

3632

6/30/2000

AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE CITY OF NOVI

AND

NOVI FIRE FIGHTERS UNION LOCAL 3232

JULY 1, 1996 - JUNE 30, 2000

Novi, City of

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COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT, effective July 1, 1996, entered into between the City of Novi, Michigan, a municipal corporation, hereinafter called the "City", and Local No. 3232 of the Novi Fire Fighters Union, AFL-CIO, hereinafter called the "Union".

WITNESSETH: That the parties hereto, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements hereinafter contained, do hereby agree as follows:

ARTICLE 1 PURPOSE

The parties hereto have entered into this agreement pursuant to the authority of Act 379 of the Public Acts of 1965, as amended, to incorporate understandings previously reached and other matters into a formal contract; to promote harmonious relations between the City and the Union in the best interests of the community; to improve the public fire fighting service; and to provide an orderly and equitable means of resolving future differences between the parties.

ARTICLE 2 COVERAGE

The City recognizes the Union as the sole and exclusive collective bargaining representative of all full-time employees of the Fire Department, excluding the Chief, Assistant Chief, and civilian employees. This Agreement shall be applicable to all Fire Employees in the appropriate bargaining unit.

ARTICLE 3 DUES AND DEDUCTIONS

The City agrees to deduct dues of the Union upon signed authorization of any member of the bargaining unit. The aggregate deduction of all employees shall be remitted together with an itemized statement to the Treasurer of the Union by the 15th of the succeeding month after such deductions are made. The City shall not be liable to the Union or to the Employees by reason of any error or neglect involving the improper deduction or of failure to deduct Union dues in accordance with this contract and the Union agrees to hold the City harmless from all liability to which the City may be put by reason of its voluntary agreement to deduct membership dues.

Any employee who is not a Union member and who does not make application for membership shall, as a condition of employment, pay to the Union a monthly service charge in an amount equal to the monthly dues uniformly applied to members as a contribution toward the administration of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 4 UNION ACTIVITIES

Section 1. General

Employees and their Union representatives shall have the right to join the Union, to engage in lawful concerted activities for the purposes of the collective negotiation or bargaining, in accordance with Act 379 of the Public Acts of 1965, as amend, all free from any and all illegal restraint, interference, coercion, discrimination or reprisal.

Section 2. Release Time for Union Business

Officers and representatives of the Union shall be afforded reasonable time during regular working hours without loss of pay to fulfill their Union responsibilities, including negotiations with the City, processing of grievances, and administration and enforcement of the Agreement (not to exceed two employees at a time) upon the approval of the Fire Chief. It is understood that approval will not be arbitrarily withheld and all reasonable requests shall be granted.

Officers and representatives of the Union shall include its President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer (the Executive Board) or their designated alternates.

The Union shall advise the City in writing as to its officers and shall report any changes promptly.

Section 3. Bulletin Boards

The Union shall be provided with suitable bulletin boards at each fire station for the posting of Union notices and other materials. All posted materials must be approved and signed by a Union officer.

Section 4. Meetings

The Union may schedule meetings on Fire Department property, insofar as such meetings are not disruptive of the duties of the employees or the efficient operation of the department, subject to the approval of the Fire Chief which approval shall not be arbitrarily or unreasonably withheld.

Section 5. Union Leave of Absence

The City shall give reasonable time off up to five (5) calendar days with pay to employees designated by the Union to attend a labor convention, seminar, or school, provided 72 hours written notice is given to the City by the Union, specifying length of time off for Union activities. It is understood that approval will not be arbitrarily withheld and all reasonable requests shall be granted provided there shall be no disruption of Fire Department operations due to lack of employees.

ARTICLE 5
MANAGEMENT RIGHTS

Section 1.

The City Council on its own behalf and on the behalf of its electors, hereby retains and reserves unto itself, all powers, rights, authority, duties, and responsibilities conferred upon and vested in it by the laws and the Constitution of the State of Michigan and of the United States. Further, all rights which ordinarily vest in and are exercised by employers are reserved to and remain vested in the City Council, including, but without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the right:

- A. to manage its affairs efficiently and economically, including the determination of quantity and quality of services to be rendered to the public, the control of equipment to be used, and the discontinuance of any services or methods of operation;
- B. to introduce new equipment, methods, or process, change or eliminate existing equipment and institute technological changes, decide on supplies and equipment to be purchased;
- C. to direct the work force, to assign the type and location of work assignments and determine the number of employees assigned to operations;
- D. to determine the number, location, and type of facilities and installations;
- E. to determine the size of the work force and increase or decrease its size;
- F. to hire new employees, to promote employees and to assign, transfer and lay off employees;
- G. to establish and change work schedules, work standards, and the methods, processes, and procedures by which such work is to be performed;
- H. to discipline, suspend, and discharge employees for cause;
- I. to maintain the discipline and efficiency of the employees;
- J. to establish the methods of departmental operation.
- K. to determine lunch, rest periods, and cleanup times, the starting and quitting times;
- L. to subcontract or purchase the construction of new facilities or the improvement of existing facilities;
- M. to subcontract or purchase any work processes or services in line with past practices;
- O. to establish training for the purpose of maintaining or improving professional skills of employees.

Section 2.

The City reserves the foregoing rights except such as are specifically relinquished or modified by the terms of the Agreement.

Section 3.

It is agreed that these enumerations of management prerogatives shall not be deemed to exclude other prerogatives not enumerated, and except as specifically abridged, delegated, modified, or granted by this Agreement, all the rights, powers and authority the City had prior to the signing of this Agreement are retained by the City and remain within the rights of the City, whether or not such rights have been exercised in the past.

**ARTICLE 6
DISCIPLINE**

Section 1. The City shall retain the sole right to establish, change, amend, and enforce rules for employees to follow, the right to warn, reprimand, lay off, discharge, demote, or transfer any and all employees who violate these rules.

Section 2. The City may discharge or discipline any seniority employee only for just cause. Probationary employees may be discharged for any reason. It shall be the policy of the City that disciplinary action will follow the principle of being both corrective and progressive in nature.

Section 3. Cause for disciplinary action shall include, but is not limited to: failure to observe rules of conduct established by the City; inefficiency or inability to perform assigned duties.

Section 4.

Any employee who has been disciplined by suspension or discharge may request the presence of a Union representative to discuss the matter with the employee and the City representative, as long as the circumstances permit prompt and orderly conversation on the matter. The Union representative will be called promptly, if available. The Chief may make emergency discharges and reduce the charges in writing within 24 hours.

Section 5.

It is important that complaints regarding discipline be handled promptly, and if a hearing is desired, the Union or the employee shall file an appeal with the Fire Chief or his designee, within two (2) working business days after such discharge or discipline is first imposed. The hearing will be held within two (2) working business days after the filing of the complaint. Union representation at the hearing will be the same as indicated in Step 1 of the Grievance Procedure. In addition, the disciplined employee has the right to be present.

Section 6.

Any employee aggrieved by removal, discharge, suspension, or reduction in rank of pay may seek relief through to Grievance Procedure outlined in Article 7 of this Agreement by going immediately

to Step 3.

Section 7.

All grievance involving discipline, with the exception of grievances involving a discharge, suspension, removal or reduction in rank or pay, shall follow the normal Grievance Procedure in rank or pay, shall follow the normal Grievance Procedure outlined in Article 7 of this Agreement.

Section 8.

Within a two-year period following the insertion of a letter of reprimand in the personnel files of the member, he/she may ask that a review be made by the City Manager or his representative, and unless there is substantial reason otherwise, the letter be removed and the record of it expunged.

**ARTICLE 7
GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

Section 1.

A grievance is defined as an alleged violation of a specific article and section of the Agreement. No dispute or controversy shall be adjusted under this procedure unless it shall be a true grievance as defined above. The City and Union shall make every effort to settle the dispute in an amicable manner. A business day shall be defined as a normal day of business at the City Administration building.

Section 2.

Grievances must be taken up promptly, and no grievance will be considered or discussed which is presented later than ten (10) business days after grievant's knowledge of the alleged grievance. Should any grievance arise, there shall be an earnest effort on the part of both parties to settle such grievance promptly through the following steps:

Step 1. By informal conference between the aggrieved employee, a Union representative, or both, and the Fire Chief or his representative. If not resolved, it shall be the responsibility of the aggrieved to reduce any grievance to writing on the regular grievance form provided by the Union within ten (10) business days of the alleged grievance.

Step 2. Upon receipt of the written grievance, the Chief shall respond to the grievance in writing or resolve the grievance and render his written disposition of said grievance.

Step 3. If the Union is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance or if no disposition has been made by the Fire Chief within seven (7) days, the grievance may be appealed in writing to the City Manager or his representative. Upon receipt of the written grievance, a conference between Union Representatives and the City representatives shall meet to review the matter. The employer shall render a decision within seven (7) days after the conference.

Step 4. If either party is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance at the Step 3 level, either party may, within ten (10) working days of the date of the written disposition or the date on which said disposition was due, whichever is the earliest, invoke arbitration by sending to the other party written notice of the intention to arbitrate the grievance.

Section 3.

The arbitration proceedings shall be conducted by an arbitrator picked from a list consisting of five names determined by the Union and the City.

If the parties cannot agree as to the arbitrator, he shall be selected by the American Arbitration Association or the FMCS, in accordance with its rules and regulations. Notice to the American Arbitration or the FMCS shall be within fifteen (15) calendar days after the written notice of the intention to arbitrate the grievance.

The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding upon the parties. The arbitrator shall have no power to alter, add to or subtract from the terms of this Agreement. The expenses for the arbitrator's services shall be paid equally by both parties.

Any grievance not appealed from a decision in one of the steps of the Grievance Procedure to the next step as hereinbefore described shall be considered dropped and the last decision final and binding, except that time limits may be extended by mutual agreement of the parties.

**ARTICLE 8
SAFETY CLAUSE**

Section 1.

A Union representative and a City representative will meet, when necessary, or at the request of either party, for the purpose of discussing safety regulations with the understanding that the City has the ultimate responsibility and shall make the final determination on all matters of safety and safety regulations. No employee shall be penalized for reporting unsafe conditions.

**ARTICLE 9
SENIORITY**

Section 1.

A new employee in the bargaining unit may acquire seniority after working twelve (12) continuous months in which event the employee's seniority will date back to the date of hire. In the event that two (2) or more employees of the same rank have the same date of hire, then seniority shall be determined by the date of the application for employment, the one with the earliest date of application having the greater seniority. There shall be no seniority among probationary employees.

Section 2.

An employee shall lose his/her seniority for the following reasons only:

- A. He/She quits.
- B. He/She is discharged. In the event that the discharge is reversed through the grievance procedure, his/her seniority shall be reinstated to date of hire.
- C. He/She is absent for two or more consecutive working days without notifying his/her supervisor or the Fire Chief. In case of emergency, exceptions may be made by the City.
- D. If He/She does not return to work from sick leave or leaves of absence within two (2) days of the end of the leave.
- E. Retirement or regular service retirement.

Section 3.

An employee who at any time returns from leave granted by the City shall be entitled to return to his/her former position without loss of rank or seniority with limits as defined in Article 17. Seniority shall not be earned for time spent on leave of absence without pay.

Section 4.

In the event of a layoff, an employee so laid off shall be given one week's notice of recall to work, mailed to his last known address by certified mail. In the event the employee fails to make himself available for work at the end of one week, he shall lose all seniority right under this Agreement. The City shall have the right to make exceptions. Layoff and recall shall be done by seniority; least senior laid off first and most senior recalled first.

Section 5.

An employee who is promoted from the bargaining unit shall retain all seniority accumulated by him as a member of the bargaining unit, and shall be entitled to exercise that seniority at any time that he/she is either laid off or demoted from his/her position.

Section 6.

The Union shall represent probationary employees for the purpose of collective bargaining in respect to rates of pay, wages, hours of employment and other conditions of employment as set forth in this Agreement, except that the Union shall not represent probationary employees with respect to discharge or discipline by the City for other than Union activity.

**ARTICLE 10
PROMOTIONS**

All promotional opportunities shall be posted for a period of ten (10) business days. Only candidates with a minimum of four (4) years of experience on the Novi Fire Department are eligible for promotions. In the event that there is not a qualified candidate who meets this criteria, this

restriction shall be void. Candidates shall submit applications in writing to the Fire Chief prior to the expiration of this posting period. The selection process shall be competitive with the appointment awarded to the candidate with the highest aggregate score. The selection process shall consist of a written examination, an oral board, and a departmental evaluation. Each element shall have a total possible score of 100 points.

ARTICLE 11 HOURS OF WORK

Section 1.

The normal work period for all employees covered by this contract is twenty eight (28) days. The City reserves the right to schedule the work day, work week and meal time. The schedule shall be at the discretion of the Fire Chief.

Section 2.

The work day for Fire Protection Officers and Supervisors shall consist of twelve (12) hours scheduled between the hours of 6:00 am and 6:00 pm, Monday through Friday. The work week shall be forty eight (48) hours.

Section 3.

All employees other than the Fire Protection Officers and Supervisors shall work a forty (40) hour work week scheduled at the discretion of the Fire Chief.

Section 4.

The City shall reserve the right to schedule meal time. Employees will remain available for emergency responses during the allowed meal time and may complete their meal time upon return to the station.

Section 5.

The Article shall in no way be construed as a guarantee by the City of any amount of work in any period of time or a limitation on the City's right to schedule work in excess of the normal work day or work week.

Section 6.

Subject to department manpower requirements, employees shall be permitted to trade voluntarily work or leave days subject to advance approval of the Fire Chief.

ARTICLE 12 SALARY AND WAGES

Section 1.

Employees shall be compensated in accordance with the wage schedule attached to this agreement and shall be considered a part of this Agreement.

Section 2.

New employees or newly promoted employees will start at the beginning step shown in the range for the class. Advancement to the next step in the range assigned to will be at increments of twelve (12) months.

Section 3.

An employee who works thirty-six (36) hours or more in a higher classification in a two week period will be paid the higher rate for all time worked in the higher classification. Selection for this assignment will be based on seniority.

**ARTICLE 13
OVERTIME**

Section 1.

If an employee is required by his supervisor to work longer than twelve (12) hours on any regular working day, or forty-eight (48) hours in any one week, he will be compensated at an hourly rate equal to one and one-half (1-1/2) times his hourly rate. If a forty (40) hour employee is required to work more than forty (40) hours in one week, he/she shall be compensated at an hourly rate equal to one and one-half (1 1/2) times his/her hourly rate for all hours worked over forty (40). In the event an employee is called back to work by the Department, he/she will be guaranteed a minimum of three (3) hours overtime pay. If an employee receives overtime on a holiday, he/she will be paid at a rate of two (2) times his/her hourly rate.

Section 2.

The City reserves the right to order employees to work overtime when they deem it necessary.

**ARTICLE 14
GENERAL**

Section 1.

The Union agrees to refrain from violating Section 1 and 2 of P.E.R.A.. The City agrees that it will not lock out any employees.

Section 2.

The employer shall provide pay periods every two weeks. Payments shall be made on Friday. Each employee shall be provided with an itemized statement of his earnings and of all deductions made for any purpose.

Section 3.

All employees hired after 7/1/90, as a condition of employment, be residents and reside within the area which is within forty (40) miles from any corporate limit of the City of Novi, Michigan.

Section 4.

Should the employer require an employee to give bond, cash bond shall not be compulsory and any premium shall be paid by the employer.

Section 5.

A. The City shall provide at its own expense such legal assistance as shall be required or needed by an Employee as the result of acts occurring when and while said Employee was in good faith performance of his/her duties and responsibilities. If, for any reason, such legal assistance is denied, then the City shall submit a written report to the affected Employee and the Union setting forth the specifications for such denial, which denial and reasons may be the subject of a grievance.

B. The City shall further keep in effect and maintain professional liability policy insuring each employee in the amount of not less than one million (1,000,000.) dollars for any claim, suit and/or judgements against the employee and occasioned by his/her employment. In the event the City shall fail to maintain such a policy, the City shall agree to assume and pay any claims, suits, or judgements rendered against the Employee which arise out of his/her employment.

Section 6.

A. It is agreed that sufficient personnel be maintained on duty and available for response to alarms. The department will make an attempt to maintain a minimum of eight (8) FPO's per shift. In the event that a substitute FPO is not available for work, part-time personnel will be contacted for duty. Minimum manning for each in service engine or squad shall be two (2) Fire Fighters. If minimum staffing falls below eight (8) FPO's and there is more than three hours left to a shift, the department will call in an FPO.

B. If sufficient personnel from the bargaining unit are not available to fill in such staffing shortages personnel from the part-time/paid-on-call unit may be used to fill such staffing requirements. Personnel used from the part-time/paid-on-call unit for staffing requirements must meet the following requirements.

1. State of Michigan Firefighter I certified
2. State of Michigan E.M.T. licensed
3. A.E.D. certified (for a period of no less than 90 days)
4. C.P.R. certified

c. It is agreed that the senior employees from the bargaining unit who are assigned duty watch at their respective stations (1,2,3,4), shall have authority over members of the part-time/paid-on-call unit, including normal station operation and personnel assignment on alarms, regardless of part-time/paid-on-call members seniority or rank during the hours of 6 a.m. - 6 p.m. The senior part-time/paid-on-call members shall have authority during the hours of 6 p.m. - 6 a.m. If an incident continues over into another shift, the supervision will not change.

d. It is hereby agreed that the City shall have the right to create and maintain an Auxiliary program. Auxiliary employees may be used to supplement the full-time firefighters. However, at no time shall the number of Auxiliary firefighters outnumber the number of full-time firefighters on duty per station.

ARTICLE 15 DUTY DISABILITY - DUTY DISABILITY LEAVE

Section 1.

A "Duty Disability" leave shall mean a leave required as a result of an employee incurring a compensable illness and/or injury covered by Michigan Workers' Compensation Act while in the employ of the City.

Section 2.

In order to be eligible for duty disability leave, an employee shall immediately report any illness or injury, to his/her immediate supervisor, who shall note same in writing.

Section 3.

In the event an employee's illness or disability exceeds seven (7) calendar days, he/she shall cause an applicable insurance disability form to be completed and filed with the City.

Section 4.

If an employee suffers a duty disability and it is ascertained that the nature of the injury or illness is such that the employee will be unable to return to work, such employee will be retired under the City's retirement system.

Section 5.

Eligibility for disability benefits shall depend upon a clear showing by competent medical evidence that such disability leave is necessary.

Section 6.

When absence results from a "Duty Disability", the benefits provided in this Article will terminate at the start of worker's compensation payment, thereafter, a seniority employee who is disabled and unable to work because of a duty disability, shall be entitled to receive ninety-five (95%) percent of the employee's regular take-home pay, (base pay) including sums received by way of weekly benefits under the worker's compensation law, any other disability benefits provided by law, any disability insurance provided for by this Agreement, and any social security benefits. The City will pay the difference, if any, between all such payments and ninety-five (95%) percent of the employee's regular straight time pay (base pay) for the period of the employee's disability, but not to exceed 12 months from the date of injury or illness.

ARTICLE 16 COMBINED TIME OFF

Section 1.

Combined time off (CTO) program will combine all vacation, personal and sick days into a single benefit bank for compensation during time away from work.

Section 2.

Employees shall be granted combined time off in the calendar year in accordance with the following schedule:

0 - 4 years of service = 20 days per year

5 - 9 years of service = 25 days per year

10 + years of service = 30 days per year

Section 3.

CTO will be subject to departmental approval. Annual CTO picks will be requested in January and picked by seniority. FPO's and Supervisors shall pick on separate schedules. No more than three (3) FPO's can be on scheduled CTO per day. CTO may be taken in half day increments. Excessive Emergency CTO days may result in departmental investigation and requests for documentation. Evidence of abuse of Emergency CTO may be grounds for disciplinary action.

Section 4.

Employees are encouraged to take CTO as earned. New employee's CTO time will be pro-rated. The maximum carryover will be ten (10) days. The maximum payout will be five days at full pay.

ARTICLE 17 OTHER LEAVE

Section 1.

Any employee required to serve on jury duty will suffer no loss of pay but will be paid the difference between jury pay and his regular pay. An employee required to make a duty-connected appearance on off-duty days shall be paid at the rate of one and one-half times regular rate with a three (3) hour minimum

Section 2.

City employees shall receive up to five (5) funeral days, if needed to attend the funeral of father, mother, mother-in-law, father-in-law, sister, brother, wife or husband, child or step-child, step-brother or step-sister, step-mother or step-father, grandmother or grandfather, grandson or granddaughter, brother-in-law or sister-in-law.

Section 3.

A. Employees inducted into the Armed Services of the United States, under the provisions of the Selective Service Act, shall be entitled to a leave of absence, without pay or other benefits, for a period of service required by such original induction. Upon their honorable discharge, and if physically fit to perform the duties of the position of which they held prior to entering the military service, such employees shall be reinstated to their former positions or one comparable to it, providing that they make formal application for reinstatement within ninety (90) days after the date of military service discharge.

B. A regular employee, who enters the Armed Forces and meets the foregoing requirements, will have seniority equal to the time spent in the Armed Forces plus previous employment time in the department. A probationary employee, who enters the Armed Forces and meets the foregoing requirements, must complete his probationary period and upon completing it, will have seniority equal to the time he spent in the Armed Forces, plus twelve (12) months.

C. The City, in its sole discretion, and upon such terms it deems just, may grant an employee a leave of absence, for a period not to exceed one year. Any leave granted under this provision shall be without pay and without benefits, and the employee shall not accumulate seniority during such a leave. Application for such leave must be made in writing to the Personnel Director. Such leaves will be determined by the needs of the department.

D. Except as hereinbefore provided, the re-employment rights of employees and probationary employees will be limited to applicable laws and regulations.

Section 3.

Each employee covered under this Agreement shall receive thirteen (13) paid holidays:

New Year's Day	Veteran's Day
Martin Luther King Day	Thanksgiving Day
President's Day	Day after Thanksgiving
Good Friday	Christmas Eve (Dec. 24th)
Memorial Day	Christmas Day
Fourth of July	New Year's Eve Day (Dec. 31st)
Labor Day	

Every effort will be made to allow an employee to be off duty for the holiday. Only employees assigned to work a holiday by the City will have the right to work the holiday.

An employee must work or be on approved paid leave the work day before a holiday and the succeeding work day after the holiday in order to receive the holiday pay. Holiday pay will be paid in the succeeding pay after the holiday.

- A. 40 hour employees:
1. Normally shall not be scheduled to work above stated holidays and shall receive their

base rate of pay.

2. If an employee is required to work a holiday he/she will be paid double time plus his/her base rate of pay.
- B. 48 Hour employees:
1. In the event that an employee is not scheduled to work a holiday he/she will receive his/her base rate of pay plus twelve (12) hours holiday pay.
 2. If an employee is scheduled to work a holiday he/she will be paid double time plus his/her base rate of pay.

ARTICLE 18 INSURANCE

Section 1. Hospitalization

The City shall provide fully paid Blue Cross-Blue Shield MVF-1 coverage, plus the Master Medical coverage, the prescription rider, emergency room treatment rider (FAE) and pre and post natal care rider (PPNV) for each employee and his/her dependents.

The employee may choose one of the H.M.O. coverage which will be equal to or better than the above Blue Cross-Blue Shield coverage.

Section 2. Dental

The City shall provide at no cost to each employee and his/her dependents Delta Dental Plan Class 1 Benefits (75%) and Class II (50%). Each member will be entitled to up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per calendar year.

Section 3. Optical

The City shall provide group optical insurance coverage as provided under the Blue Cross-Blue Shield coverage or better. The premiums will be at no cost to employee and his/her dependents.

Section 4. Life Insurance

The City shall provide life insurance in the face amount of fifty thousand (\$50,000) dollars for each employee in the bargaining unit.

Section 5. Disability Insurance

A short term sick policy will commence on the 7th day of disability and will provide 95% of an employee's gross pay for twenty six (26) weeks.. After six (6) months, the long term disability policy will take effect. The employee will continue to receive his/her holiday pay, longevity pay, and insurance opt-out pay while receiving short term disability insurance.

The City shall provide long term disability insurance which will pay sixty (60%) percent of an employee's base salary for a period not to exceed five (5) years. Such coverage shall become effective after a period of six (6) months of continuous disability. The employee will not accrue seniority on long term disability.

Section 6. Carriers

The City will continue to have the right to select the carrier, and/or to become self-insured, provided that the coverage shall be identical or better than present coverage. The Union shall have a right to reject the new carrier after the first year if services are deemed unsatisfactory and request return to previous carrier(s). It is further agreed that the only liability assumed under this Article is to pay the premiums as provided herein. Any claim settlement between the employee and the insurance carrier shall not be subject to the grievance procedure.

ARTICLE 19 RETIREMENT

Section 1. Retirement Plan

All full time employees shall be members of the Michigan Municipal Employees Retirement System and shall be entitled to benefits of Plan B-2, FAC-3. F-55 rider will be effective January 1, 1998. All contributions to this retirement system shall be fully paid by the City.

Section 2. Retiree Insurance

Upon full retirement or disability retirement the City shall provide Blue Cross/Blue Shield MVF-1, plus master medical, with 100/200 deductibles, 90%/10% co-pay, and the prescription rider, for employee and spouse.

- A. The sole obligation of the City shall be to provide the benefits upon retirement as defined by contract.
- B. Furthermore, the City reserved the right to change providers within the limitations as described by Article 18, Section 6.
- C. The City agreed to pay 80% of the retiree's medical coverage and the retiree agrees to pay the remaining 20%. Failure to remit the retiree's share of the premium cost in a timely fashion shall be grounds for suspending the above coverage.
- D. To qualify for the medical insurance coverage, an employee must possess a minimum of twenty (20) years of seniority upon retirement. Employees granted a disability retirement shall be excluded from this provision.

Section 3. Spouse of Retiree

The spouse of a retiree shall have survival rights to the medical coverage, as described above, subject to the following conditions:

A. The City agrees to pay 80% of the spouse's medical coverage and the spouse agrees to pay the remaining 20%.

B. In the event that the spouse shall have comparable or better insurance available, the City shall have no obligation to continue coverage. In the event the spouse loses the comparable coverage, the spouse will then become eligible for the coverage from the employer with annual limits as indicated.

ARTICLE 20 LONGEVITY

Section 1.

Annually on or before the first pay in December the City will pay to eligible employees in addition to base rate of compensation, longevity payment of:

- A. Two (2%) percent of base compensation after five (5) years of service.
- B. Four (4%) percent of base compensation after ten (10) years of service.
- C. Six (6%) percent of base compensation after fifteen (15) years of service.
- D. Eight (8%) percent of base compensation after twenty (20) years of service.

Seniority for each of the above must be obtained prior to December 1 for payment. Effective July 1, 1999 new hires will not be eligible for this benefit.

ARTICLE 21 UNIFORMS

Uniforms will be provided and maintained by the City. Shoe and belt allowance will be on reimbursement basis of one hundred (\$100.00) dollars per year.

Section 1. Safety Equipment

The City shall provide, repair and replace safety equipment for fire fighting employees as required by law. Safety equipment shall include, but not be limited to:

Helmet & Face shield	1
Nomex coat	1
Nomex turnout pants	1
Boots	1
Gloves	2

Personal protective equipment shall meet all MIOSHA standards. Employees who are required to wear safety glasses will be reimbursed in an amount not to exceed \$100.00 annually.

**ARTICLE 22
EDUCATION**

Section 1.

An education allowance shall be as established by the City Tuition Reimbursement Policy and is adopted herewith.

**ARTICLE 23
MILEAGE**

Section 1.

The IRS Business Standard Mileage Rate will be utilized for mileage reimbursement.

**ARTICLE 24
MAINTENANCE OF CONDITIONS**

The City shall make no changes that are contrary to the provisions of this Agreement, in wages, hours or conditions of employment. This Agreement shall supersede any rules and regulations governing the Fire Department which are in conflict with the provisions of this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 25
WAIVER**

Section 1.

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

Therefore, the City and Union, for the life of this Agreement, each voluntarily and unqualifiedly waives the right, and each agrees that the other shall not be obligated to bargain collectively with respect to any subject or matter referred to or covered by this Agreement and with respect to any subject or matter not specifically referred to or covered in this Agreement, even though such subject or matter may not have been within the knowledge and contemplation of either or both of the parties at the time they negotiated or signed this Agreement.

Section 2.

In the event that any provisions of this Agreement shall at any time be declared invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the decision shall not invalidate the entire Agreement, it being the express intention of the parties that all other provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 3.

All terms of this contract shall be effective upon execution of agreement by both parties, where otherwise stated and with the exception of wages which shall be retroactive to July 1, 1996.

**ARTICLE 26
TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT**

Section 1.

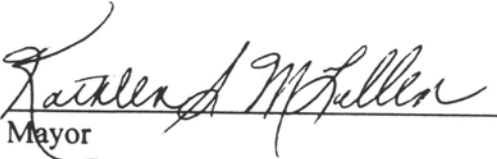
This agreement shall be effective the first day of July, 1996 and shall remain in force and effective to and including June 30, 2000. It shall be automatically renewed from year to year thereafter unless either party shall notify the other in writing sixty (60) days prior to the expiration date that it desires to modify this Agreement. In the event that such notice is given, negotiations shall begin no later than forty-five (45) days prior to the expiration date; this Agreement shall remain in full force and be effective during the period of negotiations.

Section 2.

In the event that negotiations extend beyond the said expiration date of this Agreement, the terms and provisions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect pending agreement upon a new contract.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement by their duly authorized representatives as of the day and year first written.


CITY OF NOVI


Mayor


City Clerk

LOCAL 3232 OF I.A.F.F.


President


Vice President

NOVI FIRE DEPARTMENT
WAGE SCHEDULE
July 1, 1996 - June 30, 2000

Fire Protection Officer	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00
Start	26,127	27,172	27,987	28,827
One Year	30,269	31,480	32,424	33,397
Two Years	34,413	35,789	36,863	37,969
Three Years	38,556	40,098	41,301	42,540
Four Years	42,699	44,407	45,739	47,111
Lieutenant: FPO + 9%				
Training Officer & Assistant Supervisor				
Start	44,407	46,183	47,569	48,996
One year	46,542	48,404	49,856	51,351
Captain: FPO + 18%				
Supervisor & Fire Marshall				
Start	48,250	50,180	51,685	53,236
One year	50,385	52,400	53,972	55,592

