

Introduced: 01/11/2022
Public Hearing: 02/08/2022
Adopted: 02/08/2022

**TOWNSHIP OF TEWKSBURY
HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
ORDINANCE NO. 03-2022**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF TEWKSBURY, COUNTY OF
HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY CREATING TITLE 2, ADMINISTRATION
AND PERSONNEL, CHAPTER 2.02, MEDICAL INSURANCE - RETIREES, OF THE
TOWNSHIP CODE OF ORDINANCES**

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Tewksbury (the “Township”) recognizes the value of its employees who have served for and retired from the Township; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 88, P.L. 1974, the Township has determined that offering its employees who have retired from employment with the Township with 25 years or more of creditable, pensionable service, the opportunity to participate in the health benefits program offered by the Township is a way of recognizing and rewarding those years of service; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee also recognizes the financial burden on the taxpayers of the Township which would ensue if the Township bore all, or a portion of, the premium costs of retiree health benefit plans; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has determined that it will offer qualified Township retirees the opportunity to participate in the Township health benefit plan **only if** the retiree so participating is responsible for one hundred percent (100%) of the premium cost and that no portion of the premium cost shall be the responsibility of the Township.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Tewksbury, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. Title 2, Administration and Personnel, Chapter 2.02, Medical Insurance - Retirees, of the Township Code of Ordinances is hereby created as follows:

2.02.010. Provision of Medical Benefits.

- a. Notwithstanding any collective bargaining agreement or contract to the contrary, the Township shall provide health benefits for all eligible full-time regular employees who retire with 25 years or more of service credited in the pension system and for those approved for disability retirement under the provisions of Chapter 88, P.L. 1974.

- b. Notwithstanding any collective bargaining agreement or contract or law, rule or regulation to the contrary, the Township's obligation to provide the health benefits identified in this chapter shall be contingent upon the retiree assuming the responsibility to pay one hundred percent (100%) of the health benefit premium, which shall be paid via a deduction from the retiree's pension payment.
- c. In the event that it is determined that the Township is prohibited from collecting one hundred percent (100%) of the health benefit premium from the retiree, then this benefit shall be null and void and the retiree shall not be eligible to receive Township health benefits upon retirement.

Section 2. Any article, section, paragraph, subsection, clause, or other provision of the Code of the Township of Tewksbury inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance is hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency

Section 3. If any section, paragraph, subsection, clause, or provision of this ordinance shall be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to section, paragraph, subsection, clause, or provision so adjudged, and the remainder of this ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect after final passage and publication as provided by law.

I HEREBY CERTIFY the above to be a true copy of an Ordinance introduced by the Township Committee of the Township of Tewksbury at a duly convened meeting held on January 11, 2022 and adopted on February 8, 2022.

Jennifer Ader
Municipal Clerk