

THIS BOOK DOES  
NOT CIRCULATE

A G R E E M E N T

Between

THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD

And

FIREMEN'S MUTUAL BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

BRANCH #30

*Union County*

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Effective: July 1, 1976 through June 30, 1978

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This Agreement made as of the 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1976, by and between the TOWN OF WESTFIELD, a municipal corporation of the State of New Jersey, hereinafter referred to as the "Town" and the FIREMEN'S MUTUAL BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, BRANCH #30, hereinafter referred to as the "FMBA";

WHEREAS, the parties hereto have entered into collective negotiations and desire to reduce the results thereof to writing;

NOW THEREFORE, it is mutually agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

RECOGNITION

Section 1. The Town hereby recognizes the FMBA as the sole and exclusive representative for purposes of collective negotiations for all members of the Fire Department of the Town, but excluding the Chief of the Fire Department.

ARTICLE II

PAYROLL DEDUCTION OF FMBA DUES

Section 1. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14-15.9e, the Town agrees to deduct from the salaries of members of the department represented by the FMBA, dues for membership in the FMBA provided the member files an appropriate written authorization with the Town. The deductions will be made twice each year, during the months of December and June.

The dues so deducted will be transmitted to the FMBA Treasurer. The FMBA shall certify to the appropriate Town official in writing the current rate of membership dues.

Section 2. The FMBA agrees that it will indemnify and save harmless the Town against any actions, claims, loss or expenses in any manner resulting from action taken by the Employer at the request of the FMBA under this Article.

### ARTICLE III

#### MANAGEMENT PREROGATIVES

Section 1. It is understood and agreed that the Town possesses the sole right to conduct the Town's business, to manage and direct the affairs of the Fire Department, to fulfill its lawful obligations and that all management rights repose in it.

Section 2. It is further agreed and understood that all rights of management are retained by the Town unless otherwise specifically restricted by this Agreement.

### ARTICLE IV

#### NO STRIKE

Section 1. During the term of this Agreement the FMBA agrees that there shall be no strikes, work stoppages, job actions or slowdowns of any kind.

### ARTICLE V

#### FMBA SECURITY

Section 1. The parties hereto agree that the conduct of the internal affairs of the FMBA is the sole responsibility and right of the officers and members of the FMBA.

Section 2. The Town and the FMBA agree not to discriminate against, interfere with, or coerce any member of the Department in the exercise of his right to form, join and assist the FMBA or to refrain from any such activity.

ARTICLE VI

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

Section 1. Any dispute involving the interpretation or application of any of the provisions in this Agreement shall be a grievance and shall be settled and determined according to the following procedure which must be followed:

Step 1. An employee with a grievance shall first discuss it with his immediate supervisor, either directly or through the FMBA's designated representative for the purpose of resolving the matter informally.

Step 2. If the aggrieved party is not satisfied with the disposition of his grievance at Step 1, or if no decision has been rendered within three (3) working days after presentation of that grievance at Step 1, he may file a grievance in writing with the Chief of the Fire Department or his designated representative. A hearing on the grievance shall be held between the Chief of the Fire Department or his designated representative and the aggrieved party and the FMBA's designated representative. Those parties present at Step 1 may be present at Step 2. The Chief of the Fire Department will render a decision in writing within ten (10) working days.

Step 3. If the aggrieved party is not satisfied with the disposition of his grievance at Step 2, he may submit the matter for review by the Town Administrator within five (5) working days after receiving the decision in Step 2. The Town Administrator shall render a decision from the record before him in writing within ten (10) working days.

Step 4. If the aggrieved party is not satisfied with the disposition of his grievance at Step 3, he may submit the matter for review by the Mayor within five (5) working days after receiving the decision in Step 3. The Mayor shall render a final decision from the record before him in writing within ten (10) working days.

Section 2. The time limits specified in the grievance procedure shall be construed as maximum. However, these may be extended upon mutual agreement.

Section 3. Any grievance not presented under the grievance procedures described herein within three (3) working days of the occurrence of the condition giving rise to the grievance shall not thereafter be considered a grievance under this Agreement unless reasons satisfactory to the Town are given in explanation of the failure to present the grievance within such time.

## ARTICLE VII

### ARBITRATION

Within two (2) weeks of the transmittal of the written answer by the Mayor, if the grievance is not settled to the satisfaction of the aggrieved party, he may request that the

grievance be submitted to arbitration within fifteen (15) working days of the final decision of the Mayor.

The grievance may be submitted to the New Jersey State Board of Mediation for the appointment of an impartial arbitrator in accordance with their Rules and Regulations, who shall have full power to hear and determine the dispute between the parties. The arbitrator shall have the authority to hear and determine the grievance, and his decision shall be final and binding on all parties. The arbitrator shall have no right to vary or modify the terms and conditions of this Agreement and shall decide the dispute within thirty (30) days after the hearing has been closed. Only the Town or the FMBA shall have the right to submit a grievance to arbitration.

#### ARTICLE VIII

##### SALARIES

Section 1. During the term of this Agreement, salaries for employees shall be as set forth in Schedule A which is appended hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

#### ARTICLE IX

##### HOURS OF WORK AND OVERTIME

Section 1. The schedule of hours of actual duty for the paid officers and members of the Fire Department will average forty-two (42) hours per week in any eight (8) week cycle, based on ten (10) hour day shift tours of duty and fourteen (14) hour night shift tours of duty. The duty hours for the Fire Prevention Officer and the Administrative Deputy Chief shall be scheduled by the Chief of the Fire Department.

Section 2. Whenever an employee works in excess of his regularly assigned work week or work schedule as provided for in Section 1 of this Article, he shall be paid for such overtime work at time and one-half (1-1/2) his regular straight time hourly rate which he receives for his regularly assigned duty, except that he shall receive no additional compensation when working for a fellow employee on special leave pursuant to Article XVII hereof.

Section 3. In the event that an employee is required to report to duty because of a recall, he shall be entitled to a minimum of one hour's pay at time and one-half (1-1/2) his regular hourly rate. After the first hour of actual work, (for the purpose of payment), such overtime pay will be calculated in fifteen (15) minute intervals.

Section 4. Whenever an employee works over four (4) hours overtime, he shall be entitled to meal money of four (\$4.00) dollars.

Section 5. The assignment of overtime shall be governed by the provisions of Schedule B.

Section 6. Employees may wear work uniforms back and forth to duty.

## ARTICLE X

### LONGEVITY

Section 1. The computation for longevity payments under the existing schedule will be made from the anniversary date of employment.



ARTICLE XI

HOLIDAYS

Section 1. Members of the uniformed paid Fire Department shall be paid, in addition to their annual salary, ten (10) holidays per year at their regular weekly rate of compensation.

ARTICLE XII

VACATIONS

Section 1. All members of the uniformed Fire Department shall be granted annual vacation leave with pay as follows:

(a) Up to five (5) working days' vacation will be granted to employees during the first calendar year in which employed by the Town. One day of vacation will be allowed for each two (2) full calendar months of service in such year up to the maximum of five (5) days.

(b) Up to ten (10) working days' vacation will be granted to all employees during each year from the second (2d) through the tenth (10th) calendar year in which continually employed by the Town. In the second such calendar year, and in each successive year, five (5) working days' vacation will be granted, plus one additional day of vacation for each two (2) full calendar months of service in the previous year of service, up to a maximum of five (5) additional vacation days and a total of ten (10) days.

(c) Up to fifteen (15) working days vacation shall be allowed members of the department who have completed ten (10) years of continuous service before July 1st.

(d) Up to twenty (20) working days vacation shall be allowed to members of the Department who have completed fifteen (15) years of continuous service before July 1st.

Section 2. Whenever a member's employment is terminated by death or retirement his unused vacation entitlement will be paid to him or to his estate, whichever is the case; provided, however, in the case of retirement the Town has the option, in lieu of payment, to grant the employee time off.

### ARTICLE XIII

#### INSURANCE

Section 1. In the event that during the life of this Agreement, any employees of the Town as part of their employee benefits are entitled to or do receive medical/surgical health plan benefits greater than those then being received by members of the FMBA, then members of the FMBA shall automatically be included in and entitled to receive the increased benefit coverage effective on the earliest date any other employees are entitled to receive the same.

### ARTICLE XIV

#### RETENTION OF EXISTING BENEFITS

Section 1. Except as otherwise provided herein, all benefits which employees have heretofore enjoyed and are presently enjoying, shall be maintained and continued by the Town during the term of this Agreement, and with regard to Death Leave Benefits, the employee's current father-in-law and mother-in-law will be added to the list of relatives for whom death leave benefits are granted under the provisions of the Town Code.

ARTICLE XV

SAVINGS CLAUSE

Section 1. Should any part or any provision herein contained be rendered or declared invalid by reason of any existing or subsequently enacted legislation or any decree of a Court or tribunal of competent jurisdiction, such invalidation of such part or portion of this Agreement shall not invalidate the remaining portion thereof.

Section 2. The parties hereto further agree that this Agreement will be subject to, comply with, and be governed by all applicable laws, Executive Orders, rulings and regulations of any tribunal of competent jurisdiction.

ARTICLE XVI

FMBA NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE - ITS RIGHTS AND DUTIES

Section 1. There shall be four (4) members of the FMBA Negotiating Committee. The four (4) members shall consist of two (2) paid firemen and two (2) paid fire officers; not management. These members shall be granted leave from duty with full pay for all meetings between the Town and the FMBA for the purpose of negotiating the terms of an Agreement, when such meetings take place at a time during which said members are scheduled to be on duty.

Section 2. There shall be two (2) members of the FMBA Grievance Committee granted leave from duty with full pay for all meetings between the Town and the FMBA for the purpose of

processing grievances, when such meetings take place at a time which said members are scheduled to be on duty. The two (2) members shall consist of one (1) paid fireman and one (1) paid fire officer. The members of the Grievance Committee are to be appointed by the President of the FMBA.

Section 3. The Executive Delegate of the FMBA shall be granted a reasonable amount of leave from duty with full pay for all meetings of the FMBA State Executive Board and all membership meetings of the State FMBA when such meetings take place at a time when said officer is scheduled to be on duty, providing that said delegate gives reasonable notice to the Chief of the Fire Department.

Section 4. A member holding office in the State FMBA will be permitted time off up to four (4) days per year to attend State FMBA officers meetings.

Section 5. The Fire Chief will meet semi-annually with the officers of the FMBA to resolve any problems which may arise.

## ARTICLE XVII

### LEAVES

#### Section 1. Special Leaves

Any employee may, with the approval of the Chief, be granted special leave with pay for any days on which he is able to secure another employee to work in his place provided:

(a) Such substitution does not impose any additional cost on the Town.

(b) The officer in charge of one of the tours in the firehouse is notified not less than one (1) day prior to its becoming effective, except in the case of emergency request may be made by telephone.

(c) The Superior Officer in charge of the tour on which substitution is to take place is notified of the substitution as soon as practicable by the officer in charge of the firehouse on the same tour.

#### ARTICLE XVIII

##### SENIORITY

Section 1. Seniority shall consist of the relative length of accumulated service of each employee. An employee's length of service shall not be reduced by the time lost due to sickness or injury leave, or authorized leave of absence.

#### ARTICLE XIX

##### BULLETIN BOARDS

Section 1. The Town shall permit the FMBA use of one Bulletin Board in each firehouse for the posting of notices concerning FMBA business and activities.

#### ARTICLE XX

##### EDUCATION AND TEST REVIEW

Section 1. The Town will provide text books for approved training courses.

Section 2. Any candidate taking a promotional exam will have the opportunity to review his test paper.

Section 3. Employees will be informed at least thirty (30) days prior to a promotional exam of the texts from which the examination questions will be taken.

Section 4. A Promotional list will remain valid for the two (2) year period following the announcement date of the results of the examination.

ARTICLE XXI

SICK LEAVE REDEMPTION

Section 1. Upon retirement, an employee will be paid one (1) day's pay calculated at an eight (8) hour rate for every five day's unused sick leave subject to a maximum accumulation of sixty (60) days.

ARTICLE XXII

MUTUAL AID

Section 1. Members of Westfield Fire Department shall not be requested to respond as first due unit in any noncontiguous community where a labor dispute is in progress.

ARTICLE XXIII

DURATION

This Agreement shall become effective on July 1, 1976  
and shall terminate on June 30, 1978.

Attest:

TOWN OF WESTFIELD

By *Don C. Woodland*  
Town Clerk

By *Allen Chen*  
Acting Mayor

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FIREMEN'S MUTUAL BENEVOLENT  
ASSOCIATION, BRANCH #30

By *Gustavo Buonanno*

*Roy Ross*

SCHEDULE A  
SALARY SCHEDULE

Effective July 1, 1976, the annual salaries of the Fire Department shall be as follows:

Dep. Chief of Fire Dept.-----	\$17,300.00
Captain of Fire Dept.-----	16,000.00
Lieutenant of Fire Dept.-----	14,700.00
Firemen in the probationary period of one year-----	9,600.00
Firemen in the second year from the date of appointment-----	11,300.00
Firemen in the third year from the date of appointment-----	12,000.00
Firemen in the fourth year from the date of appointment-----	12,700.00
Firemen in the fifth year and all subsequent years from the date of appointment-----	13,400.00

Effective January 1, 1977, the annual salaries of the Fire Department shall be as follows:

Dep. Chief of Fire Dept.-----	\$17,700.00
Captain of Fire Dept.-----	16,400.00
Lieutenant of Fire Dept.-----	15,100.00
Firemen in the probationary period of one year-----	9,600.00
Firemen in the second year from the date of appointment-----	11,400.00
Firemen in the third year from the date of appointment-----	12,200.00
Firemen in the fourth year from the date of appointment-----	13,000.00
Firemen in the fifth year and all subsequent years from the date of appointment-----	13,900.00



Effective July 1, 1977, the annual salaries of the Fire Department shall be as follows:

Dep. Chief of Fire Dept.-----	\$18,100.00
Captain of Fire Dept.-----	16,800.00
Lieutenant of Fire Dept.-----	15,500.00
Firemen in the probationary period of one year-----	9,600.00
Firemen in the second year from the date of appointment-----	11,500.00
Firemen in the third year from the date of appointment-----	12,400.00
Firemen in the fourth year from the date of appointment-----	13,300.00
Firemen in the fifth year and all subsequent years from the date of appointment-----	14,300.00

Effective January 1, 1978, the annual salaries of the Fire Department shall be as follows:

Dep. Chief of Fire Dept.-----	\$18,500.00
Captain of Fire Dept.-----	17,200.00
Lieutenant of Fire Dept.-----	15,900.00
Firemen in the probationary period of one year-----	9,600.00
Firemen in the second year from the date of appointment-----	11,600.00
Firemen in the third year from the date of appointment-----	12,600.00
Firemen in the fourth year from the date of appointment-----	13,600.00
Firemen in the fifth year and all subsequent years from the date of appointment-----	14,800.00

SCHEDULE B

EQUAL OVERTIME PROPOSAL

There shall be one overtime list in the department in order to maintain equalization for all members.

1. If there is no answer to a call, or if the individual called is not at home, his name will remain in the same place on the list.
2. If the individual is permitted to decline the overtime offer, or if he accepts, his name will be placed at the bottom of the list.
3. If an individual is required to work around the clock as a result of accepting an overtime offer, he shall be allowed time off to go home or buy food provided he arranges for another man to cover for him.
5. Fire watch shall not count as a turn on the overtime list.
6. If a man is hired for less than five hours, it will not count as a turn on the overtime list. His name shall remain in place. If he is hired for more than five hours, it shall count as a turn and his name shall go to the bottom of the list.
7. The overtime list shall be posted in both firehouses.
8. The wife of the member may refuse an overtime offer but may not accept. The Deputy Chief must speak to the member himself for an acceptance of overtime or his name will be bypassed and will remain in the same place on the list.
9. If a member is willing to be available for overtime while he is on vacation, he must notify his Superior Officer in advance or he will be by-passed and his name will remain in the same place on the list.