

TITLE 4**MUNICIPAL PERSONNEL****CHAPTER**

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4-101. Policy and purpose as to coverage. It is hereby declared to be the policy and purpose of the Town of Atwood, Tennessee, to provide for all eligible employees and officials of the city, whether employed in connection with a governmental or proprietary function, the benefits of the system of federal old age and survivors insurance.) In pursuance of said policy, and for that purpose, the town shall take such action as may be required by applicable state and federal laws or regulations.

4-102. Necessary agreements to be executed. The mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute all the necessary agreements and amendments thereto with the state executive director of old age insurance, as agent or agency, to secure coverage of employees and officials as provided in the preceding section.

4-103. Withholdings from salaries or wages. Withholdings from the salaries or wages of employees and officials for the purpose provided in § 4-101 are hereby authorized to be made in the amounts and at such times as may be required by applicable state or federal laws or regulations, and shall be paid over to the state or federal agency designated by said laws or regulations.

4-104. Appropriations for employer's contributions. There shall be appropriated from available funds such amounts at such times as may be required by applicable state or federal laws or regulations for employer's contributions, and the same shall be paid over to the state or federal agency designated by said laws or regulations.

4-105. Records and reports to be made. The recorder shall keep such records and make such reports as may be required by applicable state and federal laws or regulations.

CHAPTER 2

VACATION AND SICK LEAVE

SECTION

- 4-201. Applicability of chapter.
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4-201. Applicability of chapter. This chapter shall apply to all full-time municipal employees except those operating under the jurisdiction of a school, utility, or other separate board or commission.

4-202. Vacation leave. All employees shall be allowed two (2) weeks of annual vacation leave with pay after one (1) year of employment. Such vacation leave shall be taken at a time approved by the mayor or such other officer as he may designate. At no time shall a person's total credit for accrued vacation leave exceed four (4) weeks.

4-203. Sick leave. All employees shall be given a credit of one (1) working day of sick leave with pay for each month of employment thereafter served. Sick leave shall be taken only when approved by the mayor or by such other officer as he may designate. Sick leave, up to the number of days accrued, shall be approved for all employees whose absence from duty is due to illness, bodily injury, exposure to contagious disease, or death in the immediate family of the officer or employee. However, the mayor may, in his discretion, require doctors' certificates or other satisfactory evidence that absences are properly chargeable as sick leave. The maximum credit for accrued sick leave under the provisions of this section shall be ninety (90) days.

4-204. Leave records. The mayor shall cause to be kept, for each employee, a record currently up to date at all times showing credit earned and leave taken under this chapter.

CHAPTER 3

PERSONNEL REGULATIONS

SECTION

4-301. Business dealings.

4-302. Political activity.

4-303. Strikes and unions.

4-301. Business dealings. Except for the receipt of such compensation as may be lawfully provided for the performance of his municipal duties, it shall be unlawful for any municipal officer or employee to be privately interested in, or to profit, directly or indirectly, from business dealings with the municipality.

4-302. Political activity. Municipal officers and employees may individually exercise their right to vote and privately express their political views as citizens. However, no municipal officer or employee shall solicit political campaign contributions or engage in or actively participate in any municipal political campaign. These restrictions shall not apply to elective officials.

4-303. Strikes and unions. No town officer or employee shall participate in any strike against the town, nor shall he join, be a member of, or solicit any other municipal officer or employee to join any labor union which authorizes the use of strikes by government employees.

CHAPTER 4

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH PROGRAM

SECTION

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4-401. Creation and title. There is hereby created an occupational safety and health program for the employees of the Town of Atwood. This section shall provide authority for establishing and administering the occupational safety and health program for the employees of the town. (Ord. #243, April 2004)

4-402. Purpose and coverage. (1) Purpose. The Town of Atwood in electing to update and maintain an effective occupational safety and health program for its employees shall:

- (a) Provide a safe and healthful place and condition of employment that includes:
 - (i) Include top management commitment and employee involvement;
 - (ii) Continually analyze the worksite to identify all hazards and potential hazards;

(iii) Develop and maintain methods for preventing or controlling existing or potential hazards; and

(iv) Train managers, supervisors, and employees to understand and deal with worksite hazards.

(b) Acquire, maintain, and require the use of safety equipment, personal protective equipment, and devices reasonably necessary to protect employees.

(c) Make, keep, preserve, and make available to the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development of the State of Tennessee, his designated representatives, or persons within the department of labor and workforce development to whom such responsibilities have been delegated, including the director of the division of occupational safety and health, adequate records of all occupational accidents and illnesses and personal injuries for proper evaluation and necessary corrective action as required.

(d) Consult with the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development or his designated representative with regard to the adequacy of the form and content of such records.

(e) Consult with the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development, as appropriate, regarding safety and health problems of the agency which are considered to be unusual or peculiar and are such that they cannot be resolved under an occupational safety and health program promulgated by the state.

(f) Assist the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development or his monitoring activities to determine program effectiveness and compliance with the occupational safety and health standards.

(g) Make a report to the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development, or as may otherwise be required, including information on occupational accidents, injuries, and illnesses and accomplishments and progress made toward achieving the goals of the occupational safety and health program.

(h) Provide reasonable opportunity for and encourage the participation of employees in the effectuation of the objectives of this program, including the opportunity to make anonymous complaints concerning conditions or practices which may be injurious to employees safety and health.

(i) Provide for education and training of personnel for the fair and efficient administration of occupational safety and health standards, and provide for education and notification of all employees of the existence of this program.

(2) Coverage. The provisions of the occupational safety and health program plan for the employees of the Town of Atwood shall apply to all employees of each administrative department, commission, board, division, or

other agency of the town whether part-time or full-time, seasonal or permanent. (Ord. #243, April 2004)

4-403. Funding the program. Sufficient funds for administering and staffing the program pursuant to this chapter shall be made available as authorized by the Town of Atwood. (Ord. #243, April 2004)

4-404. Definitions. For the purposes of this program, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Act" or "TOSHAct" shall mean the Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1972.

(2) "Appointing authority" means any official or group of officials of the employer having legally designated powers of appointment, employment, or removal therefrom for a specific department, board, commission, division, or other agency of this employer.

(3) "Chief executive office" means the chief administrative official, mayor, town manager, etc., as may be applicable.

(4) "Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development" means the chief executive of the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development. This includes any person appointed, designated, or deputized to perform the duties or to exercise the powers assigned to the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development.

(5) "Director of occupational safety and health" or "director" means the person designated by the establishing ordinance, or executive order to perform duties or to exercise powers assigned so as to plan, develop, and administer the occupational safety and health program for employees of the town.

(6) "Employee" means any person performing services for the Town of Atwood and listed on the payroll of the town, either as part-time, full-time, seasonal, or permanent. It also includes any persons normally classified as volunteers provided such persons received remuneration of any kind for their services. This definition shall not include independent contractors, their agents, servants, and employees.

(7) "Employer" means the Town of Atwood, and includes each administrative department, board, commission, division, or other agency of the town.

(8) "Establishment" or "worksite" means a single physical location under the control of this employer where business is conducted, services are rendered, or industrial type operations are performed.

(9) "Governing body" means the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Atwood.

(10) "Imminent danger" means any conditions or practices in any place of employment which are such that a hazard exists which could reasonably be expected to cause death or serious physical harm immediately or before the

imminence of such hazard can be eliminated through normal compliance enforcement procedures.

(11) "Inspections" means the individual(s) appointed or designated by the director of occupational safety and health to conduct inspections provided for herein. If no such compliance inspector(s) is appointed, inspections shall be conducted by the director of occupational safety and health.

(12) "Person" means one (1) or more individual, partnership, association, corporation, business trust, or legal representative of any organized group of persons.

(13) "Serious injury" or "harm" means that type of harm that would cause permanent or prolonged impairment of the body in that:

(a) A part of the body would be permanently removed (e.g., amputation of an arm, leg, finger(s); loss of an eye) or rendered functionally useless or substantially reduced in efficiency on or off the job (e.g., leg shattered so severely that mobility would be permanently reduced); or

(b) A part of an internal body system would be inhibited in its normal performance or function to such a degree as to shorten life or cause reduction in physical or mental efficiency; (e.g., lung impairment causing shortness of breath).

On the other hand, simple fractures, cuts, bruises, concussions, or similar injuries would not fit either of these categories and would not constitute serious physical harm.

(14) "Standard" means an occupational safety and health standard promulgated by the commission of labor and workforce development in accordance with section VI(6) of the Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1972, which requires conditions or the adoption of the use of one (1) or more practices, means, methods, operations, or processes or the use of equipment or personal protective equipment necessary or appropriate to provide safe and healthful conditions and places of employment. (Ord. #243, April 2004)

4-405. Employer's rights and duties. Rights and duties of the employer shall include but are not limited to, the following provisions:

(1) Employer shall furnish to each employee conditions of employment and a place of employment free from recognized hazards that are causing or are likely to cause death or serious injury or harm to employees.

(2) Employer shall comply with occupational safety and health standards and regulations promulgated pursuant to section VI(6) of the Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1972.

(3) Employer shall refrain from any unreasonable restraint on the right of the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development to inspect the employer's place(s) of business. Employer shall assist the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development in the performance of their monitoring duties

by supplying or making available information, personnel or aids reasonably necessary to the effective conduct of the monitoring activity.

(4) Employer is entitled to participate in the development of standards by submission of comments on proposed standards, participation in hearings on proposed standards, or by requesting the development of standards on a given issue under section 6 of the Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1972.

(5) Employer is entitled to request an order granting a variance from an occupational safety and health standard.

(6) Employer is entitled to protection of its legally privileged communication.

(7) Employer shall inspect all workers to insure the provisions of this program are complied with and carried out.

(8) Employer shall notify and inform any employee who has been or is being exposed in a biologically significant manner to harmful agents or material in excess of the applicable standard, of corrective action being taken.

(9) Employer shall notify all employees of their rights and duties under this program. (Ord. #243, April 2004)

4-406. Employees' rights and duties. Rights and duties of employees shall include but are not limited to, the following provisions:

(1) Each employee shall comply with occupational safety and health standards and all rules, regulations, and orders issued pursuant to this program and the Tennessee Occupational Health Act of 1972 which are applicable to his or her own actions and conduct.

(2) Each employee shall be notified by the placing of a notice upon bulletin boards, or other places of common passage, of any application for a permanent or temporary order granting the employer a variance from any provision of the TOSHAct or any standard or regulation promulgated under the act.

(3) Each employee shall be given the opportunity to participate in any hearing which concerns an application by the employer for a variance from a standard or regulation promulgated under the Act.

(4) Any employee who may be adversely affected by a standard or variance issued pursuant to the Act or this program may file a petition with the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development or whoever is responsible for the promulgation of the standard or the granting of the variance.

(5) Any employee who has been exposed or is being exposed to toxic materials or harmful physical agents in concentrations or at levels in excess of that provided for by an applicable standard shall be provided by the employer with information on any insignificant hazards to which they are or have been exposed, relevant symptoms, and proper conditions for safe use or exposure. Employees shall also be informed of corrective action being taken.

(6) Subject to regulations issued pursuant to this program, any employee or authorized representative of employees shall be given the right to request an inspection and to consult with the director or inspector at the time of the physical inspection of the worksite.

(7) Any employee may bring to the attention of the director any violation or suspected violation of the standards or any other health or safety hazards.

(8) No employee shall be discharged or discriminated against because such employee has filed any complaint or instituted or caused to be instituted any proceeding or inspection under or relating to this program.

(9) Any employee who believes that he or she has been discriminated against or discharged in violation of subsection (8) of this section may file a complaint alleging such discrimination with the director. Such employee may also, within thirty (30) days after such violation occurs, file a complaint with the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development alleging such discrimination.

(10) Nothing in this or any other provisions of this program shall be deemed to authorize or require any employee to undergo medical examination, immunization, or treatment for those who object thereto on religious grounds, except where such is necessary for the protection of the health or safety of others, or when a medical examination may be reasonably required for performance of a specified job.

(11) Employees shall report any accident, injury, or illness resulting from their job, however minor it may seem to be, to their supervisor or the director within twenty-four (24) hours after the occurrence. (Ord. #243, April 2004)

4-407. Administration. (1) The director of occupational safety and health is designated to perform duties or to exercise powers assigned so as to administer this occupational safety and health program.

(a) The director may designate person or persons as he deems necessary to carry out his powers, duties, and responsibilities under this program.

(b) The director may delegate the power to make inspections, provided procedures employed are as effective as those employed by the director.

(c) The director shall employ measures to coordinate, to the extent possible, activities of all departments to promote efficiency and to minimize any inconveniences under this program.

(d) The director may request qualified technical personnel from any department or section of government to assist him in making compliance inspections, accident investigations, or as he may otherwise deem necessary and appropriate in order to carry out his duties under this program.

(e) The director shall prepare the report to the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development required by subsection (1)(g) of § 4-402 of this chapter.

(f) The director shall make or cause to be made periodic and follow-up inspections of all facilities and worksites where employees of this employer are employed. He shall make or cause to be made any inspections required by complaints submitted by employees or inspections requested by employees.

(g) The director shall assist any officials of the employer in the investigation of occupational accidents or illnesses.

(h) The director shall maintain or cause to be maintained records required under § 4-411 of this chapter.

(i) The director shall, in the eventuality that there is a fatality or an accident resulting in the hospitalization of three (3) or more employees insure that the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development receives notification of the occurrence within eight (8) hours.

(2) The administrative or operational head of each department, division, board, or other agency of this employer shall be responsible for the implementation of this occupational safety and health program within their respective areas.

(a) The administrative or operational head shall follow the directions of the director on all issues involving occupational safety and health of employees as set forth in this chapter.

(b) The administrative or operational head shall comply with all abatement orders issued in accordance with the provisions of this plan or request a review of the order with the director within the abatement period.

(c) The administrative or operational head should make periodic safety surveys of the establishment under his jurisdiction to become aware of hazards or standards violations that may exist and make an attempt to immediately correct such hazards or violations.

(d) The administrative or operational head shall investigate all occupational accidents, injuries or illnesses reported to him. He shall report such accidents, injuries, or illnesses to the director along with the findings and/or recommendations in accordance with § 4-422 of this chapter. (Ord. #243, April 2004)

4-408. Standards authorized. The standards adopted under this program are the applicable standards developed and promulgated under section IV(6) of the Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1972 or which may, in the future, be developed and promulgated. Additional standards may be promulgated by the governing body that body may deem necessary for the safety and health of employees. (Ord. #243, April 2004)

4-409. Variances from standards authorized. The director may, upon written application to the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development of the State of Tennessee, request an order granting a temporary variance from any approved standards. Applications for variances shall be in accordance with Rules of Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Occupational Safety, chapter 0800-1-2, as authorized by Tennessee Code Annotated, title 50. Prior to requesting such temporary variance, the director shall notify or serve notice to employees, their designated representatives, or interested parties and present them with an opportunity for a hearing. The posting of notice on the main bulletin board as designated by the director shall be deemed sufficient notice to employees. (Ord. #243, April 2004)

4-410. Variance procedure. The director may apply for a variance as a result of a complaint from an employee or of his knowledge of certain hazards or exposures. The director should definitely believe that a variance is needed before the application for a variance is submitted to the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development.

The procedure for applying for a variance to the adopted safety and health standards is as follows:

(1) The application for a variance shall be prepared in writing and shall contain:

(a) A specification of the standard or portion thereof from which the variance is sought.

(b) A detailed statement of the reason(s) why the employer is unable to comply with the standard supported by representations by qualified personnel having first-hand knowledge of the facts represented.

(c) A statement of the steps employer has taken and will take (with specific date) to protect employees against the hazard covered by the standard.

(d) A statement of when the employer expects to comply and what steps have or will be taken (with dates specified) to come into compliance with the standard.

(e) A certification that the employer has informed employees, their authorized representative(s), and/or interested parties by giving them a copy of the request, posting a statement summarizing the application (to include the location of a copy available for examination) at the places where employee notices are normally posted and by other appropriate means. The certification shall contain a description of the means actually used to inform employees and that employees have been informed of their right to petition the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development for a hearing.

(2) The application for a variance should be sent to the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development by registered or certified mail.

(3) The Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development will review the application for a variance and may deny the request or issue an order granting the variance. An order granting a variance shall be issued only if it has been established that:

(a) The employer:

(i) Is unable to comply with the standard by the effective date because of unavailability of professional or technical personnel or materials and equipment required or necessary construction or alteration of facilities or technology.

(ii) Has taken all available steps to safeguard employees against the hazard(s) covered by the standard.

(iii) Has an effective program for coming into compliance with the standard as quickly as possible.

(b) The employee is engaged in an experimental program as described in subsection (b), section 13 of the Act.

(4) A variance may be granted for a period of no longer than is required to achieve compliance or one (1) year, whichever is shorter.

(5) Upon receipt of an application for an order granting a variance, the commissioner to whom such application is addressed may issue an interim order granting such a variance for the purpose of permitting time for an orderly consideration of such application. No such interim order may be effective for longer than one hundred eighty (180) days.

(6) The order or interim order granting a variance shall be posted at the worksite and employees notified of such order by the same means used to inform them of the application for said variance (see subsection (1)(e) of this section). (Ord. #243, April 2004)

4-411. Recordkeeping and reporting. (1) Recording and reporting of all occupational accidents, injuries, and illnesses shall be in accordance with instructions and on forms prescribed in the booklet, Recordkeeping Requirements Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1972 (revised 2003) or as may be prescribed by the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

(2) The position responsible for recordkeeping is shown on the safety and health organizational chart, § 4-423 of this chapter.

(3) Details of how reports of occupational accidents, injuries, and illnesses will reach the recordkeeper are specified by accident reporting procedures, § 4-422 of this chapter. (Ord. #243, April 2004)

4-412. Employee complaint procedure. If any employee feels that he is assigned to work in conditions which might affect his health, safety, or general welfare at the present time or at any time in the future, he should report the condition to the director of occupational safety and health.

(1) The complaint should be in the form of a letter and give details on the condition(s) and how the employee believes it affects or will affect his health, safety, or general welfare. The employee should sign the letter but need not do so if he wishes to remain anonymous (see subsection (1)(h) of § 4-402 of this chapter.

(2) Upon receipt of the complaint letter, the director will evaluate the condition(s) and institute any corrective action, if warranted. Within ten (10) working days following the receipt of the complaint, the director will answer the complaint in writing stating whether or not the complaint is deemed to be valid and if no, why not, what action has been or will be taken to correct or abate the condition(s), and giving a designated time period for correction or abatement. Answers to anonymous complaints will be posted upon bulletin boards or other places of common passage where the anonymous complaint may be reasonably expected to be seen by the complainant for a period of three (3) working days.

(3) If the complainant finds the reply not satisfactory because it was held to be invalid, the corrective action is felt to be insufficient, or the time period for correction is felt to be too long, he may forward a letter to the chief executive officer or to the governing body explaining the condition(s) cited in his original complaint and why he believes the answer to be inappropriate or insufficient.

(4) The chief executive officer or a representative of the governing body will evaluate the complaint and will begin to take action to correct or abate the condition(s) through arbitration or administrative sanctions or may find the complaint to be invalid. An answer will be sent to the complainant within ten (10) working days following receipt of the complaint or the next regularly scheduled meeting of the governing body following receipt of the complaint explaining decisions made and action taken or to be taken.

(5) After the above steps have been followed and the complainant is still not satisfied with the results, he may then file a complaint with the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development. Any complaint filed with the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development in such cases shall include copies of all related correspondence with the director and the chief executive officer or the representative of the governing body.

(6) Copies of all complaints and answers thereto will be filed by the director who shall make them available to the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development or his designated representative upon request. (Ord. #243, April 2004)

4-413. Education and training. (1) Director and/or compliance inspector(s):

(a) Arrangements will be made for the director and/or compliance inspector(s) to attend training seminars, workshops, etc., conducted by the State of Tennessee or other agencies.

(b) Reference materials, manuals, equipment, etc., deemed necessary for use in conducting compliance inspections, conducting local training, wiring technical reports, and informing officials, supervisors, and employees of the existence of safety and health hazards will be furnished.

(2) All employees (including managers and supervisory personnel). A suitable safety and health training program for employees will be established: This program will, as a minimum:

(a) Instruct each employee in the recognition and avoidance of hazards or unsafe conditions and of standards and regulations applicable to the employee's work environment to control or eliminate any hazards, unsafe conditions, or other exposures to occupational illness or injury (such as falls, electrocution, crushing injuries (e.g., trench cave-ins), and being struck by material or equipment).

(b) Instruct employees who are required to handle poisons, acids, caustics, explosives, and other harmful or dangerous substances (including carbon monoxide and chlorine) in the safe handling and use of such items and make them aware of the potential hazards, proper handling procedures, personal protective measures, personal hygiene, etc., which may be required.

(c) Instruct employees who may be exposed to environments where harmful plants or animals are present of the hazards of the environment, how to best avoid injury or exposure, and the first aid procedures to be followed in the event of injury or exposure.

(d) Instruct employees required to handle or use flammable liquids, gases, or toxic materials in their safe handling and use and make employees aware of specific requirements contained in subparts H and M and other applicable subparts of TOSHAct standards (1910 and/or 1926).

(e) Instruct employees on hazards and dangers of confined or enclosed spaces.

(i) Confined or enclosed space means space having limited means of egress and which is subject to the accumulation of toxic or flammable contaminants or has an oxygen deficient atmosphere. Confined or enclosed spaces include but are not limited to, storage tanks, boilers, ventilation or exhaust ducts, sewers and ground utility accesses, tunnels, pipelines, and open top spaces more than four feet (4') in depth such as pits, tubs, vaults, and vessels.

(ii) Employees will be given general instruction on hazards involved, precautions to be taken and on use of personal protective and emergency equipment required. They shall also be instructed on all specific standards or regulations that apply to work in dangerous or potentially dangerous areas.

(iii) The immediate supervisor of any employee who must perform work in a confined or enclosed space shall be responsible for instructing employees in the danger of hazards which may be present, precautions to be taken, and of personal protective and emergency equipment, immediately prior to their entry into such an area and shall require use of appropriate personal protective equipment. (Ord. #243, April 2004)

4-414. General inspection procedures. It is the intention of the governing body and responsible officials to have an occupational safety and health program that will insure the welfare of employees. In order to be aware of hazards, periodic inspections must be performed. These inspections will enable the finding of hazards or unsafe conditions or operations that will need correction in order to maintain safe and healthful worksites. Inspections made on a pre-designated basis may not yield the desired results. Inspections will be conducted, therefore, on a random basis at intervals not to exceed thirty (30) calendar days.

(1) In order to carry out the purposes of this program, the director and/or compliance inspector(s), if appointed, is authorized:

(a) To enter at any reasonable time, any establishment, facility, or worksite where work is being performed by an employee when such establishment, facility, or worksite is under the jurisdiction of the employer; and

(b) To inspect and investigate during regular working hours and at other reasonable times, within reasonable limits, and in a reasonable manner, any such place of employment and all pertinent conditions, processes, structures, machines, apparatus, devices, equipment, and materials therein, and to question privately any supervisor, operator, agent, or employee working therein.

(2) If an imminent danger situation is found, alleged or otherwise brought to the attention of the director or inspector during a routine inspection, he shall immediately inspect the imminent danger situation in accordance with § 4-415 of this chapter before inspecting the remaining portions of the establishment, facility, or worksite.

(3) An administrative representative of the employer and a representative authorized by the employees shall be given an opportunity to consult with and/or to accompany the director or inspector during the physical inspection of any worksite for the purpose of aiding such inspection.

(4) The right of accompaniment may be denied any person whose conduct interferes with an orderly inspection.

(5) The conduct of the inspection shall be such as to preclude unreasonable disruption in the operation(s) of the workplace.

(6) Interviews of employees during the course of this inspection may be made when such interviews are considered essential to investigative techniques.

(7) Advance notice of inspections. (a) Generally, advance notice of inspections will not be given as this precludes the opportunity to make minor or temporary adjustments in an attempt to create a misleading impression of conditions in an establishment.

(b) There may be occasions when advance notice of inspections will be necessary in order to conduct an effective inspection or investigation. When advance notice of inspection is given, employees or their authorized representative(s) will also be given notice of the inspection.

(8) The director need not personally make an inspection of each and every worksite once every thirty (30) days. He may delegate the responsibility for such inspections to supervisors or other personnel provided:

(a) Inspections conducted by supervisors or other personnel are at least as effective as those made by the director.

(b) Records re made of the inspections and of any discrepancies found and are forwarded to the director.

(9) The director shall maintain records of inspections to include identification of worksite inspected, date of inspection, description of violations of standards or other unsafe conditions or practices found, and corrective action taken toward abatement. Said inspection records shall be subject to review by the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development or his authorized representative. (Ord. #243, April 2004)

4-415. Imminent danger procedures. (1) Any discovery, any allegation, or any report of imminent danger shall be handled in accordance with the following procedures:

(a) The director shall immediately be informed of the alleged imminent danger situation and he shall immediately ascertain whether there is a reasonable basis for the allegation.

(b) If the alleged imminent danger situation is determined to have merit by the director, he shall make or cause to be made an immediate inspection of the alleged imminent danger location.

(c) As soon as it is concluded from such inspection that conditions or practices exist which constitute an imminent danger, the director or compliance inspector shall attempt to have the danger corrected. All employees at the location shall be informed of the danger and the supervisor or person in charge of the worksite shall be requested to remove employees from the area, if deemed necessary.

(d) The administrative or operational head of the workplace in which the imminent danger exists, or his authorized representative, shall be responsible for determining the manner in which the imminent danger

situation will be abated. This shall be done in cooperation with the director or compliance inspector and to the mutual satisfaction of all parties involved.

(e) The imminent danger shall be deemed abated if:

(i) The imminence of the danger has been eliminated by removal of the employees from the area of danger.

(ii) Conditions or practices which resulted in the imminent danger have been eliminated or corrected to the point where an unsafe condition or practice no longer exists.

(f) A written report shall be made by or to the director describing in detail the imminent danger and its abatement. This report will be maintained by the director in accordance with subsection (9) of § 4-414 of this chapter.

(2) Refusal to abate. (a) Any refusal to abate an imminent danger situation shall be reported to the director and/or chief executive officer immediately.

(b) The director and/or chief executive officer shall take whatever action may be necessary to achieve abatement. (Ord. #243, April 2004)

4-416. Abatement orders and hearings. (1) Whenever, as a result of an inspection or investigation, the director or compliance inspector(s) finds that a worksite is not in compliance with the standards, rules or regulations pursuant to this plan and is unable to negotiate abatement with the administrative or operational head of the worksite within a reasonable period of time, the director shall:

(a) Issue an abatement order to the head of the worksite.

(b) Post, or cause to be posted, a copy of the abatement order at or near each location referred to in the abatement order.

(2) Abatement orders shall contain the following information:

(a) The standard, rule, or regulation which was found to be violated;

(b) A description of the nature and location of the violation;

(c) A description of what is required to abate or correct the violation;

(d) A reasonable period of time during which the violation must be abated or corrected.

(3) At any time within ten (10) days after receipt of an abatement order, anyone affected by the order may advise the director in writing of any objections to the terms and conditions of the order. Upon receipt of such objections, the director shall act promptly to hold a hearing with all interested and/or responsible parties in an effort to resolve any objections. Following such hearing, the director shall, within three (3) working days, issue an abatement

order and such subsequent order shall be binding on all parties and shall be final. (Ord. #243, April 2004)

4-417. Penalties. (1) No civil or criminal penalties shall be issued against any official, employee, or any other person for failure to comply with safety and health standards or any rules or regulations issued pursuant to this program.

(2) Any employee, regardless of status, who willfully and/or repeatedly violates, or causes to be violated, any safety and health standard, rule, or regulation or any abatement order shall be subject to disciplinary action by the appointing authority. It shall be the duty of the appointing authority to administer discipline by taking action in one (1) of the following ways as appropriate and warranted:

- (a) Oral reprimand;
- (b) Written reprimand;
- (c) Suspension for three (3) or more working days;
- (d) Termination of employment. (Ord. #243, April 2004)

4-418. Confidentiality of privileged information. All information obtained by or reported to the director pursuant to this plan of operation or the legislation (ordinance, or executive order) which contains or might reveal information which is otherwise privileged shall be considered confidential. Such information may be disclosed to other officials or employees concerned with carrying out this program or when relevant in any proceeding under this program. Such information may also be disclosed to the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development or their authorized representatives in carrying out their duties under the Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1972. (Ord. #243, April 2004)

4-419. Compliance with other laws not excused. (1) Compliance with any other law, statute, ordinance, or executive order, as applicable, which regulates safety and health in employment and places of employment shall not excuse the employer, the employee, or any other person from compliance with the provisions of this program.

(2) Compliance with any provisions of this program or any standard, rule, regulation, or order issued pursuant to this program shall not excuse the employer, the employee, or any other person from compliance with the law, statute, ordinance, or executive order, as applicable, regulating and promoting safety and health unless such law, statute, ordinance, or executive order, as applicable, is specifically repealed. (Ord. #243, April 2004)

4-420. Notice to employees. Notice to all employees of the Town of Atwood:

(1) The Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1972 provides job safety and health protection for Tennessee workers through the promotion of safe and healthful working conditions. Under a plan reviewed by the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development, the government, as an employer, is responsible for administering the Act to its employees. Safety and health standards are the same as state standards and jobsite inspections will be conducted to insure compliance with the Act.

(2) Employees shall be furnished conditions of employment and a place of employment free from recognized hazards that are causing or are likely to cause death or serious injury or harm to employees.

(3) Each employee shall comply with occupational safety and health standards and all rules, regulations, and orders issued pursuant to this program which are applicable to his or her own actions and conduct.

(4) Each employee shall be notified by the placing upon bulletin boards or other places of common passage, of any application for a temporary variance from any standard or regulation.

(5) Each employee shall be given the opportunity to participate in any hearing which concerns an application for a variance from a standard.

(6) Any employee who may be adversely affected by a standard or variance issued pursuant to this program may file a petition with the director or mayor.

(7) Any employee who has been exposed or is being exposed to toxic materials or harmful physical agents in concentrations or at levels in excess of that provided for by an applicable standard shall be notified by the employer and informed of such exposure and corrective action being taken.

(8) Subject to regulations issued pursuant to this program, any employee or authorized representative(s) of employees shall be given the right to request an inspection.

(9) No employee shall be discharged or discriminated against because such employee has filed any complaint or instituted or caused to be instituted any proceedings or inspection under, or relating to, this program.

(10) Any employee who believes he or she has been discriminated against or discharged in violation of these section may within thirty (30) days after such violation occurs, have an opportunity to appear in a hearing before the city board for assistance in obtaining relief or to file a complaint with the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development alleging such discrimination.

(11) A copy of the occupational safety and health program for the employees of the Town of Atwood is available for inspection by any employee in the city recorder's office during regular office hours. (Ord. #243, April 2004)

4-421. Program budget. The budget for the occupational safety and health program shall include the following:

- (1) Prorated portion of wages, salaries, etc., for program administration and support.
- (2) Office space and office supplies.
- (3) Safety and health educational materials and support for education and training.
- (4) Safety devices for personnel safety and health.
- (5) Equipment modifications.
- (6) Equipment additions (facilities).
- (7) Protective clothing and equipment (personnel).
- (8) Safety and health instruments.
- (9) Funding for projects to correct hazardous conditions.
- (10) Reserve fund for the program.
- (11) Contingencies and miscellaneous.

Total Estimated Program Funding:

Estimate of Total Budget For:

(Ord. #243, April 2004)

4-422. Accident reporting procedures. Note: All fatalities or accidents involving the hospitalization of three (3) or more employees shall be reported by phone to the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development within eight (8) hours.

(1) There are six (6) important steps required by the OSHA recordkeeping system:

- (a) Obtain a report on every injury/illness requiring medical treatment (other than first aid).
- (b) Record each injury/illness on the OSHA Form No. 300 according to the instructions provided.
- (c) Prepare a supplementary record of occupational injuries and illnesses for recordable cases either on OSHA Form No. 301 or on worker's compensation reports giving the same information.
- (d) Every year, prepare the annual summary (OSHA Form No. 300A); post it no later than February 1, and keep it posted until April 30.
- (e) Retain these records for at least five (5) years.
- (f) Complete the Survey of Occupational Injuries/Illness and mail it to Labor Research and Statistics, when requested.

(2) The four (4) procedures listed below are based upon the size of the work force and relative complexity of the organization. The approximate size of the organization for which each procedure is suggested is indicated in parenthesis in the left hand margin at the beginning, i.e., (1-15), (16-50), (51-250), and (251-Plus), and the figures relate to the total number of employees including the chief executive officer but excluding the governing body.

- (1-15) Employees shall report all accidents, injuries, or illnesses directly to the director as soon as possible, but not later than twenty-four (24) hours, of their occurrence. Such reports may be verbal or in writing. All fatalities or accidents involving the hospitalization of three (3) or more employees shall be reported to the director and/or recordkeeper immediately, either by telephone or verbally, and will be followed by a written report without four (4) hours after their occurrence. The director will insure completion of required reports and records in accordance with § 4-411 of this chapter.
- (16-50) Employees shall report all accidents, injuries, or illnesses to their supervisor as soon as possible, but not later than two (2) hours after their occurrence. All fatalities or accidents involving the hospitalization of three (3) or more employees shall be reported to the director and/or recordkeeper immediately, either by telephone or verbally, and will be followed by a written report within four (4) hours after their occurrence. The supervisor will investigate the accident or illness, complete an accident report, and forward the accident report to the director and/or recordkeeper within twenty-four (24) hours of the time the accident or injury occurred or the time of the first report of the illness.
- (51-250) Employees shall report all accidents, injuries, or illnesses to their supervisor as soon as possible, but not later than two (2) hours, after their occurrence. The supervisor will provide the director and/or recordkeeper with the name of the injured or ill employee and a brief description of the accident or illness by telephone as soon as possible, but not later than four (4) hours after the accident or injury occurred or the time of the first report of the illness. All fatalities or accidents involving the hospitalization of three (3) or more employees shall be reported to the director and/or recordkeeper immediately, either by telephone or verbally, and will be followed by a written report within four (4) hours after their occurrence. The supervisor will then make a thorough investigation of the accident or illness (with the assistance of the director or compliance inspector, if necessary) and will complete a written report on the accident or illness and forward it to the director within seventy-two (72) hours after the accident, injury, or first report of illness and will provide one (1) copy of the written report to the recordkeeper.
- (251-Plus) Employees shall report all accidents, injuries, or illnesses to their supervisors as soon as possible, but not later than two (2) hours after their occurrence. The supervisor will provide the

administrative head of the department with a verbal or telephone report of the accident as soon as possible, but not later than four (4) hours, after the accident. If the accident involves loss of consciousness, a fatality, broken bones, severed body member, or third degree burns, the director will be notified by telephone immediately and will be given the name of the injured, a description of the injury, and a brief description of how the accident occurred. The supervisor or the administrative head is to be notified of the accident within seventy-two (72) hours after the accident occurred (four (4) hours in the event of accidents involving a fatality or the hospitalization of three (3) or more employees.)

(3) Since a Worker's Compensation Form C20 or OSHA No. 301 Form must be completed, all reports submitted in writing to the person responsible for recordkeeping shall include the following information as a minimum:

- (a) Accident location, if different from employer's mailing address and state whether accident occurred on premises owned or operated by employer.
- (b) Name, social security number, home address, age, sex, and occupation (regular job title) of injured or ill employee.
- (c) Title of the department or division in which the injured or ill employee is normally employed.
- (d) Specific description of what the employee was doing when injured.
- (e) Specific description of how the accident occurred.
- (f) A description of the injury or illness in detail and the part of the body affected.
- (g) Name of the object or substance which directly injured the employee.
- (h) Date and time of injury or diagnosis of illness.
- (i) Name and address of physician, if applicable.
- (j) If employee was hospitalized, name and address of hospital.
- (k) Date of report.

Note: A procedure such as one of those listed above or similar information is necessary to satisfy item number 6 listed under Program Plan in chapter IV, part IV of the Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Plan. This information may be submitted in flow chart form instead of in narrative form if desired. These procedures may be modified in any way to fit local situations as they have been prepared as a guide only.

Generally, the more simple an accident reporting procedure is, the more effective it is. Please select the one (1) procedure listed above, or prepare a similar procedure or flow chart, which most nearly fits what will be the most effective for your local situation. (Ord. #243, April 2004)

4-423. Organizational chart. (For this section make a list of each work location wherein city employees work, such as city hall, water plant, police department, city garage, etc., the address for the workplace, phone number at that workplace, and number of employees who work there.)

Example:

City Hall - employees
45 First Street
Atwood, TN 38220
(731) 662-7689

Total number of employees:

(Once each work location has been listed, record the total number of employees that the city employs.)

(Ord. #243, April 2004)

CHAPTER 5

INFECTIOUS DISEASE CONTROL POLICY

SECTION

- 4-501. Purpose.
- 4-502. Coverage.
- 4-503. Administration.
- 4-504. Definitions.
- 4-505. Policy statement.
- 4-506. General guidelines.
- 4-507. Hepatitis B vaccinations.
- 4-508. Reporting potential exposure.
- 4-509. Hepatitis B virus post-exposure management.
- 4-510. Human immunodeficiency virus post-exposure management.
- 4-511. Disability benefits.
- 4-512. Training regular employees.
- 4-513. Training high risk employees.
- 4-514. Training new employees.
- 4-515. Records and reports.
- 4-516. Legal rights of victims of communicable diseases.

4-501. Purpose. It is the responsibility of the Town of Atwood to provide employees a place of employment which is free from recognized hazards that may cause death or serious physical harm. In providing services to the citizens of the Town of Atwood, employees may come in contact with life-threatening infectious diseases which can be transmitted through job related activities. It is important that both citizens and employees are protected from the transmission of diseases just as it is equally important that neither is discriminated against because of basic misconceptions about various diseases and illnesses.

The purpose of this policy is to establish a comprehensive set of rules and regulations governing the prevention of discrimination and potential occupational exposure to Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), and Tuberculosis (TB).

4-502. Coverage. Occupational exposures may occur in many ways, including needle sticks, cut injuries or blood spills. Several classes of employees are assumed to be at high risk for blood borne infections due to their routinely increased exposure to body fluids from potentially infected individuals. Those high risk occupations include but are not limited to:

- (1) Paramedics and emergency medical technicians;
- (2) Occupational nurses;
- (3) Housekeeping and laundry workers;
- (4) Police and security personnel;

- (5) Firefighters;
- (6) Sanitation and landfill workers; and
- (7) Any other employee deemed to be at high risk per this policy and an exposure determination.

4-503. Administration. This infection control policy shall be administered by the mayor or his/her designated representative who shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- (1) Exercise leadership in implementation and maintenance of an effective infection control policy subject to the provisions of this chapter, other ordinances, the town charter, and federal and state law relating to OSHA regulations;
- (2) Make an exposure determination for all employee positions to determine a possible exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials;
- (3) Maintain records of all employees and incidents subject to the provisions of this chapter;
- (4) Conduct periodic inspections to determine compliance with the infection control policy by municipal employees;
- (5) Coordinate and document all relevant training activities in support of the infection control policy;
- (6) Prepare and recommend to the board of mayor and aldermen any amendments or changes to the infection control policy;
- (7) Identify any and all housekeeping operations involving substantial risk of direct exposure to potentially infectious materials and shall address the proper precautions to be taken while cleaning rooms and blood spills; and
- (8) Perform such other duties and exercise such other authority as may be prescribed by the board of mayor and aldermen.

4-504. Definitions. (1) "Body fluids" - fluids that have been recognized by the Center for Disease Control as directly linked to the transmission of HIV and/or HBV and/or to which universal precautions apply: blood, semen, blood products, vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal fluid, synovial fluid, pericardial fluid, amniotic fluid, and concentrated HIV or HBV viruses.

(2) "Exposure" - the contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials to which universal precautions apply through contact with open wounds, non-intact skin, or mucous membranes during the performance of an individual's normal job duties.

(3) "Hepatitis B Virus (HBV)" - a serious blood-borne virus with potential for life-threatening complications. Possible complications include: massive hepatic necrosis, cirrhosis of the liver, chronic active hepatitis, and hepatocellular carcinoma.

(4) "Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)" - the virus that causes acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS). HIV is transmitted through

sexual contact and exposure to infected blood or blood components and perinatally from mother to neonate.

(5) "Tuberculosis (TB)" - an acute or chronic communicable disease that usually affects the respiratory system, but may involve any system in the body.

(6) "Universal precautions" - refers to a system of infectious disease control which assumes that every direct contact with body fluid is infectious and requires every employee exposed to direct contact with potentially infectious materials to be protected as though such body fluid were HBV or HIV infected.

4-505. Policy statement. All blood and other potentially infectious materials are infectious for several blood-borne pathogens. Some body fluids can also transmit infections. For this reason, the Center for Disease Control developed the strategy that everyone should always take particular care when there is a potential exposure. These precautions have been termed "universal precautions."

Universal precautions stress that all persons should be assumed to be infectious for HIV and/or other blood-borne pathogens. Universal precautions apply to blood, tissues, and other potentially infectious materials. Universal precautions also apply to semen, (although occupational risk or exposure is quite limited), vaginal secretions, and to cerebrospinal, synovial, pleural, peritoneal, pericardial and amniotic fluids. Universal precautions do not apply to feces, nasal secretions, human breast milk, sputum, saliva, sweat, tears, urine, and vomitus unless these substances contain visible blood.

4-506. General guidelines. General guidelines which shall be used by everyone include:

(1) Think when responding to emergency calls and exercise common sense when there is potential exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials which require universal precautions.

(2) Keep all open cuts and abrasions covered with adhesive bandages which repel liquids.

(3) Soap and water kill many bacteria and viruses on contact. If hands are contaminated with blood or other potentially infectious materials to which universal precautions apply, then wash immediately and thoroughly. Hands shall also be washed after gloves are removed even if the gloves appear to be intact. When soap and water or handwashing facilities are not available, then use a waterless antiseptic hand cleaner according to the manufacturers recommendation for the product.

(4) All workers shall take precautions to prevent injuries caused by needles, scalpel blades, and other sharp instruments. To prevent needle stick injuries, needles shall not be recapped, purposely bent or broken by hand, removed from disposable syringes, or otherwise manipulated by hand. After they are used, disposable syringes and needles, scalpel blades and other sharp items

shall be placed in puncture resistant containers for disposal. The puncture resistant container shall be located as close as practical to the use area.

(5) The town will provide gloves of appropriate material, quality and size for each affected employee. The gloves are to be worn when there is contact (or when there is a potential contact) with blood or other potentially infectious materials to which universal precautions apply:

(a) While handling an individual where exposure is possible;

(b) While cleaning or handling contaminated items or equipment;

(c) While cleaning up an area that has been contaminated with one of the above;

Gloves shall not be used if they are peeling, cracked, or discolored, or if they have punctures, tears, or other evidence of deterioration. Employees shall not wash or disinfect surgical or examination gloves for reuse.

(6) Resuscitation equipment shall be used when necessary. (No transmission of HBV or HIV infection during mouth-to-mouth resuscitation has been documented.) However, because of the risk of salivary transmission of other infectious diseases and the theoretical risk of HIV or HBV transmission during artificial resuscitation, bags shall be used. Pocket mouth-to-mouth resuscitation masks designed to isolate emergency response personnel from contact with a victim's blood and blood contaminated saliva, respiratory secretion, and vomitus, are available to all personnel to provide or potentially provide emergency treatment.

(7) Masks or protective eyewear or face shields shall be worn during procedures that are likely to generate droplets of blood or other potentially infectious materials to prevent exposure to mucous membranes of the mouth, nose, and eyes. They are not required for routine care.

(8) Gowns, aprons, or lab coats shall be worn during procedures that are likely to generate splashes of blood or other potentially infectious materials.

(9) Areas and equipment contaminated with blood shall be cleaned as soon as possible. A household (chlorine) bleach solution (one (1) part chlorine to ten (10) parts water) shall be applied to the contaminated surface as a disinfectant leaving it on for a least thirty (30) seconds. A solution must be changed and re-mixed every twenty-four (24) hours to be effective.

(10) Contaminated clothing (or other articles) shall be handled carefully and washed as soon as possible. Laundry and dish washing cycles at one hundred twenty degrees (120°) are adequate for decontamination.

(11) Place all disposable equipment (gloves, masks, gowns, etc...) in a clearly marked plastic bag. Place the bag in a second clearly marked bag (double bag). Seal and dispose of by placing in a designated "hazardous" dumpster. NOTE: Sharp objects must be placed in an impervious container and shall be properly disposed of.

(12) Tags shall be used as a means of preventing accidental injury or illness to employees who are exposed to hazardous or potentially hazardous

conditions, equipment or operations which are out of the ordinary, unexpected or not readily apparent. Tags shall be used until such time as the identified hazard is eliminated or the hazardous operation is completed.

All required tags shall meet the following criteria:

(a) Tags shall contain a signal word and a major message. The signal word shall be "BIOHAZARD", or the biological hazard symbol. The major message shall indicate the specific hazardous condition or the instruction to be communicated to employees.

(b) The signal word shall be readable at a minimum distance of five feet (5') or such greater distance as warranted by the hazard.

(c) All employees shall be informed of the meaning of the various tags used throughout the workplace and what special precautions are necessary.

(13) Linen soiled with blood or other potentially infectious materials shall be handled as little as possible and with minimum agitation to prevent contamination of the person handling the linen. All soiled linen shall be bagged at the location where it was used. It shall not be sorted or rinsed in the area. Soiled linen shall be placed and transported in bags that prevent leakage.

The employee responsible for transported soiled linen should always wear protective gloves to prevent possible contamination. After removing the gloves, hands or other skin surfaces shall be washed thoroughly and immediately after contact with potentially infectious materials.

(14) Whenever possible, disposable equipment shall be used to minimize and contain clean-up.

4-507. Hepatitis B vaccinations. The Town of Atwood shall offer the appropriate Hepatitis B vaccination to employees at risk of exposure free of charge and in amounts and at times prescribed by standard medical practices. The vaccination shall be voluntarily administered. High risk employees who wish to take the HBV vaccination should notify their department head who shall make the appropriate arrangements through the Infectious Disease Control Coordinator.

4-508. Reporting potential exposure. Town employees shall observe the following procedures for reporting a job exposure incident that may put them at risk for HIV or HBV infections (i.e., needle sticks, blood contact on broken skin, body fluid contact with eyes or mouth, etc.):

(1) Notify the Infectious Disease Control Coordinator of the contact incident and details thereof.

(2) Complete the appropriate accident reports and any other specific form required.

(3) Arrangements will be made for the person to be seen by a physician as with any job-related injury.

Once an exposure has occurred, a blood sample should be drawn after consent is obtained from the individual from whom exposure occurred and tested for Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) and/or antibody to human immunodeficiency virus (HIV antibody). Testing of the source individual should be done at a location where appropriate pretest counseling is available. Post-test counseling and referral for treatment should also be provided.

4-509. Hepatitis B virus post-exposure management. For an exposure to a source individual found to be positive for HBsAg, the worker who has not previously been given the hepatitis B vaccine should receive the vaccine series. A single dose of hepatitis B immune globulin (HBIG) is also recommended, if it can be given within seven (7) days of exposure.

For exposure from an HBsAg-positive source to workers who have previously received the vaccine, the exposed worker should be tested for antibodies to hepatitis B surface antigen (anti-HBs), and given one dose of vaccine and one dose of HBIG if the antibody level in the worker's blood sample is inadequate (ie., 10 SRU by RIA, negative by EIA).

If the source individual is negative for HBsAg and the worker has not been vaccinated, this opportunity should be taken to provide the hepatitis B vaccine series. HBIG administration should be considered on an individual basis when the source individual is known or suspected to be at high risk of HBV infection. Management and treatment, if any, of previously vaccinated workers who receive an exposure from a source who refuses testing or is not identifiable should be individualized.

4-510. Human immunodeficiency virus post-exposure management. For any exposure to a source individual who has AIDS, who is found to be positive for HIV infection, or who refuses testing, the worker should be counseled regarding the risk of infection and evaluated clinically and serologically for evidence of HIV infection as soon as possible after the exposure. The worker should be advised to report and seek medical evaluation for any acute febrile illness that occurs within twelve (12) weeks after the exposure. Such an illness, particularly one characterized by fever, rash, or lymphadenopathy, may be indicative of recent HIV infection.

Following the initial test at the time of exposure, seronegative workers should be retested six (6) weeks, twelve (12) weeks, and six (6) months after exposure to determine whether transmission has occurred. During this follow-up period (especially the first six to twelve (6-12) weeks after exposure) exposed workers should follow the U.S. Public Health service recommendation for preventing transmission of HIV. These include refraining from blood donations and using appropriate protection during sexual intercourse. During all phases of follow-up, it is vital that worker confidentiality be protected.

If the source individual was tested and found to be seronegative, baseline testing of the exposed worker with follow-up testing twelve (12) weeks later may

be performed if desired by the worker or recommended by the health care provider. If the source individual cannot be identified, decisions regarding appropriate follow-up should be individualized. Serologic testing should be made available by the town to all workers who may be concerned they have been infected with HIV through an occupational exposure.

4-511. Disability benefits. Entitlement to disability benefits and any other benefits available for employees who suffer from on-the-job injuries will be determined by the Tennessee Worker's Compensations Bureau in accordance with the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated § 50-6-303.

4-512. Training regular employees. On an annual basis all employees shall receive training and education on precautionary measures, epidemiology, modes of transmission and prevention of HIV/HBV infection and procedures to be used if they are exposed to needle sticks or potentially infectious materials. They shall also be counseled regarding possible risks to the fetus from HIV/HBV and other associated infectious agents.

4-513. Training high risk employees. In addition to the above, high risk employees shall also receive training regarding the location and proper use of personal protective equipment. They shall be trained concerning proper work practices and understand the concept of "universal precautions" as it applies to their work situation. They shall also be trained about the meaning of color coding and other methods used to designate contaminated material. Where tags are used, training shall cover precautions to be used in handling contaminated material as per this policy.

4-514. Training new employees. During the new employee's orientation to his/her job, all new employee will be trained on the effects of infectious disease prior to putting them to work.

4-515. Records and reports. (1) Reports. Occupational injury and illness records shall be maintained by the infectious disease control coordinator. Statistics shall be maintained on the OSHA-200 report. Only those work-related injuries that involve loss of consciousness, transfer to another job, restriction of work or motion, or medical treatment are required to be put on the OSHA-200.

(2) Needle sticks. Needle sticks, like any other puncture wound, are considered injuries for recordkeeping purposes due to the instantaneous nature of the event. Therefore, any needle stick requiring medical treatment (i.e. gamma globulin, hepatitis B immune globulin, hepatitis B vaccine, etc.) shall be recorded.

(3) Prescription medication. Likewise, the use of prescription medication (beyond a single dose for minor injury or discomfort) is considered medical treatment. Since these types of treatment are considered necessary, and

must be administered by physician or licensed medical personnel, such injuries cannot be considered minor and must be reported.

(4) Employee interviews. Should the town be inspected by the U.S. Department of Labor Office of Health Compliance, the compliance safety and health officer may wish to interview employees. Employees are expected to cooperate fully with the compliance officers.

4-516. Legal rights of victims of communicable diseases. Victims of communicable diseases have the legal right to expect, and municipal employees, including police and emergency service officers are duty bound to provide, the same level of service and enforcement as any other individual would receive.

(1) Officers assume that a certain degree of risk exists in law enforcement and emergency service work and accept those risks with their individual appointments. This holds true with any potential risks of contacting a communicable disease as surely as it does with the risks of confronting an armed criminal.

(2) Any officer who refuses to take proper action in regard to victims of a communicable disease, when appropriate protective equipment is available, shall be subject to disciplinary measures along with civil and, or criminal prosecution.

(3) Whenever an officer mentions in a report that an individual has or may have a communicable disease, he shall write "contains confidential medical information" across the top margin of the first page of the report.

(4) The officer's supervisor shall ensure that the above statement is on all reports requiring that statement at the time the report is reviewed and initiated by the supervisor.

(5) The supervisor disseminating newspaper releases shall make certain the confidential information is not given out to the news media.

(6) All requests (including subpoenas) for copies of reports marked "contains confidential medical information" shall be referred to the town attorney when the incident involves an indictable or juvenile offense.

(7) Prior approval shall be obtained from the town attorney before advising a victim of sexual assault that the suspect has, or is suspected of having a communicable disease.

(8) All circumstance, not covered in this policy, that may arise concerning releasing confidential information regarding a victim, or suspected victim, of a communicable disease shall be referred directly to the appropriate department head or town attorney.

(9) Victims of a communicable disease and their families have a right to conduct their lives without fear of discrimination. An employee shall not make public, directly or indirectly, the identity of a victim or suspected victim of a communicable disease.

(10) Whenever an employee finds it necessary to notify another employee, police officer, firefighter, emergency service officer, or health care provider that a victim has or is suspected of having a communicable disease, that information shall be conveyed in a dignified, discrete and confidential manner. The person to whom the information is being conveyed should be reminded that the information is confidential and that it should not be treated as public information.

(11) Any employee who disseminates confidential information in regard to a victim, or suspected victim of a communicable disease in violation of this policy shall be subject to serious disciplinary action and/or civil/and/or criminal prosecution.

CHAPTER 6

TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT REGULATIONS

SECTION

- 4-601. Enforcement.
- 4-602. Travel policy.
- 4-603. Travel reimbursement rate schedules.
- 4-604. Administrative procedures.

4-601. Enforcement. The chief administrative officer (CAO) of the town or his or her designee shall be responsible for the enforcement of these travel regulations. (Ord. #238, July 1993)

4-602. Travel policy. (1) In the interpretation and application of this chapter, the term "traveler" or "authorized traveler" means any elected or appointed municipal officer or employee, including members of municipal boards and committees appointed by the mayor or the municipal governing body, and the employees of such boards and committees who are traveling on official municipal business and whose travel was authorized in accordance with this chapter. "Authorized traveler" shall not include the spouse, children, other relatives, friends, or companions accompanying the authorized traveler on town business, unless the person(s) otherwise qualifies as an authorized traveler under this chapter.

(2) Authorized travelers are entitled to reimbursement of certain expenditures incurred while traveling on official business for the town. Reimbursable expenses shall include expenses for transportation; lodging; meals; registration fees for conferences, conventions, and seminars; and other actual and necessary expenses related to official business as determined by the CAO. Under certain conditions, entertainment expenses may be eligible for reimbursement.

(3) Authorized travelers can request either a travel advance for the projected cost of authorized travel, or advance billing directly to the town for registration fees, air fares, meals, lodging, conferences, and similar expenses.

Travel advance requests aren't considered documentation of travel expenses. If travel advances exceed documented expenses, the traveler must immediately reimburse the town. It will be the responsibility of the CAO to initiate action to recover any undocumented travel advances.

(4) Travel advances are available only for special travel and only after completion and approval of the travel authorization form.

(5) The travel expense reimbursement form will be used to document all expense claims.

(6) To qualify for reimbursement, travel expenses must be:

(a) Directly related to the conduct of the town business for which travel was authorized, and

(b) Actual, reasonable, and necessary under the circumstances. The CAO may make exceptions for unusual circumstances.

Expenses considered excessive won't be allowed.

(7) Claims of five dollars (\$5.00) or more for travel expense reimbursement must be supported by the original paid receipt for lodging, vehicle rental, phone call, public carrier travel, conference fee, and other reimbursable costs.

(8) Any person attempting to defraud the town or misuse town travel funds is subject to legal action for recovery of fraudulent travel claims and/or advances.

(9) Mileage and motel expenses incurred within the town aren't ordinarily considered eligible expenses for reimbursement. (Ord. #238, July 1993)

4-603. Travel reimbursement rate schedules. Authorized travelers shall be reimbursed according to the _____ [enter either federal or state of Tennessee] travel regulation rates. The town's travel reimbursement rates will automatically change when the _____ [federal or state] rates are adjusted.

The municipality may pay directly to the provider for expenses such as meals, lodging, and registration fees for conferences, conventions, seminars, and other education programs. (Ord. #238, July 1993)

4-604. Administrative procedures. The town adopts and incorporates by reference--as if fully set out herein--the administrative procedures submitted by MTAS to, and approved by letter by, the Comptroller of the Treasury, State of Tennessee, in June 1993. A copy of the administrative procedures is on file in the office of the town recorder.

This chapter shall take effect upon its final reading by the municipal governing body. It shall cover all travel and expenses occurring on or after July 1, 1993. (Ord. #238, July 1993)