

**A G R E E M E N T**

between the

**CITY OF LINWOOD**

**ATLANTIC COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

and

**NEW JERSEY STATE POLICEMEN'S BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**MAINLAND LOCAL NO. 77**

**(LINWOOD RANK AND FILE)**

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**JANUARY 1, 2022 through DECEMBER 31, 2027**

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**AGREEMENT**

THIS AGREEMENT entered into this \_\_\_\_\_ day of June, 2022, by and between the  
CITY OF LINWOOD, in the County of Atlantic, a Municipal Corporation of the State of New

Jersey, hereinafter called the "City," and NEW JERSEY STATE POLICEMEN'S BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, INC., MAINLAND LOCAL NO. 77, duly appointed representative of the Police Department of the City of Linwood, hereinafter called the "Association," represents the complete and final understanding on all bargainable issues between the City and the Association.

## **ARTICLE I**

### **PURPOSE**

This Agreement is entered into pursuant to the provisions of the New Jersey Employer-Employee Relations Act, Chapter 123, Laws of 1974 (N.J.S.A. 34:13A-1et seq.) of the State of New Jersey to promote and ensure harmonious relations, cooperation and understanding between the City and the Employees; to provide for the resolution of legitimate grievances, and; to prescribe the rights and duties of the City and Employees, all in order that the public service shall be expedited and effectuated in the best interest of the people of the City of Linwood.

**ARTICLE II**  
**EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE**

**A. Majority Representative**

1. The City hereby recognizes the Association as the sole and exclusive negotiating agent and representative for all full-time Patrol Officers and Sergeants employed in the City of Linwood Police Department, but excluding all other personnel employed in the City of Linwood Police Department, and all other City employees. The Association shall have all the rights and privileges pursuant to N.J.S.A. 34:13A-1, et seq.
2. The title Police Officer shall be defined to include the plural as well as the singular and to include males and females, uniformed members and non-uniformed members assigned to plain clothes.

**B. Stewards**

1. One (1) Steward or alternate, named by the Linwood members of the Association, shall be excused by the Chief of Police to attend regular meetings of the Association, which occur monthly, providing that there is a full complement of Police Officers on that particular shift.
2. It is understood that the Steward or alternate shall return to duty immediately following said meeting.

3. In the event that the Steward is unavailable due to illness, or on vacation, the alternate shall assume the duties and attend such meetings.
4. The name of the Steward and alternate shall be registered with the Governing Body and with the Chief of Police.
5. An employee attending any meeting covered by this Article on off-duty time shall do so voluntarily. The employee and the Association understand and agree that any such off-duty time spent shall not be compensated by the City and shall not be considered "compensable hours" pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act.

**C. Notification of Changes**

In addition to the City's legal obligation to negotiate any change in terms and conditions of employment, the City agrees to give prior notification to the PBA of any contemplated introduction of, changes to, modifications to or additions to any policy and/or ordinance which may affect or impact officers prior to any implementation.



**ARTICLE III**  
**GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

- A. The purpose of this procedure is to secure, at the lowest possible level, an equitable solution to the problems which may arise affecting the terms and conditions of employment under this Agreement.
- B. Nothing herein shall be construed as limiting the rights of any employee having a grievance to discuss the matter informally with any appropriate member of the Department.
- C. 1. With regard to employees, the term "grievance" as used herein means an appeal by any individual employee or the Association on behalf of an individual employee or group of employees, from the interpretation, application or violation of policies, agreements, and administrative decisions affecting them.
2. With respect to employee grievances, no grievance may proceed beyond Step Four herein unless it constitutes a controversy arising over the interpretation, application or alleged violation of the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Disputes concerning terms and conditions of employment controlled by statute or administrative regulation, incorporation by reference in this Agreement, either expressly or by operation of law, shall not be processed beyond Step Four herein.

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

Step One: The aggrieved or the Association shall institute action under the provisions hereof within fifteen (15) calendar days after the event giving rise to the grievance has occurred or knowledge thereof, and an earnest effort shall be made to settle the differences between the aggrieved employee and the Chief of Police for the purpose of resolving the matter informally. Failure to act within said fifteen (15) calendar days shall be deemed to constitute an abandonment of the grievance.

Step Two: If no agreement can be reached orally within fifteen (15) calendar days after the initial discussion with the Chief of Police pursuant to step 1, the employee or the Association may present the grievance in writing within fifteen (15) calendar days thereafter to the Chief of Police or designated representative. The written grievance at this Step shall contain the relevant facts and a summary of the preceding oral discussion, the applicable Section of the contract violated, and the remedy requested by the grievant. The Chief of Police or designated representative will answer the grievance in writing within fifteen (15) calendar days of receipt of the written grievance.

Step Three: If the Association wishes to appeal the decision of the Chief of Police, such appeal shall be presented in writing to the Mayor within fifteen (15) calendar days thereafter. This presentation shall include copies of all previous correspondence relating to the matter in dispute. The Mayor shall respond, in writing, to the grievance within fifteen (15) calendar days of the submission.

Step Four: If the Association wishes to appeal the decision of the Mayor, such an appeal shall be presented in writing to the City Council within fifteen (15) calendar days thereafter. This presentation shall include copies of all previous correspondence relating to the matter in dispute. The City Council shall respond, in writing to the grievance within thirty (30) calendar days of the submission. City Council may act as a whole, or by the President of Council or designee in the sole discretion of the Council President.

Step Five: If the grievance is not settled through Steps One, Two, Three and Four, either party shall have the right to submit the dispute to arbitration pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Public Employment Relations Commission within thirty (30) calendar days after receipt of the response form the City Council. The costs for the services of the arbitrator shall be borne equally by the City and the Association. Any other expenses, including but not limited to the presentation of witnesses, shall be paid by the parties incurring same.

- E. 1. The parties may direct the arbitrator to decide, as a preliminary question, whether they have jurisdiction to hear and decide the matter in dispute.

2. The arbitrator shall be bound by the provisions of this Agreement and the Constitution and Laws of the State of New Jersey, and be restricted to the application of the facts presented in the grievance. The arbitrator shall not have the authority to add to, modify, detract from or alter in any way the provisions of this Agreement or any amendment or supplement thereto. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding.

F. Upon prior notice to and authorization of the Mayor, the designated Association Representative shall be permitted as members of the Grievance Committee to confer with the employees and the City and specific grievances in accordance with the grievance procedure set forth herein during work hours of employees, without loss of pay, provided the conduct of said business does not diminish the effectiveness of the City of Linwood Police Department or require the recall of off-duty employees.

G. The time limits expressed herein shall be strictly adhered to. If any grievance has not been initiated within the time limits specified, then the grievance shall be deemed to have been abandoned. If any grievance is not processed to the next succeeding step in the grievance procedure within the time limits prescribed thereunder, then the disposition of the grievance at the last preceding step shall be deemed to be conclusive. If a decision is not rendered within the time limits prescribed for decision at any step in the grievance procedure, then the grievance shall be deemed to have been denied. Nothing herein shall prevent the parties from mutually agreeing to extend or contract the time limits for processing the grievance at any step in the grievance procedure. Nothing herein shall prevent the parties from mutually

agreeing to extend or contract the time limits for processing the grievance at any step in the grievance procedure.

#### **ARTICLE IV**

#### **NON-DISCRIMINATION**

- A. The City and the Association agree that there shall be no discrimination against any employee because of race, creed, color, religion, sex, national origin or political affiliation.
  
- B. The City and the Association agree that all employees covered under this Agreement have the right without fear of penalty or reprisal to form, join and assist any employee organization or to refrain from any such activity. There shall be no discrimination by the City or the Association against any employee because of the employee's membership or non-membership or activity or non-activity in the Association.

**ARTICLE V**

**BULLETIN BOARDS**

- A. The Association shall have the use of the bulletin board in the Police Department Headquarters for the posting of notices relating to meetings and official business of the Association only.
  
- B. Only material authorized by the signature of the Association President, Steward or alternate shall be permitted to be posted on said bulletin board.

**ARTICLE VI**  
**MANAGEMENT RIGHTS**

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

1. The executive management and administrative control of the City Government and its properties and facilities and activities of its employees by utilizing personnel, methods and means of the most appropriate and efficient manner possible as may from time to time be determined by the City.
2. To make rules of procedures and conduct, to use improved methods and equipment, to determine work schedules and shifts, to decide the number of employees needed for any particular time and to be in sole charge of the quality and quantity of the work required.
3. The right of management to make, maintain and amend such reasonable rules and regulations as it may from time to time deem best for the purposes of maintaining order, safety and/or the effective operation of the Department after advance notice thereof to the employees.

4. To hire all employees, and subjects to the provisions of law, to determine their qualifications and conditions of continued employment, or assignment, and to promote and transfer employees.
  5. To suspend, demote, discharge or take any other appropriate disciplinary action against any employee for good and just cause according to law.
  6. The City reserves the right with regard to all other conditions of employment not reserved to make such changes as it deems desirable and necessary for the efficient and effective operation of the Department.
- B. In the exercise of the foregoing powers, rights, authority, duties and responsibilities of the City, the adoption of policies, rules, regulations and practices and the furtherance thereof, and the use of judgment and discretion in connection therewith, shall be limited only by the specific and express terms of this Agreement and then only to the extent such specific and express terms hereof are in conformance with the constitution and the laws of New Jersey and of the United States.
- C. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to deny or restrict the City of its rights, responsibilities and authority under R.S. 40A, or any other national, state, county or local laws or regulations.



**ARTICLE VII**  
**OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT**

- A. Employees shall be entitled to engage in any lawful activity and obtain any lawful work while off-duty.
  
- B. It is understood that the full-time employees will consider their position with the City as their primary job. Any outside employment must not interfere with the employee's efficiency in position with the City and must not constitute any conflict of interest.
  
- C. No employee planning to or engaging in outside employment during the off-duty hours shall be permitted to wear the regulation City uniform including the "baseball style" police hat, or any part thereof.
  
- D. All outside employment shall be listed with the Chief of Police.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **EXCHANGE OF TOURS**

- A. The Chief of Police, in sole discretion, may grant reasonable requests of employees to exchange tours of duty with other employees of equal rank provided the shift commander of each shift is notified in advance. Under no circumstances will employees be permitted to exchange tours of duty if such exchange would entitle either employee to receive overtime.
  
- B. The City and the Association understand and agree that all time worked pursuant to an exchange of tour shall not constitute "compensable" hours for the purposes of overtime pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **STRIKES**

A. The Association and employees assure and pledge to the City that their goals and purposes are such as to condone no strikes by employees nor work stoppages, slow-downs, or any other such methods which would interfere with services to the public or violate the Constitution and laws of the State of New Jersey. The Association and employees will not initiate such activities nor advocate or encourage other employees to initiate the same, and the Association and employees will not support any member of this organization acting contrary to this provision.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **HOLIDAYS**

A. All employees covered by this Agreement shall receive thirteen (13) paid holidays. If a holiday is worked by a particular employee, he or she may take it at any time during the calendar year, and may run consecutive with the employee's vacation schedule. Any employee planning to use a holiday must provide at least a five (5) day notice. Response by the Chief will be no later than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the date requested. A request may be made later than five (5) days prior to the date requested, but it may be granted or denied in the sole discretion of the Chief of Police. Each request will be decided on its own merits. The specific holiday schedule shall be subject to approval of the Chief of Police, who will insure the continued efficiency and operation of the Police Department of the City of Linwood.

B. The following holidays will be observed:

1. New Year's Day (January 1)
2. Martin L. King, Jr.'s Birthday
3. Washington's Birthday
4. Good Friday
5. Memorial Day
6. Independence Day (July 4)
7. Labor Day
8. Columbus Day

- 9. Election Day
- 10. Veteran's Day (Nov. 11)
- 11. Thanksgiving Day
- 12. Day after Thanksgiving
- 13. Christmas Day (Dec. 25)

It is understood and agreed by and between the parties that any officer who works on the dates indicated for celebration of the above holidays in the respective contract years shall have the option of taking a day off anytime during the calendar year or submitting an overtime report for that day and being paid time and one-half, in which case the officer shall not have any right to take any time off for that day.

**ARTICLE XI**

**VACATIONS**

- A. An employee during the first year of employment shall be entitled to a maximum of six (6) days of paid vacation which shall accrue as follows:

One day at the end of the seventh month and one additional day at the end of each subsequent month, up to and including the twelfth month.

- B. No vacation days shall be taken prior to the accrual thereof. Thereafter, an employee shall be entitled to a paid vacation according to the following schedule:

1. **Employees hired on or before January 1, 2013** shall be entitled to a paid vacation each year according to the following schedule:

- |                                                                                   |                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| (1) After one year of service and up to and including five years of service. .... | Thirteen (13)<br>working days<br>paid vacation  |
| (2) After six years of service. ....                                              | Fifteen (15)<br>working days<br>paid vacation   |
| (3) After seven years of service. ....                                            | Sixteen (16)<br>working days<br>paid vacation   |
| (4) After eight years of service. ....                                            | Seventeen (17)<br>working days<br>paid vacation |

- (5) After nine years of service. . . . . Eighteen (18)  
working days  
paid vacation
- (6) After ten years of service. . . . . Twenty (20)  
working days  
paid vacation
- (7) After fifteen years of service. . . . . Twenty-three (23)  
working days  
paid vacation
- (8) After twenty years of service. . . . . Twenty-four (24)  
working days  
paid vacation

2. **Employees hired after January 1, 2013** shall be entitled to a paid vacation each year according to the following schedule:

- (1) After one year of service and  
up to and including five years  
of service. . . . . Thirteen (13)  
working days  
paid vacation
- (2) After six years of service. . . . . Fifteen (15)  
working days  
paid vacation
- (3) After seven years of service. . . . . Sixteen (16)  
working days  
paid vacation
- (4) After eight years of service. . . . . Seventeen (17)  
working days  
paid vacation
- (5) After nine years of service. . . . . Eighteen (18)  
working days  
paid vacation

- (6) After ten years of service. . . . .Twenty (20)  
working days  
paid vacation
- (7) After twenty years of service. . . . .Twenty-two (22)  
working days  
paid vacation

C. An employee shall not be entitled to any increased vacation until the next calendar year following the anniversary date of employment. An employee shall use all eligible vacation days during each calendar year, unless prior approval to the contrary has been obtained from the Chief of Police. However, under no circumstances may an employee carry over more than one (1) year of allowable vacation time. Employees shall be compensated for any unused vacation time requested and denied by the Chief of Police or designee to be used in the year in which it is earned. Payment shall be made no later than January 30 of the immediate succeeding year.

D. An employee planning to use a vacation day must provide at least a five (5) day notice. Response by the Chief or designee will be within seventy-two (72) hours of the date the request is submitted. However, in the event of an unforeseen circumstance, a request may be made within twenty-four (24) hours, which may be granted or denied in the sole discretion of the Chief of Police. If an officer submits a request for vacation at least twenty (20) days prior to the requested vacation leave, the Chief or designee shall respond within seventy-two (72) hours of the date the request is submitted. Any vacation leave approved



will not be rescinded to avoid the payment of overtime to assure minimum manning requirements. However, two (2) or more officers from the same squad will not be granted vacation time for the same requested time period.

- E. It is the intent of this Article to assure all employees covered by this Agreement that they shall receive the maximum amount of actual vacation days to which they are entitled. Days on which they are normally scheduled to work shall be the days they are given off. Days on which they are normally scheduled off that fall during the vacation period shall not be computed as part of the vacation. Vacation time may be taken any time during the calendar year, subject to the approval of the Chief of Police.
- F. Employees terminating their employment with the City or having their employment with the City terminated by the City shall be entitled to be paid for all vacation days accrued on the pro-rata monthly basis. If the number of vacation days utilized by an employee exceeds the number to which he was entitled to take by the date of termination, the City shall be entitled to re-coup compensation for the excess number of vacation days taken based on the date of severance.

**ARTICLE XII**  
**PERSONAL LEAVE**

- A. Personal leave is to be used for the purpose of attending to personal obligations which cannot be addressed during scheduled working hours. Each employee shall be entitled to 24 hours personal leave without giving a reason therefore. Personal leave is to be allotted on January 1 of each year, and can be used in hour segments or multiples thereof. Approval of such time will not be unreasonably denied except for reasons related to efficient operation of a department and will be made in the sole discretion of the Chief. Personal leave may not be carried over into the succeeding year. No personal leave may be used to extend the scheduled vacation or holiday either at the beginning or at the end thereof unless the employee has obtained prior approval from the Chief of Police or an unforeseen emergent circumstance arises.
- B. Personal leave is in addition to and are not to be deducted from vacation, holidays, comp. or sick leave days.
- C. Personal leave may only be taken anytime during the calendar year under the following format. The Police Officer intending to use a personal leave must request the leave from the Sergeant of the squad or in thier absence or unavailability the Lieutenant, Captain, or Chief will be contacted. In the event that the squad is anticipated to be full, the time will be granted and the officer shall notify dispatch of their absence. If the squad is not full due to

members being on vacation, holiday, comp. day or sick leave, the granting of the personal day will be at the discretion of the Lieutenant, Captain, or Chief of Police or designee.

- D. It is the intent of this Article to make every effort to grant the personal leave to the officer requesting same by the officer in charge.
  
- E. Officers terminating their employment with the City or having their employment with the City terminated by the City shall be entitled to be paid for all personal days accrued on a pro-rata basis. If the number of personal days utilized by an employee exceeds the number which he was entitled to take by the date of termination, the City shall be entitled to re-coup compensation for the excess number of personal days taken based on the date of severance.

### **ARTICLE XIII**

#### **WORK WEEK**

- A. A work week as defined in this Agreement shall be one consisting of forty-two (42) hours per week as presently outlined in the work schedule of the members of the Police Department of the City of Linwood. The work week shall average forty-two (42) hours per week on an annual basis.
- B. The Association recognizes the right of the City, through the Chief of Police, to alter the work week and/or work schedule at its sole discretion.
- C. All employees shall be entitled to twelve (12) days off, to be scheduled as and designated as "schedule days" in recognition of working an average work week of forty-two (42) hours as opposed to forty (40) hours.
- D.
  - 1. Schedule days as discussed in Section C above shall accrue on a pro-rated monthly basis.
  - 2. Schedule days as discussed in Section C above shall be scheduled in the same manner as vacation days (the employee submits a request, which must be either approved or denied by the Chief of Police or designee) providing that the City has the ability to assure adequate manning (the City has the right to reassign an employee's schedule days or recall an employee from a schedule day if manpower requirements so dictates.)

E. While the Association recognizes the right of the City to alter the work week and/or work schedule in accordance with Section B above, the City agrees that any such alteration shall not change the forty-two (42) hour average work week for the duration of this Agreement.

## **ARTICLE XIV**

### **SICK LEAVE**

A. Sick leave is hereby defined to mean absence from post of duty by an employee because of illness, exposure to contagious disease for themselves or their family members.

a. Family members are defined as follows:

- i. child (biological, adopted, or foster child; stepchild; legal ward; child of a domestic partner or civil union partner)
- ii. grandchild
- iii. sibling
- iv. spouse
- v. domestic partner or civil union partner
- vi. parent
- vii. grandparent
- viii. spouse, domestic partner, or civil union partner of an employee's parent or grandparent
- ix. sibling of an employee's spouse, domestic partner, or civil union partner
- x. any other individual related by blood to the employee
- xi. any individual whose close association with the employee is the equivalent of family

B. An employee may utilize up to a maximum of seven (7) accumulated sick days per year for attendance upon a member of the employee's immediate family, seriously ill and requiring the care or attendance of such employee.

C. 1. Any employee who shall be absent from work for three (3) or more consecutive working days due to illness, shall be required to submit acceptable medical evidence substantiating the illness.

2. Whenever it appears reasonable to the City, the City may require an employee on sick leave to see the City physician, at the City's expense, to verify the illness.

3. If sick leave is not approved for just cause, the time involved during which the employee was absent shall be charged to vacation, if any, providing the employee agrees. Otherwise, they will suffer loss of pay for such unauthorized time.

- D. In case of sick leave due to exposure to contagious disease, a certificate from the family doctor shall be required.
- E. Sick leave shall accrue for regular full-time employees at the rate of one (1) eight (8) hour day per month during the first calendar year of employment and fifteen (15) eight (8) hour working days in every calendar year of employment thereafter, and shall accumulate from year to year. However, no employee shall be entitled to accumulate more than a total of one hundred seventy-five (175) eight (8) hour days of sick leave.
- F. If an employee is absent from work for reasons that entitle them to sick leave, the Chief of Police or designated representative shall be notified as early as possible, but no later than two (2) hours prior to the start of the scheduled work shift from which they are absent, except in case of emergency. Failure to so notify may be cause of denial of the use of sick leave for that absence and constitute cause for disciplinary action.
- G. Abuse of sick leave shall constitute cause for disciplinary action. An employee who is found to have taken sick leave for days on which they were not sick, and for which they were not taking family sick leave, will be charged with unpaid leave. Repeat occurrences

will be treated progressively, and may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination from employment.

- H. Upon separation from service for any reason except termination for disciplinary infractions, an employee shall receive payment at their last rate of pay for fifty percent (50%) of accrued and unused sick leave time or use 50% of such time as terminal leave up to a maximum payment/time value cap of \$15,000. No employee shall be so entitled unless they have served a total of ten (10) years.

I. **Sick Leave Bank**

1. A voluntary sick leave bank will be established and jointly administered by the City and the PBA on a case-by-case basis. (Guidelines to be mutually established by the parties).
2. Only those officers who have: (a) suffered a non-work related injury or serious illness, and (b) have exhausted all sick leave, may apply to utilize the sick leave bank.
3. Officers having no less than fifteen (15) accumulated sick days may donate up to three (3) sick days per year to be utilized by the employee having no sick leave remaining.
4. When an officer donates time, the dollar value of the officer's donated time shall go into a money pool.
5. The officer utilizing the sick leave bank shall be compensated at their daily rate, and that sum shall be subtracted from the money pool.



**ARTICLE XV**

**FUNERAL LEAVE**

- A. In the event of death of the employee's spouse, child, step-child, parent, or step-parent, the employee shall be granted time off without loss of pay, in no event to exceed five (5) working days.
- B. In the event of death of the employee's in-laws, foster child, grandparents, sister, brother, grandchild or relative residing in the household, the employee shall be granted time off without loss of pay, in no event to exceed three (3) working days.
- C. Funeral leave may be extended beyond the three (3) or five (5) working day period without pay at the sole discretion of the Chief of Police.
- D. The above shall not constitute sick leave and shall not be deducted from the employee's annual sick leave.

## **ARTICLE XVI**

### **INJURY LEAVE**

- A. In the event an employee becomes disabled by reason of a work related injury or illness and is unable to perform their duties, then, in addition to any sick leave benefits otherwise provided for herein, they may be entitled to full pay for a period of up to one (1) year.
  
- B. Any employee who is injured, however slightly, while working, if able, must make a report in writing, prior to the end of the shift thereof to their immediate supervisor. If the employee is unable to do so, a Supervisor shall make such a report. A Supervisor receiving or making such a report will immediately notify administration of the incident and deliver the report. Failure by the employee to make such report may be grounds for denying the employee compensation under this Article.
  
- C. The employee shall be required to present evidence by a certificate of a physician designated by the insurance carrier that he is unable to work, and the City may reasonably require the employee to present such certificate from time to time.
  
- D. If the City does not accept the certificate of the physician designated by the insurance carrier, the City shall have the right at its own cost to require the employee to obtain a physician examination and certification of fitness by a physician appointed by the City.

- E. In the event the City appointed physician certifies the employee fit to return to duty, injury leave benefits granted under this Article shall be terminated. However, if the employee disputes the determination of the City appointed physician, then the City and the employee shall mutually agree upon a third physician, who shall then examine the employee. The cost of the third physician shall be borne equally by the City and the employee. The determination of the third physician as to the employee's fitness to return to duty shall be final and binding upon the parties. In the event the third physician also certifies the employee fit to return to duty, injury leave benefits granted under this Article shall be terminated.
- F. In the event any employee is granted said injury leave, the City's sole obligation shall be to pay the employee the difference between regular pay and any compensation, disability or other payments received from other sources. At the City's option, the employee shall either surrender and deliver any compensation, disability or other payments to the City and receive entire salary payment, or the City shall only pay the difference.
- G. If the City can prove that an employee has abused privileges under this Article, the employee will be subject to disciplinary action by the City, up to and including termination.
- H. If the employee's injury is due to failure to wear or utilize safety wearing apparel, tools and/or devices supplied by the City, the City may refuse to pay the difference between the employee's salary and Worker's Compensation claims as discussed in Section F above.

## **ARTICLE XVII**

### **LEAVE FOR P.B.A. MEETINGS**

- A. The City agrees to grant time off without loss of regular straight time pay to the Executive Delegate and President of the Association (or appointed alternates) for the purpose of attending the regularly scheduled meetings of the State and Local Association, provided that at least seventy-two (72) hours written notice is given to the Chief of Police. The Association shall designate, at the beginning of each year, the Executive Delegate and President. It is specifically understood that the employees so designated under this Section shall not switch tours in order to receive pay for the purpose of attending said meetings under this Section; and it is also specifically understood that if any of such meetings occur on a non-scheduled period, the employee shall receive no pay. It is provided further that the granting of such leave shall not interfere with the operation of the Police Department of the City. The number of meetings for which time off without loss of regular straight time pay shall be granted shall not exceed one (1) per month.
- B. An employee attending any meeting covered by this Article on their off-duty time shall do so voluntarily. The employee and the Association understand and agree that any such off-duty time spent shall not be compensated by the City and shall not be considered “compensable hours” pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act.

- C. The City agrees to grant time off without loss of regular straight-time pay to any employee whose presence is necessary at any mutually scheduled negotiations session, grievance hearing or proceeding, PERC proceeding, or any other meeting jointly scheduled.
- D. It is specifically understood that the employees so designated under Section A or C shall not switch tours in order to receive pay for the purpose of attending said meetings under this Section; and it is also specifically understood that if any of such meetings occur on a non-scheduled period, the employee shall receive no pay.

**ARTICLE XVIII**  
**LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

- A. Any employee of the Linwood Police Department may request a leave of absence without pay from regular duties for a term up to six (6) months in order to participate in other interests outside the Department, providing that such absence does not conflict with or adversely affect the routine functioning of the Police Department and the welfare of the City of Linwood. Any employee, who is desirous of applying for such a leave, shall submit to the City Council a written request, stating the reasons for the leave and the proposed period of time involved, at least forty-five (45) days prior to the proposed commencement date of said leave, except in the case of illness. In case of illness, written notice shall be given to City Council as soon as reasonably possible.
- B. Any leave of absence from duty is subject to the approval of the Linwood City Council and the Mayor; and any extensions of leave will require a second written request twenty (20) days prior to the expiration of the original leave and will be further subject to approval by City Council and the Mayor. Any employee of the Linwood Police Department may shorten the proposed term of a leave by showing seven (7) days written notice of intent to do so upon City Council.
- C. Any employee will not qualify for salary raises, promotions, existing benefits or any benefits which may occur or accrue during the absence. However, such a leave will not alter the salary of an employee upon return and for the purposes of calculating salary, benefits and seniority, the total leave time will be subtracted from the total time of employment.

D. Death of an Employee

The spouse, or the estate if there is no spouse, of any employee covered by this Agreement, shall continue to be paid in bi-weekly payments for 100% of all accumulated and unused sick, vacation, and holiday days. Such payment shall be made by the City by continuing bi-weekly payments to the spouse or estate until the earliest time in which the remaining accumulated sick, vacation, and holidays can be paid in a lump sum, if applicable.

E. Permanent Disability

Upon the permanent disability of the employee, the employee shall receive payment of 100% of all accumulated sick days, not to exceed 200 days and 100% of all accumulated and unused holidays and vacation days.

## **ARTICLE XIX**

### **SALARIES**

#### **A. Salary Guides for 2022-2027**

The annual base salaries to be paid the following employees of the City shall be as shown in”  
and shall be paid bi-weekly. Such salaries are:

|                                                                                              | 2022      | 2023      | 2024      | 2025      | 2026      | 2027      |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|
| Step 1                                                                                       | \$43,610  | \$44,700  | \$45,817  | \$46,963  | \$48,137  | \$49,340  |  |
| Step 2                                                                                       | \$47,527  | \$48,715  | \$49,933  | \$51,182  | \$52,461  | \$53,773  |  |
| Step 3                                                                                       | \$52,406  | \$53,716  | \$55,059  | \$56,436  | \$57,847  | \$59,293  |  |
| Step 4                                                                                       | \$55,989  | \$57,388  | \$58,823  | \$60,294  | \$61,801  | \$63,346  |  |
| Step 5                                                                                       | \$59,588  | \$61,078  | \$62,605  | \$64,170  | \$65,774  | \$67,419  |  |
| Step 6                                                                                       | \$63,181  | \$64,761  | \$66,380  | \$68,039  | \$69,740  | \$71,484  |  |
| Step 7                                                                                       | \$70,099  | \$71,851  | \$73,647  | \$75,489  | \$77,376  | \$79,310  |  |
| Step 8                                                                                       | \$77,015  | \$78,941  | \$80,914  | \$82,937  | \$85,011  | \$87,136  |  |
| Step 9                                                                                       | \$81,639  | \$83,680  | \$85,772  | \$87,916  | \$90,114  | \$92,367  |  |
| Step 10                                                                                      | \$86,263  | \$88,420  | \$90,630  | \$92,896  | \$95,218  | \$97,599  |  |
| Step 11                                                                                      | \$90,887  | \$93,159  | \$95,488  | \$97,875  | \$100,322 | \$102,830 |  |
| Step 12                                                                                      | \$95,514  | \$97,901  | \$100,349 | \$102,858 | \$105,429 | \$108,065 |  |
|                                                                                              |           |           |           |           |           |           |  |
|                                                                                              | 2022      | 2023      | 2024      | 2025      | 2026      | 2027      |  |
| ALL SGTs Promoted after 1/1/2022 starts as SGT 1 All promoted before 1/1/2022 Start at SGT 3 |           |           |           |           |           |           |  |
| Sgt. 1                                                                                       | \$97,899  | \$100,346 | \$102,855 | \$105,427 | \$108,062 | \$110,764 |  |
| Sgt 2                                                                                        | \$100,836 | \$103,357 | \$105,941 | \$108,589 | \$111,304 | \$114,087 |  |
| Sgt 3                                                                                        | \$103,155 | \$105,734 | \$108,377 | \$111,086 | \$113,863 | \$116,710 |  |

B. All Step increases shall be computed as of the anniversary date of such employee.

C. All salaries shall be effective on January 1 of each appropriate contract year and shall be paid as of January 1 of each contract year.



## **ARTICLE XX**

### **DETECTIVE ALLOWANCE**

Any employee who serves as a detective or in any other capacity requiring being on call, shall receive an annual increment of twelve hundred dollars (\$1,200.00). If he serves for less than a full year, this amount shall be prorated. This amount is in consideration for the employee's service in an on-call status. Such payment shall be made in lump sum in the first pay period of December of the calendar year if said pay period falls on or before December 5. Otherwise, said allowance shall be paid in the last pay period in November.

## **ARTICLE XXI**

### **OVERTIME**

- A. Overtime shall consist of all hours in excess of a normal work week, heretofore defined in this Agreement.
- B. All employees covered by this Agreement shall in addition to their base pay be paid at the rate of one and one-half (1 1/2) time their straight time hourly rate of pay computed on the basis of a forty (40) or forty-two (42) hour week for all overtime hours worked, depending upon an employee's assignment. However, the parties recognize that if the City, through the Chief of Police, changes the work week, payment for overtime will be based upon the newly implemented work week. It is understood by the parties that an employee's hourly rate of pay to be used for the calculation of the overtime rate shall be based upon an employee's base salary, longevity pay and college allowance.
- C. All overtime shall be paid bi-weekly. Overtime shall, unless otherwise provided by this Article, be paid in cash, and shall be paid at time and one-half (1½) of the regular hourly rates of pay for such employee. The hourly rate for overtime shall be computed at the basic workweek of forty (40) hours per week. Bargaining unit members at their sole option shall be compensated for overtime at time and one-half (1½) by cash payment or the equivalent in compensatory time or a combination of cash and compensatory time in any pay period. However, compensatory time shall not exceed 96 hours, of which a maximum of 48 hours may be banked during the life of this Agreement. Compensatory time will be taken in a

minimum of 4 hour blocks of time. All overtime paid in cash shall be paid bi-weekly. If a bargaining unit member is not able to utilize any portion of the 48 hours of unbanked compensatory time by December 31<sup>st</sup>, the bargaining unit member shall receive cash payment for the remaining compensatory time in the bargaining unit member's first pay check in January of the New Year.

- D. All employees with the rank of Sergeant and below will be paid one and one-half (1 1/2) times their hourly rate of pay in accordance with their rank.
- E. Any employee who is not scheduled to work and is called into duty by a commanding officer or sergeant will be paid a minimum of four (4) hours salary at the prevailing overtime rate. Employees will be called in by the Commanding Officer and only after attempting such contact, the officer in charge will be able to call in an unscheduled employee.
- F. Overtime or commensurate time off for employees on regular duty will commence after the end of their regularly scheduled workday. The parties recognize and agree that if the City, through the Chief of Police, in its' sole discretion, changes the employee's regular workday, overtime will commence at the end of the newly implemented regular workday. However, the parties recognize and agree that the Chief of Police will not change the employee's regular duty day on a daily or individual basis.

- G. All employees who are required to be present at any time, other than their regular shifts of duty and hours of employment, for the purpose of training or re-training as to procedures shall be paid by the City at the applicable overtime rate.
- H. An officer who works any detail that the City is being fully reimbursed by an outside business/agency for the cost of the officer shall receive a minimum of four (4) hours pay or paid for the time actually worked, whichever is greater. The rate of pay for outside details shall be eighty-five dollars (\$85) per hour. This four (4) hour minimum shall not be in effect for any details for which the City is responsible for paying an officer.

## **ARTICLE XXII**

### **LONGEVITY**

#### **A. Employees Hired Prior to January 1, 2001**

Each employee covered by this Agreement and hired prior to January 1, 2001, shall be paid in addition to annual base salary additional compensation based upon the length of service and determined according to the foregoing schedule:

| <u>Years of Service</u>       | <u>Longevity</u>                                                                                  |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3 years                       | \$350.00                                                                                          |
| Each year after 3 to 30 years | \$350.00 plus \$175.00 for each additional year after 3 to 30 years up to a maximum of \$4,000.00 |

#### **B. Employees Hired On or After January 1, 2001**

Each employee covered by this Agreement and hired on or after January 1, 2001, shall be paid in addition to annual base salary additional compensation based upon the length of service and determined according to the foregoing schedule:

| <u>Years of Service</u>                         | <u>Longevity</u>                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Commencing the 10 <sup>th</sup> year of service | The amount being paid to those employees in their 10 <sup>th</sup> year of service pursuant to Section A above. (\$1,575)                                                                                 |
| Each year after 10 years                        | The amount being paid to those employees in their 10 <sup>th</sup> year of service pursuant to Section A above plus \$175.00 for each additional year after 10 to 30 years up to a maximum of \$4,000.00. |

**C. Employees Hired On or After January 1, 2005**

Each employee covered by this Agreement and hired on or after January 1, 2005, shall be paid in addition to annual base salary additional compensation based upon the length of service and determined according to the foregoing schedule:

| <u>Years of Service</u>                         | <u>Longevity</u>                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Commencing the 10 <sup>th</sup> year of service | The amount being paid to those employees in their 10 <sup>th</sup> year of service pursuant to Section A above. (\$1,575)                                                                                 |
| Each year after 10 years                        | The amount being paid to those employees in their 10 <sup>th</sup> year of service pursuant to Section A above plus \$150.00 for each additional year after 10 to 30 years up to a maximum of \$3,500.00. |

D. Longevity pay shall be applied on the basis of the officer's anniversary date of employment.

An employee's base salary rate shall be adjusted to include longevity pay for overtime computation as well as for pension purposes. Such longevity pay shall be divided by the number of pay checks in any calendar year and paid in the bi-weekly payroll.

**E. Employees Hired On or After January 1, 2013**

Employees covered by this Agreement and hired on or after January 1, 2013, shall not be entitled to receive any longevity payments.

**ARTICLE XXIII**

**ACTING OFFICERS**

A. Any employee who shall have been appointed to act for a senior officer in the absence of such senior officer and who shall have performed the duties thereof, shall thereafter be entitled to compensation appropriate to such officer for the time so held. Payment for any such time shall be in a separate check and paid quarterly along with the overtime checks.

**ARTICLE XXIV**  
**COLLEGE ALLOWANCES**

- A. The City and the Association agree that the amount and quality of an employee's education often determines the value of contribution to the community, and the degree of proficiency with which they performs their duties. In order to provide an incentive to encourage the employees to achieve the advantages of higher education, the City agree that such employee who receives academic credits for study in any institution of collegiate level which offers a college curriculum leading to or accreditable toward a masters degree, an undergraduate baccalaureate or associate degree in law enforcement, and which is accredited by the Board of Higher Education, shall be paid a college allowance in the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per year for each credit so received, together with the cost of books necessary to obtain said credits during the employee's employment with the City. Payments for all credits attained and for books shall be made on the first pay day after receiving verification of the grade and credit obtained from the institution. An employee shall be reimbursed one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per credit if an "A," "B" or "P" in a P/F system is earned or seventy dollars (\$70.00) per credit if a "C" is earned. No reimbursement is earned if a grade lower than "C" is earned.
- B. In addition, any employee joining the Police Department who has acquired college credits in a field other than law enforcement shall be compensated for these credits at the same rate as credits in law enforcement as set forth in the schedule herein below. This provision is not retroactive and shall apply only to those employees joining the Department after August 15,



2016. Further, for such employee to qualify for the increment for college credits, said employee must enroll or study in an institution or college which offers a college curriculum leading to or accreditable toward a masters degree, an undergraduate baccalaureate or associate degree in law enforcement, which institution or college is accredited by the Board of Higher Education, and said employee must be a matriculating student until a degree is attained. If, for any reason, said employee fails to meet these conditions, they will not be entitled to payment for college credits with the exception of those earned law enforcement credits.

- C. Preference of training and selection of employees for educational leave will be based upon rank, seniority and availability of courses, but it is expressly understood that every effort shall be made to permit the employees to avail themselves of this educational opportunity on a rotating basis according to said rank and seniority.
- D. The employee further agrees to continue within the employ of the City of Linwood for at least one year after receiving reimbursement from the City for the credits attained. In the event that the employee leaves the employ of the City of Linwood prior to one year after receiving said reimbursement, the employee shall be required to reimburse the City for any reimbursement paid by the City for credits attained within the period of one year prior to leaving the employ of the City, and the City shall have the further right to deduct the sum from the last pay check of the employee about to leave the employ of the City.

- E. As an additional incentive for education of the employees of the City, the City shall pay the following sums of money, which shall become and be included as part of the base salary of the employees so attaining the following credits:

| <u>No. of Credits</u>                                 | <u>Allowance</u> |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 16 credits                                            | \$250.00         |
| 17-32 credits                                         | 300.00           |
| 33-64 credits                                         | 600.00           |
| 96 credits                                            | 700.00           |
| Associate Degree<br>plus 65 credits to<br>128 credits | 900.00           |
| Bachelor's Degree                                     | 1,050.00         |
| Master's Degree                                       | 1,300.00         |

- F. An employee's base salary rate shall be adjusted to include college incentive pay for overtime computation as well as for pension purposes. Such college incentive pay shall be divided by the number of pay checks in any calendar year and paid in the bi-weekly payroll.

- G. Employees hired after January 1, 2005, may be required to have a college degree. If such requirement for hiring is implemented by the City, the education incentive allowances for credits up to the attainment of a degree will not be applicable for those new hires. New employees will not receive education allowances; however, will be eligible for tuition reimbursement as currently specified.

H. Educational/Law Enforcement programs and credits that are acceptable for credit and/or degree payments under this Article are defined as criminal justice, psychology, education, sociology, police science, public administration and business administration.

## **ARTICLE XXV**

### **HOSPITALIZATION INSURANCE**

#### **A. Hospitalization/Major Medical Insurance**

1. The City agrees to provide the New Jersey Health Benefits Program, NJ Direct 10 hospitalization insurance plan,<sup>a</sup> or a plan that is equal to or better, for all employees covered by this Agreement, at the City's own expense with contributions from the employee as provided for herein.
2. The City agrees to pay for major medical insurance for the employee and family with contributions from the employee as provided for herein.
3. Employees shall be required to contribute to the costs of the Health Insurance Plan as may be mandated by law, including P.L. 2011, Chapter 78 and shall replace and not be in addition to any other contribution. Such payments shall be withheld in equal installments throughout the year from an employee's pay checks. The City shall establish and adopt a Section 125 Plan including a Flexible Spending Account so that said contributions would be "pre-tax".

#### **B. RETIREMENT BENEFITS**

##### **1. Employees Hired Prior August 15, 2016**

The City further agrees that the continuance of health coverages, equal to or better than those provided during employment, after retirement of an employee only retiring from the rank of Patrol Officer after twenty-five (25) years of service to the City shall

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<sup>a</sup> including unlimited therapy services ie; chiropractic, physical, speech and cognitive.

be permitted and shall be in accordance with applicable resolutions adopted by the City of Linwood. An employee may opt to have eligible dependents also covered under the City's insurance plan but shall pay the City for such dependent coverage at the City's group rate. Contingent upon the law of insurance of this state, the City agrees to continue medical coverages for the Patrol Officer and family if an officer becomes retired because of a work related medical disability after twenty (20) years of service with the Linwood Police Department.

2. **Employees Hired On or After the August 15, 2016**

Any employee hired on or after the date of the signing of the Agreement shall not receive health insurance provided and paid for by the City upon their retirement as long as they are eligible to enroll for and receive health insurance upon retirement under Chapter 330 provisions. Should enrollment or eligibility under Chapter 330 provisions either be not available or such enrollment or eligibility prohibited by law or regulation, the City shall revert back to the prior provisions and provide such health insurance under the contractual provisions specified in Article XXV, Paragraph B, C & D (Rank & File - 2012-2015 contract) and in addition will continue Prescription, Optical and Dental Insurance.

- C. The City further agrees that an employee with the rank of Sergeant shall receive continued health benefits, equal to or better than those provided during employment, after retirement provided that he/she shall have served twenty-five (25) years with the Linwood Police

Department. A spouse and/or dependents, where applicable, shall also be entitled to continued health coverages, equal to or better than those provided during the Sergeant's employment. The City agrees to continue medical coverages for the Sergeant and family if an officer becomes retired because of a work related medical disability after twenty (20) years of service with the Linwood Police Department.

- D. The City agrees to continue the insurance coverage of an employee upon retirement, and where applicable a spouse and/or dependents for dental, optical and prescription benefits in effect as of January 1, 1995. The coverages will be equal to or better than that provided during the employee's employment. The employee's/retiree's obligation to this plan will be no more than fifteen (\$15.00) dollars a month per employee in the aggregate.
- E. The parties agree that the City reserves the right to present an alternative plan of insurance to that provided by New Jersey Health Benefits Plan, NJ Direct 10 at any time during the term of this Agreement. If, after full presentation of the alternative plan to the PBA and any PBA consultant, the alternative plan is ratified by a majority of PBA members, the alternative plan may be put into effect. In that event, no cost increase shall be charged to any employee.
- F. In the event any officer chooses to be enrolled in an HMO plan, it is understood that the City's obligation is to provide a premium payment equal to that which it is making for the comparable non-HMO plan in effect at that time.

G. The City agrees to provide the Delta Dental Option I Preferred Plan, consisting of the following:

Network

|                              |        |
|------------------------------|--------|
| Deductible                   | \$0    |
| Annual Maximum               | N/A    |
| Orthodontia Lifetime Maximum | \$2000 |

Plan Design

|                            |      |
|----------------------------|------|
| Preventative & Diagnostics | 100% |
| Basic & Crowns             | 65%  |
| Periodontics               | 65%  |
| Prosthodontics             | 75%  |
| Orthodontia                | 60%  |

**ARTICLE XXVI**  
**CLOTHING ALLOWANCE AND EQUIPMENT**

A. **ALLOWANCE**

1. Each officer shall receive an annual allowance of seven hundred dollars (\$700.00) for the purchase/replacement of uniforms, clothing and equipment. Payment for such items shall be made through a purchase order system of the City or if not possible, through direct reimbursement to the officer upon presentation of receipts.

B. **LOST OR DAMAGED EQUIPMENT**

1. If an employee loses or damages any equipment while on duty, and such loss or damages is not due to negligence or carelessness, and said employee wishes to file a claim for reimbursement, said claim must be filed with the Chief of Police within twenty-four (24) hours of the occurrence.
2. The City agrees to respond to any claim within thirty (30) days, as to whether or not the City accepts responsibility and liability for replacement, whether or not the City will agree to replace the equipment, and the availability and time frame for replacing said equipment if the City accepts liability for the replacement. Each claim shall be addressed and evaluated on a case by case basis.



3. The City agrees to bear the cost of replacement for equipment lost or damaged if said loss or damage occurs while the employee is acting in the line of duty and is not due to negligence or carelessness. Each claim shall be addressed and evaluated on a case by case basis.

**ARTICLE XXVII**

**COURT APPEARANCES**

- A. All employees shall be required to wear full uniform for Linwood Municipal Court appearances scheduled for a time and date when they are on duty, and for all other Court appearances, whether scheduled when they are on or off duty.
  
- B. Employees shall be required to wear their full uniform or presentable dress (including a presentable jacket and tie) for Linwood Municipal Court appearances which are scheduled for a time and date when said employees are not on duty.

## **ARTICLE XXVIII**

### **ENLISTMENT AGREEMENT**

- A. All employees hired on or after January 1, 1982 will receive basic Police training at City expense, and shall reimburse the City for the cost of basic training and for such additional expenses incurred by the City in connection with said employment and basic training, provided said employee terminates employment with the City within two (2) years from the date of entry into the Police Academy and becomes employed elsewhere.
  
- B. In lieu of itemizing expenses, the City and Association agree that the maximum reimbursement required of any employee that terminated employment with the City shall be six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00). Reimbursement shall be calculated on a pro-rated, per diem basis. The maximum reimbursement amount shall be reduced by the per diem rate for every day the employee retains employment with the City, up to the two (2) year period which commences with the employee's entry into the Police Academy.
  
- C. There shall be no reimbursement required in the event the employee is terminated or separated from employment with the City for any of the following reasons:
  - 1. Involuntary separation for reasons beyond the employee's control, such reasons not being due to misconduct or personal delinquency during the two (2) year period.

2. Election to resign rather than to submit to a separation proceeding, provided that the reason for the pending separation is not misconduct or personal delinquency.
3. Receipt of orders to report for military service, other than training duty, upon submission of proof to the City.
4. Disability impairing full performance as an employee. The employee must submit to the City acceptable medical evidence verifying said disability. If the City disputes the medical evidence, then the employee shall be sent to a physician mutually agreed upon by the Association and the City. The cost of the physician shall be equally borne by the parties. The decision of this physician shall be final and binding.

D. In the event the employee is separated for personal delinquency or misconduct, they shall be required to reimburse the City for basic training and additional expenses incurred by the City as enumerated in Sections A and B, above.

## **ARTICLE XXIX**

### **DUES DEDUCTION AND AGENCY SHOP**

- A. The City agrees to deduct from the salaries of its employees, subject to this Agreement, dues for the Association. Such deductions shall be made in compliance with N.J.S.A. (R.S.) 52:14-15.9e, as amended.
- B. A check-off shall commence for each employee who signs a properly dated authorization card, supplied by the Association and verified by the City Treasurer during the month following the filing of such card with the City.
- C. If during the life of this Agreement there shall be any change in the rate of membership dues, the Association shall furnish the City written notice thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of such change and shall furnish to the City either new authorizations from its members showing the authorized deduction for each employee, or an official notification on the letterhead of the Association and signed by the President of the Association advising of such changed deduction.
- D. The Association will provide the necessary “check-off authorization” form and the Association will secure the signatures of its members on the forms and deliver the signed forms to the City Clerk.

- E. Any such written authorization may be withdrawn at any time by filing of notice of such withdrawal with the City Clerk. The filing of notice of withdrawal shall be effective to halt deductions in accordance with the Workplace Democracy Enhancement Act.
- F. The Association shall indemnify, defend and save the City harmless against any and all claims, demand, suits or other forms of liability that shall arise out of or by reason of action taken by the City in reliance upon salary deduction authorization cards as furnished by the Association to the City, or in reliance upon the official notification or the letterhead of the Association and signed by the President of the Association, advising of such changed deduction.
- G. The Association is required under this Agreement to represent all of the employees in the bargaining unit fairly and equally, without regard to Association membership. The terms of this Agreement have been made for all employees in the bargaining unit, and not only for members in the Association, and this Agreement has been executed by the City after it had satisfied itself that the Association is a proper majority representative.

## **ARTICLE XXX**

### **POLICE OFFICER'S BILL OF RIGHTS**

- A. In an effort to insure that departmental investigations are conducted in a manner which is conducive to good order and discipline, the following rules are hereby adopted.
1. Any formal fact-finding interview or interrogation of a member of the force shall be at a reasonable hour, preferably when the member of the force is on duty, unless the exigencies of the investigation dictate otherwise.
  2. The formal fact-finding interview or interrogation shall take place at a location designated by the Chief of Police. Usually it will be at Police Headquarters or the location where the incident allegedly occurred.
  3. The member of the force shall be informed of the nature of the investigation before any formal fact-finding interview or interrogation of that member commences, when disciplinary action is contemplated. Sufficient information to reasonably apprise the member of the allegation shall be provided. If it is known that the member of the force is being questioned as a witness only, he shall be so informed at the initial contact.
  4. The formal fact-finding interview or interrogation shall be reasonable in length. reasonable respite shall be allowed.

5. If a member of the force is under arrest or is likely to be, that is, if they are a suspect or the target of a criminal investigation, they shall be immediately warned of all of their constitutional rights pursuant to the Constitution of the United States and of the State of New Jersey and immediately be permitted to consult with counsel of their own choosing prior to any questioning taking place. Reimbursement of counsel costs, if any, will be in accordance with New Jersey Statutes.
  6. Members shall not be suspended or suffer any loss in benefits until after said member has had a disciplinary hearing and has been found guilty, except in cases of a severe nature, when the Chief deems the suspension of the member an immediate necessity for the safety of the public or the welfare of the Department, or pursuant to Section 6:2 of the City of Linwood Police Department Rules and Regulations. The Chief shall immediately submit a report explaining such action to the Mayor and a copy of said report shall be made available to the member upon submission to the Mayor.
- B. A member who is the subject of a disciplinary investigation may not be required to prepare reports other than reports filed in the normal course of business which deal with the subject matter of the investigation, until after a reasonable opportunity to consult with counsel.



- C. Nothing herein shall be construed to deprive the Department or its' officers to conduct the routine and daily operations of the Department.
- D. Discipline shall be grievable and arbitrable in accordance with and pursuant to law.

**ARTICLE XXXI**  
**PERSONNEL FILES**

- A. The City shall establish personnel files or confidential records which shall be maintained under the direction of the Chief of Police.
- B. Employees covered under this Agreement may, by reasonable request during normal business hours, review in the presence of the Chief of Police or designee any written material other than pre-employment material which may be contained in the personnel file. The request must be made through the normal chain of command. Upon request, an employee is entitled to receive a copy of any material in the personnel file, other than pre-employment material.
- C. Whenever a written complaint concerning an employee is placed in a personnel file, a copy shall be furnished to the employee and shall be given the opportunity to rebut same in writing if desired.
- D. Any material in a personnel file that has not been subject to a departmental hearing shall be grievable up to and including Step Four of the Grievance Procedure.
- E. There shall be no other personnel file containing material not subject to inspection by the officer.

**ARTICLE XXXII**

**CONTINUATION OF BENEFITS NOT COVERED BY THIS AGREEMENT**

- A. All conditions not covered by this Agreement shall continue to be governed, controlled and interpreted by reference to the City Charter, Ordinances, Rules and Regulations of the Police Department of the City, and any present or past benefits which are enjoyed by employees covered by this Agreement, that have not been included in the contract, shall be continued.

**ARTICLE XXXIII**

**SAVINGS CLAUSE**

- A. Each and every clause of this Agreement shall be deemed separable from each and every other clause of this Agreement to the extent that in the event any clause or clauses shall be finally determined to be in violation of any law, then in such event, such clause or clauses, only to the extent that any may be so in violation shall be deemed of no force and effect and unenforceable without impairing the validity and enforceability of the rest of the Agreement, including any and all provisions on the remainder of any clause, sentence or paragraph in which offending language may appear.

**ARTICLE XXXIV**

**FULLY-BARGAINED AGREEMENT**

- A. This Agreement represents and incorporates the complete and final understanding and settlement by the parties of all bargainable issues which were or could have been the subject of negotiations. During the term of this Agreement, neither party will be required to negotiate with respect to any such matter, whether or not covered by this Agreement, and whether or not within the knowledge or contemplation of either or both parties at the time they negotiated or signed this Agreement.

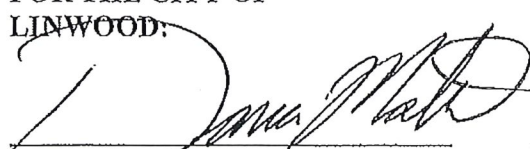
**ARTICLE XXV**

**DURATION OF AGREEMENT**

- A. This Agreement shall be effective as of and retroactive to January 1, 2022, and shall continue in full force and effect through December 31, 2027.
  
- B. The parties agree that negotiations for a successor agreement modifying, amending, or altering the terms and provisions of this Agreement shall commence no later than on hundred twenty (120) days prior to the date on which this collective bargaining Agreement is to expire. At least three (3) negotiation sessions must take place before either party can file for Interest Arbitration with the Public Employment Relations Commission (PERC). The terms of this Agreement and all practices shall remain in full force and effect until said successor agreement is reached.

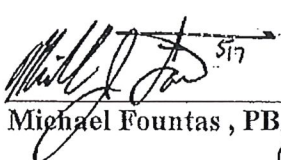
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have hereunto set their hands and seal at  
the City of Linwood, New Jersey on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of July,  
2022.

FOR THE CITY OF  
LINWOOD:

  
Darren Matik,  
MAYOR

FOR NEW JERSEY MAINLAND  
PBA LOCAL #77:

  
Jeff Lancaster  
PRESIDENT, MAINLAND PBA #77

  
Michael Fountas, PBA SHOP STEWARD  
(Rank & File)

*PBA R&F Negotiations Committee:*