

AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE TOWN OF TIVERTON RHODE ISLAND
AND

UNITED STEELWORKERS
TEAMSTERS' LOCAL UNION NO. 251 LOCAL [INSERT
#]
(AFFILIATED WITH THE INTERNATIONAL
BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS)

121 BRIGHTRIDGE AVENUE
EAST PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02914

JULY 1, 202419 THROUGH JUNE 30, 20272

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DURATION

WHEREAS, it is the desire of both parties hereto to provide a fair and equitable standard of hours, wages and working conditions, and to establish, preserve, and promote harmonious and mutually beneficial relations between the parties, now therefore, in consideration of the mutual promises hereinafter set forth, the Town of Tiverton, hereinafter called the Town, and United Steelworkers Teamsters Local Union No. ~~254~~[TBD - Insert #], hereinafter called the Union, state that this contract is effective for the period beginning July 1, 20~~24~~19, and ending June 30, 202~~7~~2, and agree as follows:

ARTICLE I RECOGNITION

The Town recognizes the Union as the sole and exclusive collective bargaining agent for permanent employees in the Tiverton Department of Public Works in accordance with certification #EE_1883A[TBD - Insert #] of the Rhode Island State Labor Relations Board, ~~as amended on June 6, 2017~~, which covers truck drivers, equipment operators and combination truck drivers, warehouse men, helpers and mechanics.

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ARTICLE II MANAGEMENT RIGHTS

1. Except as otherwise expressly and specifically provided in this Agreement, the supervision, management and control of the Town's operations, working force and facilities are exclusively vested in the Town. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, and in accordance with the Town Charter and other applicable laws, the Town has the right to plan, direct and control the Town operations and working force; to hire and assign employees; to take other disciplinary action against employees for just cause; to evaluate employees; to determine the hourly, daily and weekly schedules of employment; to determine work tasks and standards of performance for employees; to assign tasks; to determine what work is to be performed, when it is to be performed, and by whom, and the extent to which it may have things done by its own equipment, facilities and employees; ~~to layoff employees for lack of work or other legitimate reasons~~; to make, administer and enforce reasonable work rules and regulations; to take whatever action may be necessary to carry out its work in a situation of emergency; all such rights being vested exclusively with the Town. The filling of all new employment positions is governed by the Tiverton Home Rule Charter.

2. Any of the rights, powers and authorities which the Town had prior to entering into this Collective Bargaining Agreement are retained by the Town, except as modified by this Agreement.

3. Nothing contained in this Agreement is to be construed as in any way granting or waiving rights or responsibilities of the Town which may not be granted or waived under the statutes of the State of Rhode Island ~~and Providence Plantations~~.

ARTICLE III

DEDUCTION OF UNION DUES

The Town agrees that it will, during the full term of this Agreement and any renewal thereof, deduct regular Union membership dues, on a biweekly basis, from the earnings of each employee covered by this Agreement who has given the Town, lawful, written authorization to make such deduction. Such written authorization shall be in the following form: "I the undersigned, hereby accept membership in United Steelworkers~~Teamsters~~ Local No. ~~254~~ [Insert # - TBD], ~~affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters~~, and do hereby authorize and direct my employer to deduct regular Union membership dues from my wages and to pay over the same to the United Steelworkers Local Union No. ~~254~~ [Insert # - TBD] or its designated agent pursuant to the provisions of any current or future collective bargaining agreement. This authorization shall remain in effect until revoked by me in accordance with the terms of statutes applicable thereto." The Town agrees to remit the total deduction not later than the tenth day of the succeeding month, by check payable to ~~Teamsters~~ United Steelworkers Local No. ~~254~~ [Insert # - TBD].

The Union will indemnify, defend and save the Town harmless with respect to any claim, suit, judgment or other liability resulting from any deduction made from an employee's pay pursuant to this Agreement.

ARTICLE IV NON DISCRIMINATION

1. No employee in the bargaining unit shall be discriminated against in any way on account of his or her membership or non-membership in and/or activities ~~in~~on behalf of the Union.
2. Representatives of the Union shall be allowed such access to the Town's premises as may be reasonably necessary to ~~insure~~ensure compliance with the terms of this Agreement by both the Town and the employees in the bargaining unit.
3. Whenever the term he, she, or other expressions inferring gender are used in this Agreement, it shall be construed as applying equally to all genders regardless of expression.

ARTICLE V SHOP STEWARD

1. The Town recognizes the right of the Union to designate one (1) shop steward from the regular employees employed in the bargaining unit. The authority of the shop steward so designated by the Union activities shall be limited to and shall not exceed the following duties and activities:
 - a. The investigation and presentation of grievances in accordance with the provision of this Collective Bargaining Agreement.

- b. The transmission of such messages and information which shall originate with and are authorized by the Union or its officers, provide such messages and information have been reduced to writing, or, if not reduced to writing, are of a routine nature.

2. The shop steward shall have no authority to take any action interrupting the Town's business. The Town recognizes these limitations upon the authority of the shop steward and shall not seek to hold the Union liable for any unauthorized acts on his or her part.

ARTICLE VI GRIEVANCE AND ARBITRATION PROCEDURE

1. Whenever an employee has a grievance, the following procedure shall be followed:
 - a. The employee shall obtain an approved grievance form from the shop steward and set out a statement of grievance in writing under Step 1 of said form. The employee shall then present the written grievance on the form in quadruplicate to the shop steward.
 - b. The employee involved, together with the Shop steward, shall then submit the grievance to and discuss the grievance with the ~~appropriate supervisor~~Department Director within five (5) days of its occurrence or within five (5) days of the employee reasonably having had knowledge of its occurrence. The Department Director has ten (10) five (5) days from his/her receipt of the written grievance from the Shop Steward to render a written decision.
 - c. If the grievance involves two or more employees, the shop steward, after receiving the grievance in writing, may discuss it directly with the Department Director ~~appropriate supervisor~~ without any of the employees being present.

22. If the aggrieved employee is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance by the Department Director, or if no decision has been rendered within the ten (10) five (5) day period reference in Section 1(b), the Shop Steward shall file an appeal to the Town Administrator seeking resolution to the grievance. The Town Administrator will schedule a meeting on the grievance with the Shop Steward and grievant within ten (10) days of receipt of said grievance, and the Town Administrator will have twenty (20) days from said meeting to render a ruling on the grievance.

3. If the aggrieved employee is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance by the Town Administrator, or if no decision has been rendered within thirty (30) calendar days after the Town Administrator has heard the grievance, the Union may request that the grievance be submitted to arbitration by sending such request by certified mail, postage prepaid, to the Town Administrator setting forth the issue or issues to be arbitrated. Within the same thirty (30) day period referenced in this section VI.~~32~~, the Grievance shall then be referred to the American Arbitration Association or the Labor Relations Connection in accordance with said organization's rules.

43. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding upon the parties. The expense of such arbitrations shall be borne equally by the Parties.

54. Only grievances arising out of the provisions of this Contract, relating to the application or interpretation thereof, may be submitted to arbitration.

65. The arbitrator shall have no authority to add to, depart from, alter or amend the provisions of this Agreement. He/she shall have no authority to imply terms which are not explicitly contained herein. His/her jurisdiction shall be confined to a determination of whether the specific act complained of in the written grievance constitutes a violation of the provision or provisions of this Agreement enumerated in the written grievance. The arbitrator shall not substitute his/her discretion for the Town's where such discretion has been retained by the Town. The arbitrator is empowered to apply the explicit terms of this Agreement only. He/she shall not construe and apply state or federal laws except as necessary to interpret this Agreement, nor shall he/she decide any dispute on the basis, in whole or in part, of industry practice or whether, in his/her view, morale will be heightened or diminished by a given result.

76. No remedy imposed by an arbitrator shall require the payment of wages for time not worked except in cases where there is no other feasible remedy for the violation found. No award of back pay shall be retroactive to a date more than three (3) days next preceding the filing of the grievance upon which the award is based, except as necessary to make the grievant whole. Any such award shall be based upon the grievant's regular rate of pay during the period in question and a workweek consisting of the grievant's regularly scheduled hours. The award shall be reduced by any and all wages and wage substitutes (such as unemployment compensation, TDI, TCI etc.) earned by him or her.

87. Any grievance not processed to the next step in the manner and within the time limits prescribed in the foregoing, unless time limits have been extended by mutual agreement in writing, is deemed to be withdrawn.

ARTICLE VII WAGES

Wages per hour for the classifications noted shall be increased on ~~4/1/2017~~ 7/1/24, ~~7.0%~~ 7%; 7/1/25, ~~5.0%~~ 5%; and 7/1/26, ~~3.0%~~ 3%:

Job Classification	<u>7/1/24</u>	<u>7/1/25</u>	<u>7/1/26</u>
	<u>7%</u>	<u>5%</u>	<u>3%</u>
Head Mechanic	<u>28.96</u>	<u>30.40</u>	<u>31.31</u>
Working Foreman	<u>28.96</u>	<u>30.40</u>	<u>31.31</u>
Lead Man (2)	<u>27.87</u>	<u>29.27</u>	<u>30.15</u>
Heavy Equipment Operator	<u>26.76</u>	<u>28.10</u>	<u>28.94</u>
Mechanic	<u>26.76</u>	<u>28.10</u>	<u>28.94</u>
Landfill Operator	<u>26.76</u>	<u>28.10</u>	<u>28.94</u>
Mechanic Helper	<u>25.24</u>	<u>26.50</u>	<u>27.30</u>
Truck Driver Laborer	<u>25.24</u>	<u>26.50</u>	<u>27.30</u>
Landfill Attendant	<u>25.24</u>	<u>26.50</u>	<u>27.30</u>

New employees hired on 7/1/99 or later shall be classified as Entry Level and will be paid at a rate of pay of \$1.00 per hour less than the classification for the first six (6) months of employment in the job classification into which he/she is hired. After that period of time, the employee shall be classified in the appropriate job classification at any rate of pay which is applicable for that classification at that time.

ARTICLE VIII
LICENSING/TESTING,
WORK WEEK, WORK HOURS, BREAKS, LUNCH AND OVERTIME

1. All employees must maintain up to date, valid CDL and applicable hoisting operator's licenses. An employee hired without licenses must obtain them within the probationary period provided for in Article XV. New employees must pass a physical examination and a drug test as determined by the Town. All employees are subject to random drug testing consistent with United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) and/or Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) Regulations. At least one employee filling a full-time mechanic position shall obtain and/or maintain up-to-date, valid Emergency Vehicle Training (EVT) certification (basic level). ~~For the purposes of this contract~~To the extent these positions are maintained and filled by the Town, the landfill operator shall be an "equipment operator" and the landfill attendant shall be a "truck driver/laborer".

2. The Town of Tiverton agrees to reimburse the employee, upon proof of payment, for the cost of the renewal of his/her Commercial Driver's License (CDL), hoisting license, medical card, hazmat endorsement and/or basic level EVT certification, except that newly hired employees shall be reimbursed for such costs after they complete their probationary period. Reasonable time and a Town vehicle will be provided during working hours for these renewals.

3. The regular work week shall consist of forty hours and the regular work day shall consist of eight hours. Employees are entitled to a 15-minute morning coffee break and a 45-minute unpaid meal break during their regular work day, which shall normally be taken approximately midway through their work day.

4. In addition to their regular hourly rate of pay, employees shall be paid one half of said regular hourly rate for hours worked over their regular work week of forty hours. Overtime shall be distributed by the Director of Public Works or his/her designee. Employees required to work on Sunday shall be paid double the regular hourly rate.

5. Any time an employee is called back to work after the employee's regular work hours the Town shall pay a minimum of four hours pay at time and one half the employee's regular hourly rate of pay.

6. The work week for the position of Landfill Operator and Landfill Attendant shall be Tuesday through Saturday. There shall be no overtime for Saturday work for the Landfill Operator or Landfill Attendant. These positions may be filled on Monday and during vacation and sick leave by another member of the bargaining unit.

7. ~~In emergency situations, the Town will make adequate provisions for sandwiches and coffee for employees at the work site. In the event any member of the bargaining unit is called back to work outside the regular work day, the Town shall provide the member with a per diem of ten dollars (\$10.00) after the first six (6) hours worked by the employee during the callback, and another ten dollars (\$10.00) after the next four (4) hours worked by the employee during the callback, and another ten dollars (\$10.00) after the next six (6) hours worked by the employee during the callback; provided, the total per diem amount paid to any bargaining unit member shall be capped at thirty dollars (\$30.00) per callback; and provided further that the foregoing per diem payment schedule and cap shall reset after twenty-four (24) hours.~~

**ARTICLE IX
HOLIDAYS**

1. a. The following days shall be paid holidays:

New Year's Day	Independence Day	Veterans' Day
Martin Luther King MLK Day	Day	Victory Day Thanksgiving
Day		
Presidents' Day	Labor Day	Day after Thanksgiving
Memorial Day	Columbus Day	Christmas Day
Juneteenth		
One Half Day Good Friday	One Half Day Before Christmas	

If the State of Rhode Island abolishes Victory Day, then the holiday shall be replaced by another recognized Holiday chosen at the discretion of the Town Council ~~by the employee's birthday.~~

b. Employees shall be granted three (3) personal days per fiscal year with pay to conduct personal business. These days shall not rollover and shall have no cash value. These days shall be prorated for the first fiscal year of employment. The proration will be based on ¼ per month after employment. Employees must notify their supervisor at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of their request to take a personal day. Requests for personal time off will not be unreasonably denied.

2. All employees shall receive a regular day's pay for each of the said paid holidays. In addition, any employee who is required to work on any one of the said holidays shall receive an amount equal to one and one-half times their regular hourly rate for each hour worked on any paid holiday, except that an employee required to work on New Year's Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, or Christmas shall receive an amount equal to double their regular hourly rate for each hour worked. Holiday pay shall be at the straight time rate.

3. Whenever a holiday falls on the employee's scheduled days off, the employee shall receive an additional day's pay or an additional day off, as determined by the Department Head. The day off shall be the day immediately before or after the holiday, as determined by the Department Head.

4. In order to be eligible for holiday pay employees must work their last regularly scheduled day before and first regularly scheduled day after the holiday, unless the employee receives authorization from the Department Head to be absent. A doctors note is required if an employee is absent the day before or day after a holiday. When there is no doctor's note presented the employee will not be paid for the holiday.

**ARTICLE X
VACATIONS**

1. Employees shall receive paid vacations based upon their length of service with the Town according to the following schedule:

a. During the first year of employment, employees shall be entitled to vacation leave of one day for each two consecutive calendar months worked for a total not to exceed five days for the first year. Vacation leave credit will begin at once for employees starting work on the first working day of a calendar month, otherwise, on the first day of the following month.

b. Employees with one or more years of service shall be entitled to vacation- leave according to the following schedule:

One through the completion of Five Years	_____	10 Working Days
Six through the completion of Ten Years	_____	15 Working Days
Eleven through the completion of Fifteen Years	_____	20 Working Days
Sixteen through the completion of Twenty Years	_____	25 Working Days
Twenty-one Years and Over	_____	30 Working Days

c. Vacation leave shall be credited on the first day of the fiscal year. Increases in vacation leave in accordance with subsection (b) above shall be credited as of the employee's anniversary date, and prorated accordingly.

2. Employees shall take their vacation leave within the fiscal year in which it is earned, to the extent reasonably possible. Vacation leave cannot be accrued in excess of thirty (30) days. Employees who have a balance of more than thirty (30) at the beginning of a fiscal year shall forfeit such excess.

3. Upon discharge by the Town of Tiverton or voluntary termination by the employee, earned vacation time and pay shall be included in all final wage payments; provided the employee has completed his or her probation period. If the employee has worked less than a full year, payment of earned vacation for that year will be pro-rated so as to correspond with the number of months worked.

4. In case of death of an employee who is eligible for vacation, earned vacation pay due such an employee shall be paid to the employee's estate.

5. The vacation schedule is subject to approval of the Department of Public Works Director. Vacations will be chosen by seniority and all members must take vacations as posted and must be taken during the year vacation is due. Between the dates of November 1st through November 30th of each contract year, employees will designate their requested vacation weeks for the period of January 1 through ~~December 31st~~June 30th of the coming year. This schedule shall be posted no later than January 15th. ~~There shall be a second designation of vacation weeks beginning on April 1 through April 30th for the period of July 1st through December 31st of the current year, and posted no later than May 15th of the year in which the vacation is selected.~~ Vacation schedules shall include prorated vacation leave calculated in accordance with Section 1(c) of this Article. If the DPW Director determines there is a conflict in weeks requested, seniority shall prevail. Requests for vacation leave shall not be unreasonably denied.

6. Two employees with the approval of the Department of Public Works Director shall be entitled to take vacation at any one time during the year with the exception of Head Mechanic, Mechanic, Mechanic Helper; or the Landfill Operator and Landfill Attendant on those days when the Landfill is open. Employees may, with the approval of the Department of Public Works Director, take vacation leave on December 26, such approval not to be unreasonably withheld.

ARTICLE XI LEAVE WITHOUT LOSS IN PAY

1. a. Sick Leave – Each employee shall receive one and one quarter sick days credit for each month of employment ~~commencing July 1, 1996~~. Sick leave shall not be considered a right, but shall be a benefit granted under the terms of this Agreement. Sick leave shall not be cumulative except that each employee will be allowed to carry forward a maximum of three (3) days each year. Any sick leave remaining as of June 30 of each year of this contract shall become payable to the employee as wages.
- b. A doctor's certificate shall be submitted to the Director after three (3) consecutive days of absence from employment on account of sickness. An employee shall call in for each day of sick leave to notify the Director that he or she is sick. If the employee cannot call in, he or she shall have someone call in. This requirement may be waived by the Director in the event of serious extended sickness or extenuating circumstances.
2. ~~2~~—Funeral Leave – Employees covered by this Agreement shall receive a total of three days absence from their regular duties, with full pay, in case of death in the immediate family up to and including the day of the funeral. If an employee is going to be absent beyond the day of the funeral the employee must make arrangements ahead of time with his/her supervisor. The employees shall receive this period of absence only if they are scheduled to work on the date, or dates, when death occurs and only if they intend to use said period of absence in order to participate in funeral services.

Immediate family is defined as spouse, child, brother, sister, father, mother, father-in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, grandchild or any member of the family that resides in the household unit of the employee.

3. Jury Leave – The Town will pay an employee called for jury duty up to eight hours pay at the regular hourly rate as stated herein less any amount of money received by such employees for serving on the jury. The employee shall provide documentation of jury duty.
4. Court Leave – Should any employee covered by this Agreement be called, summoned or subpoenaed to testify before any court of law or any other agency of the federal, state or city government, on behalf of the Town, the employee shall be paid and compensated in full for all time so spent.
5. Military Leave shall be granted in accordance with established ordinances or other applicable laws, if any.

ARTICLE XII MEDICAL COVERAGE

1. ~~The Town will provide all employees covered under this Agreement health, dental, life and AD&D insurance through an agreement between Teamsters Local 251 and the Town of Tiverton. Appendix A of this document exhibits the “Memorandum of Agreement”. The Town will provide for all permanent, full time employees covered by this Agreement, medical insurance for the individual employee and his or her qualified dependents on a group basis. Effective July 1, 2024, the current medical insurance plan will be replaced by a High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP) coupled with a Health Savings Account (HSA) for those employees that are eligible. Employees not eligible to use a HSA (for age or other IRS-related reason) who are otherwise eligible for the HDHP shall be offered the option of a Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) to fund their deductible costs. The coverage of the HDHP shall be equal to that of employees within the AFSCME, Council 94 group, except as otherwise noted herein.~~

~~Effective July 1, 2024, deductible amounts and employee contributions shall be equal for all participating employees, and shall be as follows:~~

Family Plan:	\$6,000 Deductible
	Employer Share = \$3,000
	Employee Share = \$3,000
Individual Plan:	\$3,000 Deductible
	Employer Share = \$1,500
	Employee Share = \$1,500

~~Effective July 1, 2024, the Town agrees to advance the monetary amounts of said deductible (\$6,000 family or \$3,000 individual) to a prepaid debit card that shall be issued to each member.~~

Each member shall utilize said debit card for medical payments as needed to satisfy said deductible of the HDHP.

Effective July 1, 2024, participating members of the bargaining unit, through payroll deductions, shall pay the employee share (\$3,000 family and \$1,500 individual – half of the amount that was advanced to the members) back to the Town. The amount of the employee share (\$3,000 family and \$1,500 individual) shall be divided by the total number of pay periods within the year and shall be withheld prior to payroll taxes being withheld. Employees over the age of 65 shall pay the same employee share of the premium. If an employee leaves service with the Town, for any reason, the employee shall be responsible for repaying the Town's advance of the employee's share of the health savings account contribution in full, which the Town may deduct from such employee's final paycheck. As a condition of receiving this advancement of funds, each employee shall be required to sign an authorization form allowing the Town to deduct any such amounts from his/her final paycheck upon separation.

A third party shall administer the debit card for members of the unit. Any and all costs associated with the administration of said debit card from the third party shall be borne by the Town.

The Town agrees to provide all members and their family members (if applicable) with initial debit cards at no cost to said members. Two (2) cards per family plan shall be issued, and more can be requested by the member. The Town also agrees to provide said members with an allotment of checks, upon request, at no cost to the member.

Any charges associated with replacing said debit card to members or their family members shall be borne by the member.

There will be no premium co-share of the above cited HDHP contributed by the members towards the cost of the plan, except as specified herein.

HSA and HRA funds will be maintained as permitted by current IRS regulations.

As of July 1, 2024, Employees electing to not take part in the health plan shall be entitled to an annual payment of up to \$3,000 per family or up to \$1,500 per individual. This payment shall be pro-rated and paid in bi-weekly installments for the period in which an employee opts out of the health plan during the course of the fiscal year.

2. Effective July 1, 2016, the Union/Employee will co-pay the cost of health and dental insurance. Employees shall pay 15% of the annual premium for their coverage provided for in Appendix A in equal installments calculated on a pro-rata basis per pay period, as discussed in detail in Appendix B. Delta Dental Basic Services Contract shall be in effect with no co-share paid by the employee.

3. The Parties agree to re-open the contract to discuss potential savings associated with this Article XII. Either party may request the re-opener by providing written notice to the other party during the second and/or third year of the contract. The Town will reimburse to a maximum of

\$100.00 per employee, any bargaining unit employee who purchases prescription eye glasses per fiscal year.

4. The Town will provide for all full time employees covered by this Agreement fully paid Weekly Indemnity Insurance or accident with maximum income of \$55 for employees with annual income of less than \$5,000 and a maximum weekly income of \$75 for all others, with benefits not less than existing coverage on all employees. The parties agree that the above benefit will have no further economic or monetary value for retirees of the Town or at the time of an employee's retirement from his/her employment with the Town.

5. Part time employees of the Town who are members of the bargaining unit and who are not covered by medical insurance will be allowed to join the Town's medical insurance coverage at the Town's group rate, provided the individual is otherwise eligible and, provided further, that all premium payments/contributions necessary to maintain such coverage are made at the individual employee's own expense and in accordance with the Town's rules and regulations for making payments.

6. The Town of Tiverton is required to provide full medical coverage under this Agreement but reserves the right to choose the carrier provided the coverage is equal or greater than present coverage.

~~3.7.~~ Notwithstanding the foregoing, with thirty (30) days prior notice to the Union, the Town shall have the right at any time during this Agreement to provide equal medical/dental insurance benefits under a different plan than those specified in the above Section and in lieu thereof.

ARTICLE XIII SAFETY

1. The Town agrees to furnish its employees with the best vehicles and equipment available, as the Town's budget and appropriations may allow, in an effort to further the safety, good health and general well-being of the employees. Further, the Town agrees that it shall not discharge, fire, reprimand or discipline an employee who may refuse to operate or use equipment or a vehicle which has been deemed unsafe or not fit for its intended purpose and use by the Registry of Motor Vehicles of the State of Rhode Island. Nor shall the Town cause any employee to be subjected to dangers which may threaten the life, limb and good health of said employee, and not in the usual course of his employment.

2. The Town will instruct its agents and servants to give immediate consideration to any and all industrial accident claims which may be submitted by the employees covered by this Agreement in order to ~~ensure~~insure that said claims are handled as expeditiously as possible and in accordance with applicable laws of the State of Rhode Island.

3. The Town agrees that it will remain in compliance with the RI General Laws in Chapter 39-1.2 entitled "Excavation Near Underground Utility Facilities" and further agrees that it will not require any DPW employee to dig a hole without first obtaining a dig safe clearance.

4. The Town and Union agree to cooperate in efforts to promote safety and health, reduce risk of injury to employees, including but not limited to participation in the Safety and Wellness Committee established by the Town and the Rhode Island Interlocal Risk Management Trust, with membership including managers as well as rank and file employees from various Town departments.

**ARTICLE XIV
SENIORITY**

(a) The Town agrees to adhere to the principle of seniority whenever reasonably possible in the application of this contract and in the administration of employee benefits and employer policy. The Town and the Union agree that seniority shall not apply in a manner that restricts the management rights set forth in Article II.

**ARTICLE XV
PROBATIONARY PERIOD**

A new employee shall have a 180 calendar day trial and training period, which shall automatically be extended for any period of the employee's absence during such 180 calendar days, not counting accrued leave time. During this period, the employee shall be considered a probationary hire and shall not pay dues, nor shall he/she have any of the rights of bargaining unit members under the grievance and arbitration procedures of this contract.

**ARTICLE XVI
JOB POSTING AND BIDDING**

When a position covered by this Agreement becomes vacant, as determined by the Town, such vacancy shall be posted in a conspicuous place listing the pay, duties, and qualifications. This notice of vacancy shall remain posted for seven (7) days. Employees interested shall apply in writing within the seven (7) day period. Within twenty-one (21) days of the expiration of the posting period, the Town Administrator will award the position to the most senior and qualified person for said position. The successful applicant shall be given a ninety (90) day trial period in the new position at the applicable rate of pay. If at the end of the trial and training period the Town Administrator determines that the employee is not qualified to perform the work, the employee shall be returned to his or her old position and rate.

The Town shall notify the Union via fax or email of any new job postings which become available in the unit.

Any successful internal candidate to a promotion shall have the right to self demote (request that he/she be returned to the position he/she occupied prior to being promoted) provided that self demotion can only occur during the probationary period for the position to which the employee was promoted.

**ARTICLE XVII
SUBCONTRACTING**

The Town may subcontract work provided:

- a. No subcontractor will be engaged to intentionally obstruct the reemployment of laid-off employees with unexpired recall rights.
- b. No employee will be laid off as a direct result of any work being subcontracted.

**ARTICLE XVIII
TEMPORARY SEASONAL EMPLOYEES**

Nothing contained in this Agreement shall preclude the Town from employing temporary seasonal employees for the summer season (May through September) and due to emergency conditions.

**ARTICLE XIX
RECALL**

Employees shall be laid off in the order of least employment seniority, except to the extent that the laws and regulations of the State of Rhode Island provide otherwise.

Notice of layoffs shall be given at least seven (7) days before the scheduled layoff. Any permanent employee laid off for lack of work or funding shall be placed on the recall list for five (5) years. The Town, upon rehiring, shall do so in the order of greatest seniority entitlement, except to the extent that laws and regulations of the State of Rhode Island provide otherwise. Under no circumstances shall the Town hire from the open market while employees on the recall list are ready, willing and able to be reemployed to perform the duties of the vacant position. Except for the physical examination, any such employee rehired after six months must comply with the licensing and testing requirements as set forth in Article ~~VIII~~ Section 1.

Any notice of reemployment to an employee who has been laid off shall be made by registered mail to the last known address of the employee at least seven (7) days prior to a date set for reemployment in said notice. A copy of said notice shall be simultaneously sent to the Business Agent.

Failure on the part of the employee to report for said employment according to the notice, regardless of reason, shall be deemed to be a waiver by said employee for that particular position and shall result in the removal of such employee from the recall list.

**ARTICLE XX
CALL BACK**

Employees covered by this Agreement will be placed on a rotating call duty schedule that will be mutually agreed upon by the Department Head and employees for the period from November 1 through March 31 of each year. Call duty personnel will be compensated at the rate of \$80.00 per seven-day week and \$90.00 during a holiday week as per Article ~~IX:XXII~~. All employees are subject to call back for any reason. Employees called back shall be compensated for a minimum of four (4) hours at the overtime rate as described in Article VIII Section 5. The DPW Director shall be responsible for employee call back.

The individual will be notified by cell phone in the event of emergency, and will be required to respond immediately during any emergency situation involving weather, natural disaster, accidents, or other unforeseen or emergency situations.

**ARTICLE XXI
LIFE INSURANCE**

~~In the event that life insurance is no longer included in the Teamsters' Health and Welfare Plan as outlined in Appendix A,~~ The Town shall provide each full time employee covered by this contract with no less than \$50,000 life insurance coverage under the Town's existing life insurance carrier relationship. Employees may, at their own expense, add coverage under the Town's life insurance plan. Employees acknowledge that coverage over \$50,000 will result in personal income tax liability.

**ARTICLE XXII
TEMPORARY SERVICE IN A HIGHER CLASSIFICATION**

When an employee works in an assigned higher classification for a period of more than five (5) consecutively scheduled work days, the employee shall receive the rate of pay established for said classification, retroactive to the first day subject to budgetary provisions. Shift differential shall depend on the shift that the Employee works.

**ARTICLE XXIII
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

1. Unless modified by the express terms of this Agreement, all existing rights, benefits, privileges, and practices enjoyed by the employees in the bargaining unit shall be maintained throughout its term; provided, however, nothing in this Agreement is intended to limit the right of the Town or the Union to cease any established past practice in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 28-9-27(e), as amended.

2. Neither the Town nor its agents shall enter into any agreement with any individual employee which is contrary to the terms of this Agreement.

3. No agreement, understanding or alteration of the terms of provisions of this Agreement shall bind the parties hereto unless made and executed in writing by them.

4. The failure of either party hereto to insist upon compliance with any of the terms or conditions of this Agreement on any occasion shall not be construed to be a waiver by that party of its right to insist upon compliance in the future with such terms and conditions.

5. Each clause of this Agreement is totally severable from every other clause hereof. Should any clause of this Agreement be declared by any court or agency of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable or be rendered invalid by any legislation, the validity of all other clauses in this Agreement will be unaffected thereby and shall remain in full force and effect during its term.

6. In the event an employee fails a random drug test the cost incurred for all required follow-up testing will be paid by the employee.

ARTICLE XXIV EFFECTIVE DATE

The effective date of this Agreement is July 1, 2024~~19~~. The signing of this Agreement by the authorized representatives of the Union and the Town shall be authorization to implement all of the provisions of this Agreement.

ARTICLE XXV TERMINATION AND RENEWAL

This Agreement will expire and terminate on June 30, 2027~~22~~. At the end of that time, either party may terminate this Agreement provided such termination is transmitted ~~through~~through the registered United States mail to the responsible signatories to this Agreement. In no case may termination notice be sent less than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the first Wednesday in May, prior to the expiration date of this contract.

ARTICLE XXVI CHANGES

Should either party to this Agreement wish to inaugurate collective bargaining discussions over changes it may wish to introduce into the next succeeding Agreement, it is agreed that notice to reopen negotiations shall be mailed to the authorized parties signatory to this Agreement at least one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the first Wednesday in May, prior to the expiration date of this contract. The parties shall forthwith seek establishment of a meeting for purposes of discussion and amicable accommodation for the desired changes. Nothing in this article shall preclude either party from modifying any previous proposals during the course of contract negotiations.

**ARTICLE XXVII
NEW CLASSIFICATION**

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Town agrees that should it, during the term of this Agreement, establish new classifications of work, the Town shall present to the Union, at least thirty (30) days prior to putting the new job into effect, a job description sheet for the purpose of negotiating rates of pay.

**ARTICLE XXVIII
CLOTHING ALLOWANCE**

The Town agrees that it will provide uniform service, rain gear and such equipment as may be necessary in the course of their employment for members of the bargaining unit.

The Town has the right to require the employees to wear uniforms within reason to conform to a proper dress code.

The Town agrees to reimburse DPW personnel for the purchase of OSHA approved steel toe safety footwear in the amount of \$150 in each year of the contract.

Payment will be made during the first or second week of July annually.

In the first year of the contract, the Town agrees to provide a one-time stipend of \$41.60 to each member who does not choose a lightweight jacket from the clothing vendor.

The Town agrees to provide one (1) winter weight work-jacket to each bargaining unit member during the term of this contract, at a cost of up to \$300 per bargaining unit member. If the winter jacket costs less than \$300, employees shall be permitted to submit store receipts for the purchase of other winter gear (e.g., hats, gloves, boots) to the Department Head for reimbursement of the remainder of the allowance; provided, however, that in no event shall the Town's reimbursement (inclusive of the cost of the winter weight work-jacket) exceed \$300 per bargaining unit member. If an employee separates employment with the Town for any reason within six (6) months of receiving the winter-weight work jacket and/or other allowance described in this paragraph, the employee shall be required to repay the Town for the value received (which amount the parties agree may be deducted from the employee's final paycheck) or return the jacket or other clothing to the Town within seven (7) days of the employee's separation.

The Parties agree to meet within sixty (60) days of ratification of this Agreement for the purpose of negotiating changes to this Article XXVIII only.

**ARTICLE XXIX
RETIREMENT BENEFITS**

For all employees hired after July 1, 1994, the Town shall not be required to continue to pay medical insurance after retirement.

**ARTICLE XXX
LONGEVITY**

Each regular employee shall be entitled to longevity payments. Longevity payments shall be paid to all employees quarterly who have attained the proper years of service during the year. Longevity payments shall be as follows:

Commencing July 1, 2002:

5 Years to 9 Years	3.5% of Annual Base Salary
10 Years to 14 Years	4.5% of Annual Base Salary
15 Years and Over	5.5% of Annual Base Salary

Effective July 1, 2010, there will be no longevity payments for any employee hired after July 1, 2010.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be signed and executed by their respective duly authorized officers and their respective seals to be attached hereto, and to another instrument of like tenor, this ____ day of _____, 20240.

FOR THE TOWN OF TIVERTON

FOR THE UNITED STEELWORKERS
TEAMSTERS _____ LOCAL NO. 111

~~Jan Reitsma~~Christopher Cotta, Administrator

~~Nick Williams~~, Business Agent

APPENDIX A

HEALTH SERVICES AND INSURANCE PLAN

~~Commencing with the 1st day of August, 2019, the Employer shall contribute to the Teamsters Local Union No. 251 Health Services and Insurance Plan, the sum of twelve dollars and sixty one and one quarter (\$12.6125) per hour for each hour for which an employee receives pay, figured to the nearest quarter hour, up to a maximum of 40 hours but not more than \$504.50. An overtime hour shall be considered as a single contribution hour.~~

~~Commencing with the 1st day of August, 2020, the Employer shall contribute to the Teamsters Local Union No. 251 Health Services and Insurance Plan, the sum of thirteen dollars and twenty one and one quarter (\$13.2125) per hour for each hour for which an employee receives pay, figured to the nearest quarter hour, up to a maximum of 40 hours but not more than \$528.50. An overtime hour shall be considered as a single contribution hour.~~

~~Commencing with the 1st day of August, 2021, the Employer shall contribute to the Teamsters Local Union No. 251 Health Services and Insurance Plan, the sum of thirteen dollars and eighty one and one quarter (\$13.8125) per hour for each hour for which an employee receives pay, figured to the nearest quarter hour, up to a maximum of 40 hours but not more than \$552.50. An overtime hour shall be considered as a single contribution hour.~~

~~For purposes of this Article, each hour paid for or any portion thereof, figured to the nearest quarter hour, as well as hours of paid vacation, paid holidays and other hours for which pay is received by the employee shall be counted as hours for which contributions are payable.~~

~~If an employee is absent because of illness or off the job injury and notifies the Employer of such absence, the Employer shall continue to make the required contribution of forty (40) hours for a period of four (4) weeks. If an employee is injured on the job, the Employer shall continue to pay the required contributions until such employee returns to work; however, such contributions of forty (40) hours shall not be paid for a period of more than twelve (12) months.~~

~~Hourly contributions to the Health Services and Insurance Plan must be made for each hour worked on each regular or extra employee, even though such employee may work only part time under the provisions of this contract, including weeks where work is performed for the Employer but not under the provisions of this contract, and although contributions may be made for those weeks into some other Health Services and Insurance Plan.~~

~~All contributions shall be made at such time and in such manner as the Trustees require, and the Trustees shall have the authority to have an independent certified public accountant audit the payroll and wage records of the Employer for the purpose of determining the accuracy of contributions to the Health Services and Insurance Plan.~~

~~If an Employer fails to make contributions to the Health Services and Insurance Plan within 72 hours after the notice of delinquency, the Local Union shall take whatever steps are necessary to secure compliance with this Article, and provisions of the Agreement to the contrary~~

~~notwithstanding, and the Employer shall be liable for all costs for collecting the payments due, together with attorneys' fees and such penalties which may be assessed by the Trustees. The Employer's liability for payment hereunder shall not be subject to the Grievance Procedure or Arbitration provided under this Agreement.~~

~~(e) The Employer and Union which are signators hereto ratify the designation of the Employer and the Employee Trustees under such Agreement, and ratify all action already taken, or to be taken by such Trustees within the scope of their authority.~~

~~(d) Effective July 1, 2013, the Union/Employee will co-pay those amounts for the cost of health and dental insurance as set forth in Article XII.~~

Appendix B

Memorandum of Understanding: Health and Welfare Premium Rates and Employee Premium Co-Shares

It is understood by the Parties that the Employer and Employees will jointly contribute to satisfy the cost of the Health Services & Insurance Plan (HSIP) premium for each covered Employee. The Employer will pay 85% (eighty five percent) of the cost and each employee 15% (fifteen percent), per Article XII, Section 2 of the Contract.

It is further understood that the premium rate for the HSIP is set by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. The premium is charged to the Town based upon the number of hours worked by each employee. The weekly premium charged, however, is not to exceed 40 (forty) hours' worth of premium per week. It is also understood by the Parties that the annual premium is capped at 1,800 (one thousand eight hundred) hours' worth of time for which Employees are paid, regardless of actual time worked.

Based upon the required contribution rates established in Appendix A and the discussion above, the hourly and weekly maximum premium co-shares for Employees are as follows:

As of August 1, 2019:	\$1.8919 / hour	up to \$75.67 / week	up to \$3,405.42 / year
As of August 1, 2020:	\$1.9819 / hour	up to \$79.27 / week	up to \$3,567.42 / year
As of August 1, 2021:	\$2.0719 / hour	up to \$82.87 / week	up to \$3,729.42 / year

The Parties mutually understand and agree that these figures are based upon the Union's current good faith estimates of the premium for the HSIP in future years. These estimates may change with claims experience and the financial health of the HSIP or other circumstances outside of the Parties' control. Both Parties recognize that whether the premium for the HSIP rises or falls, the Employees as individuals will pay 15% of their individual premium out of their pay towards the premium each year, not to exceed 15% of 1,800 hours' worth of premium charged to the Employer.