's action or non-action in accordance with the provisions of this Article.

This payroll deduction shall be revocable by the employee notifying the City, in writing,

on a prescribed form.

For the purposes of putting this Article into effect, the City will approve forms furnished by the Union Treasurer for such individual authorization, reading as follows:

AUTHORIZATION FOR DEDUCTION OF UNION DUES

I hereby authorize the City of Dunedin to deduct from my wages each pay period, effective _____, the current normal Union Dues of _____ per pay period, and to remit this amount to the Treasurer of Local #2327 of the International Association of Firefighters. I understand that this authorization is voluntary and that I may revoke it at any time by giving the City notice in writing.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Notary: _____ Employee No.: _____

AUTHORIZATION FOR CHANGE IN DEDUCTION OF UNION DUES

I hereby authorize the City of Dunedin to change the amount of dues deducted from my wages each pay period, effective _____, from _____ to _____, and to remit this amount to the Treasurer of Local #2327 of the International Association of Firefighters. I understand that this authorization is voluntary and that I may revoke it at any time by giving the City notice in writing.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Notary: _____ Employee No.: _____

INSTRUCTIONS TO STOP PAYROLL DEDUCTION OF UNION DUES

I hereby instruct the City of Dunedin to stop deducting from my wages the current dues for Local #2327 of the International Association of Firefighters, effective _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Notary: _____ Employee No.: _____

ARTICLE 10
RESIDENCY

All employees covered by this Agreement shall be required to reside within the geographic limits of Pinellas, Pasco, Hillsborough, Hernando or Manatee Counties. New employees will be granted a two-year time period, commencing on date of hire, within which to meet the requirements of this Article.

The employee shall maintain a reliable source of communication by which the employee can be contacted, and the employee must be able to respond in a timely manner. The employee's primary address and emergency contact information, shall be kept current at all times.

In the event the above residency requirements are detrimental to the operation of the Department, the parties may reopen this Article during the term of this Agreement by mutual agreement and bargain any desired changes in this Article to resolution.

ARTICLE 11
EXCHANGE OF DUTY TIME

Employees within the Department may exchange on duty time upon the following conditions:

- A. The employee exchanging duty must be acceptable to the District Chief on the shift the employee will be working. For the purposes of exchange of duty the following categories will be recognized:
 - 1. Lieutenants must exchange with another Lieutenant or an Acting Lieutenant, provided that any Acting Lieutenant who swaps will not be provided with out of classification pay pursuant to Article 33 for the swapped shift.
 - 2. One exchange of duty on any given day may be between unequal firefighters. All other swaps approved for the same day may require identical skills in the sole discretion of the District Chief. Identical skills are identified as Engine Driver, Truck Driver, Paramedic and EMT.
 - 3. In the event there are no Lieutenants off duty during the repayment of exchange, the Lieutenant or Acting Lieutenant swapping into the shift will

act as the Driver during that shift.

- B. Any training missed due to exchange will be made up. If training cannot be made up within 60 days without the payment of overtime, exchange of duty will be denied.
- C. Each employee may swap off 24 times during a calendar year in increments of not less than 4 hours. Such swaps may be for a full shift or any portion of a shift not less than 4 hours. However, after 1600 hours Monday through Friday and on weekends and City recognized holidays an employee can swap in increments of not less than 2 hours. Swaps of less than 4 hours must have identical skills. The employee shall not exceed a total of 240 hours in a calendar year. The 240-hour maximum may be exceeded in the event of emergency or other unusual circumstances upon approval by the Fire Chief or designee.
- D. If the employee is swapping off in order to attend class to which they would normally be entitled to educational leave and educational leave is not available because of manpower, then, the number of swaps will not count towards the yearly total of 24 exchanges or counted toward annual maximum hours.
- E. The employee working the time will be covered by all applicable benefits in case of injury while filling in, but will not receive pay for this period.
- F. If the employee agreeing to exchange duty time is sick or fails to appear for the scheduled exchange, his annual leave account or pay, if annual leave is exhausted, will be charged. If the employee provides certification from a licensed physician that the employee is sick, the employee will be allowed off for the day and the employee's sick leave account will be charged. If an employee is on Department Workers Compensation status at the time of the exchange, no leave account will be charged. The Department shall have the right to have an employee in Workers Compensation status report for appropriate duty during the shift.
- G. The person agreeing to fill in for another employee is obligated to remain on duty in the absence of the person with whom the exchange is made.
- H. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary above, the City shall not be required to allow an exchange if doing so would impose upon the City liability for any additional overtime compensation. Prior to disallowing the exchange for this reason the City shall notify the Union concerning the basis for the decision to do so and discuss alternatives to avoid overtime compensation and comply with appropriate laws, regulations and Department needs.

- I. No exchange of duty will be approved which will result in an employee working more than 72 consecutive hours.

ARTICLE 12
PERSONNEL REDUCTION AND RECALL

In the case of personnel reduction, the employee in the first classification affected with the least seniority shall be laid off first. However, if there is an employee in a lower classification with less seniority, the employee in the lower classification will be laid off if the employee affected by the initial layoff desires to work at the lower classification. No new employee shall be hired or promoted to a higher position until such time as all employees who have been laid off or temporarily shifted to a lower position within the preceding twelve (12) months have been given the opportunity to return to work or be reassigned to their higher position (if applicable), if such employee is physically qualified to perform available work at the time of recall or reassignment. Seniority, availability and qualifications in the City's fire service shall be given the utmost consideration in both layoffs and recall from layoffs. In the event the amount of time in the classification is equal, the order in which the employees are laid off or recalled will be at the discretion of the Fire Chief based on the employee's employment and professional record, provided that membership or non-membership in the Union shall not be considered by the Fire Chief.

A joint committee consisting of six members shall meet to recommend which employee or employees are to be laid off or recalled to duty. The committee will also meet to discuss and select which employee or employees will be reassigned to a lower position or returned back to their original position. The committee will consist of the Fire Chief, the Human Resources Director, and an additional employee to be selected by the Fire Chief. The other three members will consist of the Union President or his designee and two additional Union members.

Subject to approval by the City Manager, the Fire Chief will make the final recommendation for personnel reduction(s) and recall(s).

When recalling a laid off employee to return to work, "availability" will be defined as the employee's ability to return to work within fifteen (15) business days (not including holidays and weekends).

ARTICLE 13
BULLETIN BOARDS AND FILE CABINETS

The City agrees to furnish the Union with a bulletin board for its exclusive use at each Fire Station and in the Fire Administration Building. Each board shall be sufficient in size to accommodate four 8 1/2 by 11-inch sheets of paper. The only material posted on said bulletin board shall be notices regarding time and place of Union functions. All notices will be approved by the District Chief in advance of posting; however, approval will not be unreasonably withheld or delayed.

The location of 1044 Virginia St. shall be made available to the Union for file storage through placement of locked file cabinets and such other furniture as is approved by the Department. The allowance by the Department for the use of such space in no way modifies any existing legal or contractual restrictions on Union activity while on duty. It is agreed that this space is for storage only and not for meetings or consultations. While it is acknowledged that this property belongs to the City, the City agrees not to search or inspect the facility except upon reasonable suspicion of violation of law, City rules and regulations, or this labor agreement.

It is agreed that this space shall be available to the Union free of charge, but that there is no guarantee that it shall continue for any definite period of time. Rather, if at any point the City wishes to have the premises vacated or to utilize the space being made available to the Union under this agreement, the City shall be obligated only to provide one week's notice of its intent to reclaim the space so as to permit the Union to move any materials stored at the location.

In the event this space is no longer available, the Union shall be permitted to keep two small file cabinets at each station, unmarked except for drawer content labels. These file cabinets will be kept in an out-of-the-way place as designated by the City and will not interfere with the operations of the Fire Department.

ARTICLE 14
SAFETY

The City and Union agree that safety for firefighting personnel be given the highest consideration with respect to all personnel adhering to department policies and procedures, purchase of equipment, procedure implementation, adhering to training methods, etc., with regard to safety.

No employee covered by this Agreement shall be required to operate any vehicle or equipment, if the vehicle or equipment is deemed to be in an unsafe operating condition.

Departmental management will make every reasonable effort to provide and maintain safe working conditions. To this end, the Union will cooperate and encourage the employees to work in a safe manner and comply with all department policy and procedures.

The District Chief's determination of whether the vehicle or equipment is safe or not is final. In an emergency situation the officer-in-charge will make the final determination.

Parties agree state mandated Fire Department Safety Committee shall meet at a minimum of once quarterly or needed. Committee's makeup shall consist of three (3) bargaining unit members appointed by the Union and Fire Administration.

ARTICLE 15 RETIREMENT PLAN

The City of Dunedin Firefighters' Retirement System

The Parties agreed that the provisions of the City of Dunedin Firefighters' Retirement Plan, as stated in Chapter 58, Pensions and Retirement, Article II, Retirement, Division 2, Firefighters' Retirement System, Sections 58-51 through 58-80, inclusive, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Dunedin shall remain in effect, except that the parties agree that the applicable City Code of Ordinance provisions shall be amended to reflect the following amendment, effective October 1, 2018:

Sec.58-56. - Benefit amounts and eligibility.

(e). *Retirement subsidy.* In addition to the benefit provided for in subsection (b) above, each retiree who has retired under normal retirement on or after October 1, 2018, or entered DROP on or after October 1, 2014, shall receive a monthly retirement subsidy payment following the cessation of their City employment equal to the number of complete years of credited service at the time of retirement multiplied by sixteen dollars (\$16), but not to exceed \$400 per month.

The retirement subsidy is payable for the life of the retiree and ceases on the last day of the month of death of the retiree. DROP participants are not eligible for the subsidy payment until termination of employment with the city. Each retiree who retired under

normal retirement on or after March 21, 2003 but before October 1, 2016, shall continue to receive a monthly retirement subsidy payment equal to the number of complete years of credited service at the time of retirement multiplied by three dollars (\$3), but not to exceed \$75 per month. Each retiree who retired under normal retirement on or after October 1, 2016, but before October 1, 2018, shall continue to receive a monthly retirement subsidy payment equal to the number of complete years of credited service at the time of retirement multiplied by thirteen dollars (\$13), but not to exceed \$325 per month. This benefit shall be paid in lieu of the health subsidy benefit formerly provided for herein.

The parties agree that annual Chapter 175 premium tax revenues will continue to be used in the same manner in the future as they have been under existing past practice, meaning that the City shall continue to use the applicable "frozen" amount to offset its required contribution to the Plan and that, of the excess state monies for reserve, 75% will be distributed to members' share accounts in accordance with past practice and the remaining 25% will be used by the City to offset its required contribution to the Plan.

ARTICLE 16

PREVAILING RIGHTS

All rights, privileges and working conditions enjoyed by the employees at the present time, which are not included in this Agreement, shall remain in effect until addressed by written General Orders and amendments, or changed by mutual consent.

In the event that the City determines to make a change in existing terms and conditions of employment that will have a substantial impact on the employees, including changes to General Orders and Departmental regulations, the City will notify the Union at the earliest possible, practicable time after the matter has been identified and determination has been made that modification is necessary. The Fire Chief, his designee, or other City Administrator will meet with the Union for a full and open discussion on such proposed change or any concerns in a timely manner as is reasonable under the circumstances. It is mutually understood that changes which impact mandatory subjects of bargaining, including wages, terms and conditions of employment shall be fully negotiated with the union in accordance with Chapter 447 of the Florida Statutes prior to implementation.

The City has the right to adopt and to change General Orders and Departmental Regulations, which are not in violation of any specific provision of this Agreement and to enforce same.

ARTICLE 17
INDEMNIFICATION

Section 1 - The City will provide for the defense of employees when acting in the scope of employment in the absence of gross negligence as is authorized by Chapter 111, Florida Statutes and as limited by Chapter 768 Florida Statutes unless the employee's defense is undertaken by an insurance provider, another public agency or other defense provider.

Section 2 - The City will not object to the IAFF joining in any suit filed on behalf of the employees arising from suits covered in Section 1.

ARTICLE 18
CONTRACT DISTRIBUTION

The Union will distribute a copy of this Agreement to each employee covered by this Agreement. This will be accomplished by posting the Agreement on the City network under Public Folders, sub-category Union Contract. This will be for a time period as long as the computer system exists.

ARTICLE 19
DISCIPLINARY ACTION

When an employee has received disciplinary action through the Progressive Disciplinary Program and has successfully demonstrated their commitment for the designated periods of time, as outlined in the current SOP 100-7, the official paperwork relating to the actions will be kept in a separate section of the official personnel file in accordance with Florida Statute 119. These inactivated disciplinary records will not be considered or viewed by supervisors when considering an employee for promotion, transfer, performance evaluation or other employment opportunity. However, should an employee develop any disciplinary problems subsequent to the inactivation with the result that their employment has been recommended for termination, the employee's entire work history will be available for review by the City Manager and/or available during any pre or post-termination procedure.

Commendations, thank-you notes and other written communication reflecting favorably

upon the employee's job performance will be archived in the official employee file, provided that the writer is identified and signs the document.

ARTICLE 20
UNION BUSINESS

- A. The Union President or his designee will be granted six (6) shifts of duty per contractual year (October 1 through September 30) for attendance at Union conferences or other matters of Union business without loss of pay. The Union President shall request such time off from the Fire Chief not less than seven (7) calendar days in advance of any such absence. Union leave will be granted if one or more vacation slots are open after January vacation picks on a first come first served basis referenced in Article 25, Section 2. Union leave will then fill one or more of the allotted positions off for that shift. Such time off will be approved by the Fire Chief unless the presence of the employee is necessary for training, in order to avoid overtime payment, to avoid falling below minimum manning levels or for any other reason directly related to the public safety in the sole discretion of the Fire Chief. Two 24-hour shifts may be broken into time periods of not less than four (4) hours in duration and the other four (4) shifts must be taken in their entirety.

Any unused shifts at the end of the contractual year will not roll over.

- B. Employees may donate a minimum of two (2) hours of their annual leave time toward the Union business pool time account. When a Union official utilizes Union pool time, the Union official will submit a written memo or email to the Fire Chief. The Union's request for pool time off will include the total number of requested hours off, and vacation forms filled out by each employee. Employees may donate to the Union business pool time account by filling out a vacation request form, providing such donation shall be made voluntarily by the particular employee. The Union business pool time account may not exceed 144 hours in any fiscal year.

Union officials utilizing pool time shall not be on duty and shall not be eligible, during the time of utilization, for Workers Compensation benefits in case of injury.

- C. If the Union President or designee does not wish to use paid time off for Union business (pursuant to paragraph A above) or if it is exhausted, he or she may utilize Exchange of Duty (pursuant to the provisions of Article 11) for a

maximum total of 48 hours in a 12-month period in increments of not less than 4 hours. Said Exchange of Duty will not be counted toward the individual's limit per year as established in Article 11.

ARTICLE 21
LEAVE OF ABSENCE WITHOUT PAY

This article covers employee requests leaves of absence without pay that are not covered by the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

- A. The Fire Chief, with the approval of the City Manager, may grant an employee a leave of absence without pay of up to one (1) year in length, under circumstances warranting such action. For the purpose of this Article a leave of absence will be for a minimum period of thirty (30) consecutive calendar days.

Failure of an employee to return to duty upon the expiration of leave without pay shall be interpreted as a resignation.

- B. Merit pay increments shall not be credited during leave without pay.
- C. An employee shall return from leave without pay to the same salary grade as at the time of commencement of leave.
- D. Retirement credit may be maintained if allowed in the plan in operation, provided the employee pays both the employee's and the City's share of the retirement plan premiums.
- E. If the employee is covered by the City's group health insurance coverage, this health insurance group membership may be maintained, provided the employee pays the total cost of the group insurance premium.
- F. An employee returning from a leave of absence without pay shall be entitled to employment in the same department in the same or equivalent class wherein employed when leave began.
- G. An employee on leave without pay shall not earn annual or sick leave while on leave of absence.

H. During a leave of absence without pay the employee will not accrue seniority.

ARTICLE 22
BEREAVEMENT LEAVE

Employees shall be granted time off with pay in the event of a death or interment in their immediate family as follows:

- a. Two (2) 24 hour shifts for: the employee's: spouse, domestic partner, father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, half-brother, half-sister, or any individual for whom the employee is the legal guardian.
- b. One (1) 24 hour shift for: the employee's father-in-law, mother-in-law, grandparent, great grandparent, grandchild, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, step-parent, step-child, uncle, aunt, niece, nephew, step-brother, step-sister.

Bereavement leave shall not be charged to annual or sick leave. Bereavement pay will be paid at straight time for the employee's normally scheduled hours. The employee shall provide the Department Head with evidence of the death or funeral services. Bereavement leave will be granted even if services are not attended.

It is necessary that personnel make arrangements for any additional leave required prior to leaving the area. This can be accomplished with the assistance of the Union representative that is on duty at the time.

Any Exchange of Duty associated with a member's bereavement leave will not count toward their annual maximum.

ARTICLE 23
DISABILITY LEAVE

An employee who is temporarily disabled in the line of duty may receive full pay for some or all of the period of the disability without charge against annual or sick leave, subject to the following steps:

- A. The disability must have resulted from an injury or an illness sustained in the performance of the employee's duties, as provided in the State Workers Compensation Act.
- B. If incapacitated for their regular position, the employee may be given other duties with the Fire Department for the period of recuperation, if practical. Unwillingness to accept such an assignment as directed by the Fire Chief or the Director of Human Resources will make the employee ineligible for disability leave during the time involved.
- C. Review of the employee's medical condition and ability to return to work will be administered pursuant to the Workers' Compensation Law.
- D. Disability leave with full pay for such period as determined by the City Manager, not to exceed one hundred twenty-six (126) calendar days for any one injury, may be provided to the employee, when recommended by the Fire Chief and approved by the Director of Human Resources.
- E. At the conclusion of paragraph D full pay disability pay period (if such is allowed by the City Manager), if the City Manager determines to continue the employment of the employee, the employee may use all sick leave and then vacation leave to supplement Workers' Compensation pay.
- F. At any time during the disability leave period the case may be reviewed by a panel of the Fire Chief and the Director of Human Resources. The review panel shall make a recommendation to the City Manager concerning the proper disposition of the case and the continuance of the employee in City employment. The Union may make a written recommendation to the City Manager contemporaneously with the panel recommendation.
- G. No annual or sick leave shall accrue during a period of disability leave unless the employee is working pursuant to paragraph B of this Article.
- H. Payment of disability leave shall be contingent upon the assignment of Workers' Compensation payments received by the employee to the City for the period of the disability leave.

ARTICLE 24
SICK LEAVE

Section 1 - Eligibility

Employees shall be entitled to earn and accrue sick leave. Sick leave shall be computed and available for use from the starting date of employment.

Section 2 - Rate at Which Sick Leave is Earned

Sick leave with pay shall be earned at the rate of 5.6 hours biweekly.

Section 3 - Charging Sick Leave

Sick leave shall be charged as used. Sick leave will be charged at the discretion of Departmental Management in quarter hour minimum increments.

Section 4 - Request for Sick Leave

To receive compensation while absent on sick leave, the employee, if off duty, shall notify the District Chief on duty no later than one hour prior to the time set for the beginning of the daily duties, or if on duty, any time after the time set for beginning the daily duties. This provision will be waived by the Fire Chief, if the employee submits evidence that it was impossible to give such notification.

Section 5 - Use of Sick Leave

Employees shall be eligible to use sick leave as earned for the following purposes:

- A. Personal injury, pregnancy or illness not connected with work.
- B. Exposure to a contagious disease, which would endanger others. The City physician shall be the final authority as to an employee's suitability for work under this subsection.
- C. In recognition of the fact that the City is the primary employer of the employee and that the nature of the employee's duties are a public safety function necessitating the employee to be on duty as scheduled, except under exceptional circumstances, and that the employee's first obligation is to be on duty for the

safety of the public, limited use of sick leave as is set forth below is allowed for the illness of a member of the employee's household. The employee may use sick leave as earned for illness of a member of the employee's household which requires the personal care and attention of the employee only for the period of time that another responsible member of the household is unavailable for such purpose, hereafter referred to as sick-family leave. Sick-family leave shall be subject to the following provisions:

- Each use of sick-family leave in excess of 72 hours or 3 occasions (whichever comes first in a 6-month period) shall require a certification from a licensed physician or other documentation satisfactory to the Department that the family member is under treatment by a physician and that the family member requires the personal care and attention of the employee for the time for which sick leave is requested and that another responsible member of the household is unavailable for such purposes. This requirement may be waived at the sole discretion of the Fire Chief.
 - Sick-family leave shall be limited to 144 hours in a 12-month period with the exception of documented catastrophic illness.
 - Catastrophic illness is an illness constituting a life threatening or major and extended debilitating medical condition. In the case of documented catastrophic illness, a total of 1440 hours may be used in a 12-month period.
- D. Sick leave may be used for medical and dental appointments by 24 hour shift employees in emergency situations or when off duty scheduling of such appointments is not possible within a reasonable time given the medical situation.
- E. All sick leave taken will be rounded to the nearest quarter (1/4) hour.
- F. The above provisions shall not limit an employee's entitlement to any leave for which they are eligible under the FMLA. Employees who take FMLA leave must take any sick-family leave to which they are entitled concurrently with their FMLA leave.

Section 6 -Accumulation of Sick Leave

There shall be no limit on the amount of sick leave that can be accumulated.

Section 7 - Certification

Whenever employees use any type of sick leave, they may be required by the Fire Chief to submit a certificate from a licensed healthcare provider, whether or not the standards of Section 5 have been met. If it is determined that an employee's request for sick leave is not justified, the value of the absent time may be deducted from the employee's pay or accrued annual leave. Claiming sick leave when physically fit, and when not allowed under Section 5 of this Article shall be cause for disciplinary action.

The Employee will be informed upon reporting to the District Chief, pursuant to Section 4 hereof, whether or not a physician's certificate or equivalent will be required.

The Department may require certification by a physician or other licensed healthcare provider in its sole and absolute discretion including the implementation of a program, which requires such certification on a random basis. Nothing in this Article shall in any way limit the Department's right to require certification by a physician when sick leave is used.

Section 8 - When Earned Sick Leave is Exhausted

When an employee's earned sick leave is exhausted and the employee is out because of an illness, the employee shall be allowed to use any accumulated annual leave until the leave is exhausted or the employee returns to work (whichever occurs first); the employee may also request a leave of absence as provided in this Agreement.

Section 9 - Payment of Unused Sick Leave

- A. Employees resigned or retired from the City service after five or more years of continuous service shall be paid a portion of their earned accumulated sick leave at the time of resignation or retirement as follows:

5 years of continuous service	25%
10 years of continuous service	30%
15 years of continuous service	40%
20 years of continuous service	50%

- B. To be eligible for payment of unused sick leave, an employee must have a balance of 240 hours.

- C. The maximum amount of hours compensated. shall not exceed 1200 hours of sick leave.

Section 10 - Annual Conversion of Sick Leave to Vacation Leave

- A. Employees having more than 240 hours of sick leave available on the books will be given the option of converting their sick leave to vacation leave based upon the number of sick leave hours used during the previous year.
- B. The conversion will occur in October of each year and will be based on the previous fiscal year (October 1 through September 30).
- C. Hours may be transferred in accordance with the following schedule:

0 - 24 hours used	convert 72 hours of sick leave to annual leave
25 - 48 hours used	convert 48 hours of sick leave to annual leave
49 - 72 hours used	convert 36 hours of sick leave to annual leave
73+ hours used	convert 0 hours of sick leave to annual leave

- D. After the transfer of hours, the sick leave balance shall not decrease below 240 hours. For situations where an employee is available to convert sick leave hours to annual leave and that employee's current balance decreases below 240 hours, then the employee can only convert the amount of hours to maintain 240 hours (i.e. employee uses 12 hours of sick leave, has 260 hours of sick leave on the books, can only convert 20 hours to annual leave.)
- E. The request to transfer hours must be submitted to the Fire Chief through the chain of command no later than September 1st of each fiscal year.

ARTICLE 25
VACATION LEAVE

Section 1 -Vacation Leave Accrual

Vacation leave shall be accumulated according to the following schedule:

56 Hour Employees

Service Years Completed	Shifts Accrued Per Year
0	7
3	9
5	10
10	11
15	12

Vacation leave shall be charged to accrued time as taken. Vacation leave will be taken in increments of 24 hours. As an exception to the 24-hour increment, each employee will be allowed to utilize vacation leave on 24 occasions during a calendar year in increments of not less than 4 hours. As an exception to the four (4) hour minimums set forth herein, after 1600 hours Monday through Friday and on weekends and City recognized holidays an employee can request vacation leave in increments of not less than two (2) hours. In the event that vacation leave is requested for a period of less than four (4) hours, the employee will be required to provide a written guarantee of an available employee with identical skills to work on overtime for such period (this overtime guarantee will be an exception to the four (4) hour overtime minimum set forth in Article 29). All such vacation leaves will be counted against the 24-occasion maximum regardless of the duration of the leave.

Employees requesting vacation in order to attend approved classes to which they would normally be entitled to educational leave will be allowed to break three additional 24 hour shifts into blocks of not less than 4 hours for such purposes and the use of vacation leave for such purpose will not count toward the 24-occasion maximum set forth above.

Section 2 - Request for Vacation Leave

Request for vacation leave shall be submitted through the City computer system and approved by the District Chief. Vacation leave may be taken only after approval by the District Chief. Leave may be used only as earned and vacation leave with pay shall not be allowed in advance of being earned unless granted by the City Manager in

emergency situations.

Fire Department seniority by shift shall be the prime consideration for the allocation of vacation leave, provided that such leave is requested on or before January 15 of each year, subject to the following guidelines. The Fire Department will provide each District Chief with a seniority roster based on Fire Department Seniority by Shift. Two employees will be allowed off on vacation leave at any one given time.

Between January 1 and January 15, the District Chief will start the vacation selection process. Any employee who might be off duty during the selection process will leave written information pertaining to vacation preferences with the District Chief.

The first round of vacation selection will start with the senior most employee being asked to select a block of continuous duty time of not less than four hours. After the senior person has selected, the District Chief will advance on to the next employee on the seniority list, then the next and so on down the list until all personnel have had a chance to select one time period.

The second round of vacation selection will start with the senior most employee being allowed to select another block of continuous duty time of not less than four hours.

The third round of vacation selection will start with the senior most employee being allowed to select another block of continuous duty time of not less than four hours.

After the completion of the third round of vacation selection, subsequent vacation selection will be done on a first request basis for any remaining accrued vacation time.

Employees may select hours of vacation equal to the amount shown on the employee's current check stub and any vacation hours that the employee may earn before the requested vacation date. If an employee does not select vacation during the vacation selection process, the employee may select vacation throughout the year but will be subject to a first come first approved basis and seniority will not be a factor. Two employees will be guaranteed vacation time off as long as the request is made not less than thirty (30) days in advance.

Requests for vacation with less than 30 days of notice will not be guaranteed and will be at the District Chiefs sole discretion. Denial of a request for vacation leave may be based on department efficiency, training schedules (fire and EMS), physical examination schedules, special events, staffing requirements, or any other factor deemed appropriate by the District Chief relative to the needs of the Department. Vacation leave will not be approved if the employee's absence will cause overtime. A last-minute request for vacation leave may cause an employee to miss scheduled training. If the missed training cannot be made up through normal means, the employee will be

required to make up the training at no cost to the City and on the employee's own time.

Vacation leave that is scheduled will be required to be taken as scheduled. Employees wishing to cancel scheduled vacation leave must provide not less than 30 days written notice or email to the District Chief. The District Chief may allow the cancellation of vacation upon shorter notice at the District Chiefs sole discretion. Pre-approved vacation leave will not be subject to cancellation as to the two employees approved for leave on any given day. Approved vacation leave shall not be canceled due to City-initiated shift assignment changes.

Section 3- Use of Vacation Leave

After completion of six (6) months continuous service, the employee shall be eligible to use such leave as earned subject to approval of the Fire Chief or his designee.

Section 4 - Accumulation of Vacation Leave

It is the intent of this Agreement to have employees take their vacation leave yearly for the period in which it was earned. Employees carrying excess leave should be afforded the opportunity to use the excess leave.

A total of 300 hours of vacation leave is the maximum that may be carried over from one fiscal year to the next.

If the employee is afforded the opportunity to use the excess vacation leave during the January selection process, and the employee refuses to take the leave, the accumulation will be converted to sick leave.

Section 5 - Payment of Unused Vacation Leave

Employees separated from the service shall be paid in a lump sum for all unused vacation leave, except that if the employee fails to give fourteen (14) calendar days' notice of resignation, then the employee's right to payment of unused vacation leave shall be forfeited.

Section 6- All vacation leave will be rounded to the nearest half (1/2) hour.

Section 7 - Emergency Time Use

Emergency Time off must be approved by the District Chief. Employees shall be allowed to use emergency Time Off for instances where an emergency or other similar

occurrence would cause the employee to have to leave work temporarily during their assigned shift. If the Emergency Time off results in calling in off duty personnel for staffing, then the Emergency Time must be taken in increments of four or more hours. Use of Emergency Time Off will be for reasons not covered in the Sick Leave or Annual Leave Policies. An explanation or evidence of why Emergency Time is needed may be requested by the District Chief and/ or the Fire Chief. Based on the circumstances of the emergency, sick or annual leave will be charged accordingly.

ARTICLE 26 HOLIDAYS

It is recognized that because of the nature of employment with the Fire Department, recognition of holidays is not possible for granting holiday leave on holidays. Therefore, each employee shall receive bonus pay of 16.8 hours pay at straight time for the holidays established in the Employee Service System Rules (ESSR), whether working or not. This bonus shall be reflected in and paid in the paycheck for the pay period in which the holiday(s) fall. Annual leave may be granted on holidays at the discretion of the Fire Chief or his designee. The Holidays defined by the ESSR shall be granted to this bargaining unit.

If additional holidays are declared by the proper City authorities and are applicable to other City employees, each employee of the bargaining unit shall receive the same benefits as earned on the aforementioned holidays.

ARTICLE 27 OVERTIME AND WORK SCHEDULE

Section 1 - Employees covered by this agreement will be compensated at a rate of time and one-half (1 & 1/2) of their base pay for working hours that are not a part of their regular work schedule.

Section 2 - Hours and Days of Work: Shifts shall start at 8:00 A.M. each work day and end at 8:00 A.M. the following morning. Total: 24 hours. Coverage shall consist of three shifts: A, B, and C. Each shift operates on a 9-day cycle where they are on duty days 1, 3 and 5 and off duty days 2, 4, 6, 7, 8 and 9 resulting in a 56 hour work week.

Each employee shall be fully prepared to assume duties at the beginning of their shift with the exchange of personal gear on the various emergency vehicles. After such exchange of personal gear, the employee shall be capable of responding to an emergency call without any further personal preparation.

Personnel reporting late for duty or leaving duty without authorization before the end of the 24-hour shift shall be subject to disciplinary action according to the Department's Progressive Disciplinary Policy.

Section 3 - When the City has reason to believe that there will be an overtime situation, the District Chief will decide what qualifications are needed and will make a reasonable attempt to utilize on duty personnel in order to minimize the amount of qualifications needed for the overtime employee. The District Chief will begin to contact employees that meet the criteria needed and the first person they contact will be obligated to report for, or remain on duty until the shortage of personnel no longer necessitates the need for overtime.

Overtime shall begin at such time as an employee is prepared to assume duty in proper uniform with personal gear.

Section 4 - Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, the City retains the right to adjust work schedules. Prior to making any such change, the City will provide the Union not less than 30 calendar days' notice, and, if requested, bargain with the Union concerning the anticipated change.

Section 5 - The overtime needs of the Department are time sensitive, (meaning the ability of the City to provide full service is compromised by not being able to keep all equipment in service, as determined by the District Chief). The method of overtime administration shall be a joint venture between the Union and the City and may be modified from time to time upon written memorandum to the Union in the City's sole discretion and without impact bargaining such change. If the City determines to administer the overtime program, the City will consult with the Union in a Labor Management setting with the intent to reconcile issues, but if not reconcilable to the City's satisfaction, then the City will administer the program.

ARTICLE 28

CALL IN

Employees required to report to work from an off duty status not contiguous with their normal shift shall be guaranteed four (4) hours work at the overtime rate. The City may require the employee to remain on duty for the duration of the four (4) hour period or for as long as he or she is needed to perform useful duties relative to the ready response of the Department; if the employee wishes to leave prior to the end of the four (4) hour period, the employee may elect to leave earlier and only be paid for the actual time worked.

Work-related Court time while off-duty shall be considered the same as Call In for compensation purposes.

ARTICLE 29
PAY PLAN

Section 1 – Employees will continue to be paid in accordance with the pay plan attached hereto as Exhibit A. Employees will advance in the pay plan each year during the term of this Agreement on their respective anniversary dates, provided that the employee receives an overall rating of at least 2.0 on his/her annual performance evaluation, which is the minimum possible score for “Competent/Proficient”. Advancement in steps will continue during the term of this Agreement.

Section 2 – Employees will receive a market adjustment of 8% effective October 1, 2021 and cost of living adjustments (COLAs) of 2% on October 1, 2022 and October 1, 2023. The steps in the pay plan will be adjusted by the foregoing pay increases, which are reflected in the pay plans attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Section 3 - In the event an employee receives a performance appraisal score of below 2.0, which is the minimum possible score for “Competent/Proficient”, the continuing evaluation and disciplinary process will be administered pursuant to the current Performance Evaluation Guidelines and Progressive Discipline Policy.

In the event an employee receives a performance appraisal, which results in failure to receive a step increase, the employee shall have the right to request and receive a review of his or her performance every ninety (90) days following such denial. At the end of a one hundred eighty (180) day period, the City shall make a determination to grant the step increase, withhold the step increase, or take further action. Step increases shall not be the subject matter of a grievance in accordance with the Employee Service System Rules (ESSR).

Section 4 - All employees having certifications or licenses as EMT's or Paramedics will maintain such certifications or licenses in current and active status from the State of Florida and/or the Pinellas County Medical Director at all times as a condition of employment.

Section 5 - Regular status employees, other than Lieutenants who have successfully completed a qualification and training process and are fully prepared and capable of performing the duties of driver/operator of first response vehicles will receive driver pay of \$1,100 per fiscal year, said pay to be paid incrementally on a bi-weekly basis during the fiscal year in which such pay is earned. Said pay shall not be a part of base salary.

The driver/operator pay will be paid on a pro-rata basis when such assignment is for a partial year. Driver/Operators shall be requalified every two years to qualify for such assignment. The Fire Department shall establish education, testing and training standards to determine the employee's qualifications for initial appointment and the continuation in such status.

Section 6

- a. In the event that a Firefighter/EMT or a Firefighter/Paramedic is promoted to the rank of Lieutenant, the employee shall move to the lowest step of the Lieutenant's step plan on the date of promotion that provides a pay increase of at least 5.0%.
- b. In the event that a Firefighter/EMT becomes a Paramedic, that employee shall move to the lowest step of the FF/Paramedic step plan on the date of promotion that provides a pay increase of at least 5.0%.

ARTICLE 30 EDUCATION INCENTIVE PLAN

Section 1 - The City agrees that employees covered by this Agreement will be reimbursed as follows for courses of instruction as approved by the Fire Chief and subject to funding availability in the Department budget. Authorized courses shall be in Fire Administration, Fire Science, Emergency Medical Services or Emergency Management as defined as part of the curriculum of a Florida accredited college or university or related to Fire management or other such courses as specifically approved by the Fire Chief. Education reimbursement and buy back will be subject to the City's most current Educational Reimbursement Policy for general employees. There shall be no educational reimbursement for "life experience" course credits or credit waivers.

The educational benefit herein provided shall only be utilized upon the employee exhausting all other possible third party educational benefits.

Section 2 - Supplemental compensation, as a bonus, as set forth below shall be paid to an employee complying with the following criteria:

- a. The receipt of an associate's degree in a course of study authorized in Section 1 from a Florida accredited college or university, or a college or university that is accredited by an agency that is recognized for credit transfer to a college or university of the State of Florida. The pursuit of such degree and the college or university shall be approved in advance by the Fire Chief and shall be subject to

the City's then current Education Reimbursement Policy.

\$40.00 per month

- b. The receipt of a bachelor's degree in a course of study authorized in Section 1 from a Florida accredited college or university, or a college or university that is accredited by an agency that is recognized for credit transfer to a college or university of the State of Florida. The pursuit of such degree and the college or university shall be approved in advance by the Fire Chief and shall be subject to the City's then current Education Reimbursement Policy.

\$80.00 per month

Section 3 - Time off with pay for attendance at an authorized course shall be granted, provided that departmental manning is not at or below the minimum level established by the City. In the event two or more employees simultaneously request the same time off for education purposes, the priority for granting time off shall be by seniority. The request for said time off shall be processed in the same fashion as vacation leave. When time off with pay is not granted, an employee may use exchange of duty time with approval from the immediate supervisor.

Section 4 - Every permanent employee who obtains a State Fire Officers' Certificate as issued by Florida Fire Standards and Training, completes the Dunedin Fire Department Acting Lieutenant Program and performs the duties as an Acting Officer shall receive \$30.00 per month.

Section 5 - The monthly benefits paid herein are in the form of an incentive bonus and are not part of the base salary of the employee. They shall be paid at the times as are set forth in this Article or in the last pay period of the fiscal year if payment date is not specified.

Section 6 - Employees agree to a two (2) year buy back of educational benefit payments to be administered in accordance with the City's Education Reimbursement Policy for all City employees.

ARTICLE 31
UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

Section 1 – Upon commencement of employment, the City shall furnish all uniforms and equipment which employees are required to wear or use by the Department for all employees covered by this Agreement. The uniforms required to be furnished by the City shall consist only of the following:

Class A Uniform	Each five-year employee will be issued a Class A Uniform.
Dress Shirts	Each employee will receive one (1) short-sleeve dress shirt and one (1) long-sleeve dress shirt upon hire or promotion, only replaced upon proper request by employee and demonstrated need.
Uniform Pants	Maximum three (3) pairs, only replaced upon proper request by employee and demonstrated need.
Uniform Work Shorts	Maximum four (4) shirts, only replaced upon proper request by employee and demonstrated need.
Uniform T-Shirts	Maximum eight (8) short-sleeve, maximum three (3) long-sleeve shirts, only replaced upon proper request by employee and demonstrated need.
Jumpsuit	Maximum three (3) Jumpsuits, only replaced upon proper request by employee and demonstrated need.
Uniform Belt	Maximum one (1) belt, only replaced upon proper request by employee and demonstrated need.
Uniform Jacket or Job Shirt	One (1) issued upon employment, only replaced upon proper request by employee and demonstrated need.
Workout Clothes	Three (3) shorts upon proper request by employee and demonstrated need. One (1) sweatshirt if requested by the employee and upon showing of demonstrated need.
Ball Caps	Maximum one (1) cap, only replaced upon proper request by employee and upon showing of demonstrated need.

Any other clothing supplied by the City during the course of this Agreement shall be in the sole discretion of the City and shall not constitute a term or condition of employment and may be discontinued in the sole discretion of the City.

Uniforms destroyed in the line of duty shall be replaced by the Department. Uniforms damaged or destroyed as a result of preventable circumstances may result in the issuance of discipline per the Fire Department's Progressive Discipline Policy.

The City retains the sole right to determine uniform style, color and accessories, and to establish rules and procedures for wearing uniforms and accessories.

Section 2 -The City will reimburse employees up to \$175 per fiscal year toward the purchase of approved uniform shoes or, if the employee purchases such shoes from an approved City vendor which the City pays the direct cost for (currently Red Wing Shoes), the City shall pay up to \$175 per fiscal year for such shoes. All uniform shoes shall meet the specifications and standards contained in the American Standard for Testing and Materials (ASTM2413). If the employee purchases shoes from any entity that exceed \$175 in cost, the City shall only pay/reimburse up to the \$175 cap for each pair.

Section 3 - The Fire Chief or his/her designee shall determine when replacement of uniforms and equipment is needed due to wear, deterioration or appearance.

ARTICLE 32 INSURANCE BENEFITS

The City will provide the same medical, dental, life, accidental death and dismemberment insurance to the employee as it provides to all other City employees, including mental health, drug rehabilitation and employee assistance coverage. This insurance coverage will be modified in accordance with the contracts and programs offered to all City employees.

The City will provide the death benefits and insurance benefits as are set forth in Chapter 112.191 and 112.194 of the Florida Statutes.

ARTICLE 33 WORKING OUT OF CLASSIFICATION

Employees who are required to work in a classification carrying a higher base rate of pay (i.e., fire lieutenant) shall be paid ten percent (10%) above their regular rate of pay while so acting.

The City will designate three (3) County-certified paramedics per shift (nine (9) in total)

as field training officers (FTO). Each FTO shall receive a \$1,200 stipend each year, paid in bi-weekly installments. These FTOs – who cannot hold the rank of Lieutenant – will be responsible for training personnel and some administrative duties. The Department will develop a description for these FTO assignments and will elicit input from the Union.

The City will continue to provide a seven and one half percent (7.5%) pay supplement to any other employees (including Lieutenants) who are not assigned as FTOS for time spent while assigned to train new employees.

ARTICLE 34
RANDOM DRUG TESTING

The parties have negotiated and agreed upon a current Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) #1500-9-1.2 dealing with random alcohol, drug, illegal drug and controlled substance testing. This SOP shall be deemed to be an Article of this Contract. Either party may unilaterally reopen and request to re-bargain this SOP in the event of any of the following events occurring that materially affect the rights of either party under the said SOP to wit: 1) statutory change, State or Federal; 2) judicial decision; 3) administrative decision or rule change; 4) or for advancement in medical technology or drug testing technology.

ARTICLE 35
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND REIMBURSEMENT

Section 1 - The parties agree that the City may hire EMTs with the understanding that the City will pay all costs associated with such EMTs receiving their paramedic certification (i.e., tuition, books and supplies) from an educational facility pre-approved by the City.

Section 2 – Any EMTs hired by the City pursuant to this Article will have a period of two (2) years to complete the required training to become a paramedic. Failure to complete the coursework and be certified as a Pinellas County paramedic within that time period may result in the termination of such EMT's City's employment.

Section 3 – Should an EMT hired under this program resign or abandon his/her position within four (4) years of his/her receipt of the paramedic certification, such EMT will be required to reimburse the City for the entire cost of the paramedic education, including any application or exam fees, as well as the cost for his/her school uniforms, either through payroll deduction or by a payment made directly to the City. Such reimbursement must occur within thirty (30) days of the employee's resignation. The

Employee will also be required to reimburse the City for any costs associated with its efforts to collect such reimbursement, including fees and costs.

ARTICLE 36
SAVINGS CLAUSE

If any Article or Section of this Agreement should be found invalid, unlawful or not enforceable, by reason of any existing or subsequently enacted legislation or by judicial authority, all other Articles and Sections of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect for the duration of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 37
ENTIRE AGREEMENT

The parties acknowledge that during the negotiations, which resulted in this Agreement, each had the right and opportunity to make proposals with respect to subjects or matters not removed by law from the area of collective bargaining. The understandings and agreements arrived at by the parties after the exercise of such right and opportunity are set forth in this Agreement.

The City and the Union, for the duration of the Agreement, each voluntarily and unqualifiedly waives the right and agrees that the either shall not be obliged to bargain collectively with respect to any subject or matter not specifically referred to or covered in this Agreement or relative to the impact of any changes occurring because of the administration of the provisions of this Agreement, even though such subject matter may not have been within the knowledge or contemplation of either or both parties at the time that they negotiated this Agreement, unless otherwise provided for herein.

This contract shall contain the entire understanding between the parties and shall be the only document governing the terms and conditions of employment between the parties except departmental procedures, rules, regulations or general and State or Federal Law, except as is specifically provided herein and except that the employees shall be governed by the Employee Service System Rules of the city as they now exist or may hereafter be amended, except that this Contract shall prevail to the extent of any conflict.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the parties agree that, during the term of this Agreement, they will work through the labor management process toward creating a mutually agreeable policy governing promotions to the rank of Lieutenant.

ARTICLE 38
DURATION

This Agreement shall be effective as of October 1, 2021 and shall remain in full force and effect until its expiration date, September 30, 2024.

**CITY OF DUNEDIN
FIRE UNION PAY PLAN
2021 - 2024**

8.00%

2.00%

2.00%

GR	FY2022	% Step	FY2023	% Step	FY2024	% Step
LT1	63,151.27		64,414.30		65,702.59	
LT2	64,955.60	2.9%	66,254.71	2.9%	67,579.80	2.9%
LT3	66,759.92	2.8%	68,095.12	2.8%	69,457.02	2.8%
LT4	68,564.24	2.7%	69,935.52	2.7%	71,334.23	2.7%
LT5	70,368.57	2.6%	71,775.94	2.6%	73,211.46	2.6%
LT6	72,172.89	2.6%	73,616.35	2.6%	75,088.68	2.6%
LT7	73,977.21	2.5%	75,456.75	2.5%	76,965.89	2.5%
LT8	75,781.54	2.4%	77,297.17	2.4%	78,843.11	2.4%
LT9	77,585.86	2.4%	79,137.58	2.4%	80,720.33	2.4%
LT10	79,390.18	2.3%	80,977.98	2.3%	82,597.54	2.3%
LT11	81,194.51	2.3%	82,818.40	2.3%	84,474.77	2.3%
LT12	82,998.82	2.2%	84,658.80	2.2%	86,351.98	2.2%
LT13	84,803.14	2.2%	86,499.20	2.2%	88,229.18	2.2%
LT14	86,607.47	2.1%	88,339.62	2.1%	90,106.41	2.1%
LT15	88,411.79	2.1%	90,180.03	2.1%	91,983.63	2.1%

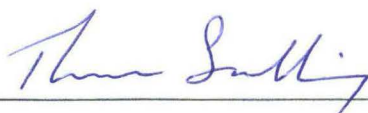
GR	FY2022	% Step	FY2023	% Step	FY2024	% Step
PM1	53,563.84		54,635.12		55,727.82	
PM2	55,476.84	3.6%	56,586.38	3.6%	57,718.11	3.6%
PM3	57,389.82	3.4%	58,537.62	3.4%	59,708.37	3.4%
PM4	59,302.81	3.3%	60,488.87	3.3%	61,698.65	3.3%
PM5	61,215.80	3.2%	62,440.12	3.2%	63,688.92	3.2%
PM6	63,128.80	3.1%	64,391.38	3.1%	65,679.21	3.1%
PM7	65,041.78	3.0%	66,342.62	3.0%	67,669.47	3.0%
PM8	66,954.77	2.9%	68,293.87	2.9%	69,659.75	2.9%
PM9	68,867.77	2.9%	70,245.13	2.9%	71,650.03	2.9%
PM10	70,780.76	2.8%	72,196.38	2.8%	73,640.31	2.8%
PM11	72,693.74	2.7%	74,147.61	2.7%	75,630.56	2.7%
PM12	74,606.73	2.6%	76,098.86	2.6%	77,620.84	2.6%
PM13	76,519.73	2.6%	78,050.12	2.6%	79,611.12	2.6%
PM14	78,432.71	2.5%	80,001.36	2.5%	81,601.39	2.5%
PM15	80,345.70	2.4%	81,952.61	2.4%	83,591.66	2.4%

GR	FY2022	% Step	FY2023	% Step	FY2024	% Step
EMT1	\$45,761.54		\$46,676.77		\$47,610.31	
EMT2	47,395.88	3.6%	48,343.80	3.6%	49,310.68	3.6%
EMT3	49,030.22	3.4%	50,010.82	3.4%	51,011.04	3.4%
EMT4	50,664.56	3.3%	51,677.85	3.3%	52,711.41	3.3%
EMT5	52,298.90	3.2%	53,344.88	3.2%	54,411.78	3.2%
EMT6	53,933.25	3.1%	55,011.92	3.1%	56,112.16	3.1%
EMT7	55,567.58	3.0%	56,678.93	3.0%	57,812.51	3.0%
EMT8	57,201.92	2.9%	58,345.96	2.9%	59,512.88	2.9%
EMT9	58,836.26	2.9%	60,012.99	2.9%	61,213.25	2.9%
EMT10	60,470.60	2.8%	61,680.01	2.8%	62,913.61	2.8%
EMT11	62,104.95	2.7%	63,347.05	2.7%	64,613.99	2.7%
EMT12	63,739.28	2.6%	65,014.07	2.6%	66,314.35	2.6%
EMT13	65,373.62	2.6%	66,681.09	2.6%	68,014.71	2.6%
EMT14	67,007.96	2.5%	68,348.12	2.5%	69,715.08	2.5%
EMT15	68,642.31	2.4%	70,015.16	2.4%	71,415.46	2.4%

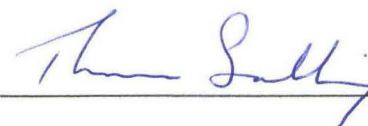
SIGNATURES

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be signed by their authorized representatives on the day and year first above written.

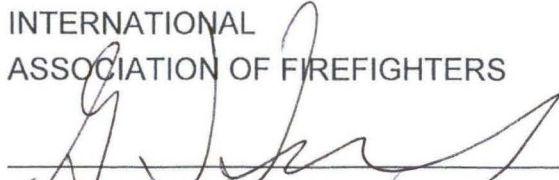
WITNESSES:







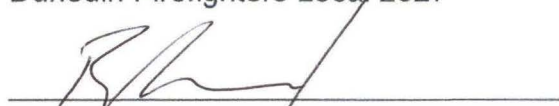




INTERNATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS

George Treubig, President
Dunedin Firefighters Local 2327


Lou Staggs, Vice President
Dunedin Firefighters Local 2327

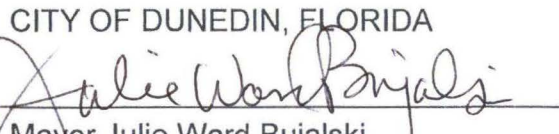

Chadwick Denison, Secretary/Treasurer
Dunedin Firefighters Local 2327


Richard Pauley, Business Agent
Dunedin Firefighters Local 2327

Ratified by the membership of the Dunedin Firefighters' Local 2327, on the 21st day of October, 2021.


ATTEST:


City Clerk Rebecca Schlichter

CITY OF DUNEDIN, FLORIDA

Mayor Julie Ward Bujalski


City Manager Jennifer K. Bramley

Approved as to form and correctness:


Brett J. Schneider, Esq., Special Labor Counsel

Ratified by the Dunedin City Commission, on the 2nd day of November, 2021.