

TITLE 4

MUNICIPAL PERSONNEL

CHAPTER

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CHAPTER 1

SOCIAL SECURITY

SECTION

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4-101. Policy and purpose as to coverage. It is hereby declared to be the policy and purpose of this town to provide for all eligible employees and officials of the town, 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. (Emergency ord. No. 121, sec. 1)

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. (Emergency ord. No. 121, sec. 2)

4-103. Withholdings from salaries or wages. Withholdings from the salaries or wages of employees and officials for the purpose provided in the first section of this chapter 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. (Emergency ord. No. 121, sec. 3)

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. (Emergency ord. No. 121, sec. 4)

4-105. Records and reports. The recorder shall keep such records and make such reports as may be required by applicable state and federal laws or regulations. (Emergency ord. No. 121, sec. 5)

4-106. Exemptions from coverage. There is hereby exempted from this chapter any authority to make any agreement with respect to any position, any employee or official not authorized to be covered by applicable state and federal laws or regulations. (Emergency ord. No. 121, sec. 6, modified)

## CHAPTER 2

WORK AND LEAVE REGULATIONS

## SECTION

4-201. Applicability of chapter.

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

4-202. Work attendance. All full-time employees of the town shall be in attendance at their regular work and at their regular place of work as may be designated by the department head under whose supervision such employees shall work. The head of every town department shall keep a daily attendance record of the employees working under such supervisor and shall report the same to the mayor.

4-203. Holidays. (1) Except and in addition to such other holidays as may be from time-to-time declared by the board of mayor and aldermen, the following days shall be official holidays for employees of the Town of Gainesboro:

<u>Holiday Name</u>	<u>Holiday Date</u>
New Year's Day	January 1st of each year
Martin Luther King Day	January 21st of each year
Washington's Birthday	Third Monday in February of each year
Memorial Day	Last Monday in May of each year
Independence Day	July 4th of each year

Labor Day	First Monday in September of each year
Columbus Day	Second Monday in October of each year
Veterans' Day	November 11th of each year
Thanksgiving Day	Fourth Thursday in November of each year
Christmas Day	December 25th of each year

(2) When a holiday falls on a Saturday, the preceding Friday shall be observed as the holiday, and when a holiday falls on a Sunday, the following Monday shall be observed as the holiday.

(3) All full-time employees of the town shall be compensated for any holiday granted in this chapter or otherwise designated by the board of mayor and aldermen by receiving eight (8) hours off with pay on the date of the holiday. However, in the interest of continuing essential municipal services, any town employee may be required to work on any holiday. Working on any holiday is a condition of employment for all town employees. Employees who are required to work on any holiday shall be paid double their regular pay for each hour they work on that holiday.

(4) No employee shall be authorized to work on a holiday without the prior command or approval of the head of the department for whom the employee works. However, the board of mayor and aldermen may from time to time prescribe such other rules, regulations and limitations on overtime work as it desires.

(5) Any employee who is absent without leave on any working day immediately preceding or immediately following any holiday shall not be entitled to be paid for such holiday.

4-204. Annual leave. (1) All regular and full-time employees of the town who have been employed by the town for one full year of continuous service shall be allowed vacation leave time with pay according to the following schedule:

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Annual Leave</u>
1 year	10 working days

For annual leave purposes the term "working day" as it applies herein shall be computed on an eight (8) hours basis.

(2) Annual leave compensation shall be computed at the employee's regular straight time pay rate in effect as of the date that the vacation leave time is earned.

(3) The date of service to be used in determining annual leave time accrual rate is the beginning date of the employee's current period of continuous service or the date on which the employee was initially employed or appointed, whichever is more recent.

(4) An employee shall not be eligible to take annual leave until he or she has had one (1) year continuous employment.

(5) Annual leave may not be taken before it is earned.

(6) Temporary, casual or part-time employees are not eligible for accrual of annual leave.

(7) For annual leave purposes, any reinstated employee shall be considered as a new employee regardless of the reason for separation.

(8) Earned annual leave may be taken in whole or in part throughout the year at such times as may be approved by the head of the department for which such employee works. No less than one (1) day may be taken at any one time.

(9) Annual leave must be taken in full each year and may not be carried forward to the next year.

(10) Any official holiday falling within a period of annual leave shall be charged as holiday leave rather than annual leave.

(11) Any regular, full-time employee who is separated from employment with the town for any reason, including retirement, may receive terminal annual leave pay for any unused portion of his or her accumulated annual leave up to the limit of vacation leave allowed to be accumulated under this chapter.

4-205. Sick leave. (1) All full-time employees of the town shall be allowed to accumulate sick leave with pay at the rate of one (1) working day for each full calendar month of service completed up to an unused maximum of one hundred twenty (120) working days. Sick leave shall be considered a benefit and privilege and not a right for the employees to use at his or her discretion. Employees shall, therefore, utilize their accumulated sick leave allowance for absences due to personal illness or physical incapacity, personal illness or physical incapacity within the immediate family of the employee (as defined in paragraph 3 below), enforced quarantine of the employee in accordance with community health regulations, disability resulting from pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, or so as to keep an appointment with a licensed medical doctor, dentist or other recognized health care practitioner.

(2) The board of mayor and aldermen may, in its discretion, prescribe regulations requiring that a health care practitioner's certificate or other

satisfactory evidence be filed with the town supporting the absence before it may be properly chargeable as sick leave.

(3) For sick leave purposes the term "working day" as it applies in this section shall be computed on an eight (8) hour basis. The term "immediate family" shall be defined as spouse, children, parents, brothers and sisters, and grandparents, both of the employee and spouse of the employee.

(4) Sick leave compensation shall be figured at the employee's straight time pay rate in effect at the date it is used by the employee.

(5) The date of service to be used in determining sick leave time accrual rate is the beginning date of the employee's current period of continuous service or the date on which the employee was initially employed or appointed, whichever is more recent.

(6) Sick leave shall begin to accrue on the first day of the month next following the first full calendar month of employment.

(7) Temporary, casual or part-time employees are not eligible for accrual of sick leave.

(8) For sick leave purposes any reinstated employee shall be considered as a new employee regardless of the reason for his or her separation.

(9) Any employee who abuses these sick leave provisions or who deliberately makes or cause to be made any false or misleading statement or claim concerning the same, shall be subject to the loss of any such benefits, dismissal from his or her employment with the town or other disciplinary action.

(10) Any employee of the town who is injured when engaging in his employment for the town may be carried on sick leave for any accumulated sick leave that he or she has to his or her credit, but in no case shall any employee be allowed to receive sick leave pay while drawing any workers compensation or other disability payments resulting from any benefit provided by the town.

4-206. Absence without leave. An absence without leave is an absence from duty which was not authorized or approved and for which either a request for leave was not made by the employee, or when made such request was denied. Under such circumstances any employee may be subject to such disciplinary action, including termination from employment with the town, as the board of mayor and aldermen deems necessary or appropriate.

4-207. Absence without pay. An absence without pay is an absence which may or may not have been known and which has resulted from suspension, abandonment of position, or leave without pay granted by the town. The heads of all departments shall be responsible for maintaining accurate records of any employee who is absent from duty for any reason and shall promptly report the same to the mayor.

4-208. Leave without pay. A regular or part-time employee who is in good standing may be granted a leave without pay for a period not to exceed ninety (90) calendar days in any one calendar year upon the approval of the board of mayor and aldermen.

## CHAPTER 3

PERSONNEL REGULATIONS<sup>1</sup>

## SECTION

- 4-301. Applicability of chapter.
- 4-302. Acceptance of gratuities.
- 4-303. Outside employment.
- 4-304. Political activity restricted.
- 4-305. Use of municipal time, facilities, etc.
- 4-306. Use of position.
- 4-307. Strikes.

4-301. Applicability of chapter. This chapter shall apply to all full-time town officers and employees except those operating under the jurisdiction of a school, utility, or other separate board or commission.

4-302. Acceptance of gratuities. No town officer or employee shall accept any money or other consideration or favor from anyone other than the town for the performance of an act which he would be required or expected to perform in the regular course of his duties; nor shall any officer or employee accept, directly or indirectly, any gift, gratuity, or favor of any kind which might reasonably be interpreted as an attempt to influence his actions with respect to town business.

4-303. Outside employment. No full-time officer or employee of the town shall continue any outside employment if the work interferes with the satisfactory performance of the officer's or employee's duties. In addition, no such employee shall accept any outside employment if the work is incompatible with his town employment, or is likely to cast discredit upon or create embarrassment for the town.

4-304. Political activity restricted. The following prohibitions and restrictions on political activities shall apply to all town officers and employees, except for elected officers:

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<sup>1</sup>State law reference

Tennessee Code Annotated 12-4-101 prohibits the direct personal interest and regulates the indirect personal interest, of officers of the town in municipal contracts.



(1) In elections for municipal and county offices. No town officer or employee, whether on or off duty, whether in or out of uniform, and whether on or off town property, shall at any time or any place

(a) Become a candidate for, or campaign for, an elective town or county office.

(b) Directly or indirectly solicit, receive, collect, handle, disburse or account for assessments, contributions or other funds for a candidate for town or county office.

(c) Organize, sell tickets to, promote or actively participate in a fund-raising activity of a candidate for town or county office.

(d) Take an active part in managing the political campaign of a candidate for town or county office.

(e) Solicit votes in support of or in opposition to a candidate for town or county office.

(f) Act as a recorder, watcher, challenger or similar officer at the polls on behalf of a candidate for town or county office.

(g) Drive voters to the polls on behalf of a candidate for town or county office.

(h) Endorse or oppose a candidate for town or county office in a political advertisement, broadcast, campaign literature or similar material.

(i) Address a rally or similar gathering of the supporters or opponents of a candidate for town or county office.

(j) Initiate or circulate a nominating petition for a candidate for town or county office.

(k) Wear campaign buttons, pins, hats or any other similar attachment, or distribute campaign literature in support or opposition to a candidate for town or county office.

(2) In all other elections for public office. No town officer or employee, whether on or off duty, whether in or out of uniform, and whether on or off town property, shall at any time or any place

(a) Become a candidate for, or campaign for, an elective public office.

(b) Take an active part in managing the political campaign of a candidate for public office.

(c) Directly or indirectly solicit, receive or collect contributions or other funds for a candidate for public office.

(d) Sell tickets to a fund-raising activity of a candidate for public office.

(3) Town officers and employees may not engage in any of the other political activities enumerated in paragraph (1) above except while they are off

duty and otherwise on their own time, and while they are not in a town uniform, and while they are in places other than on town property.

Leaves of absence will not be granted to town officers or employees to engage in any of the political activities enumerated above.

Nothing in this section is intended to prohibit any town officer or employee from privately expressing his or her political views or from casting his or her vote in all elections.

4-305. Use of municipal time, facilities, etc. No town officer or employee shall use or authorize the use of municipal time, facilities, equipment, or supplies for private gain or advantage to himself or any other private person or group.

4-306. Use of position. No town officer or employee shall make or attempt to make private purchases, for cash or otherwise, in the name of the town, nor shall he otherwise use or attempt to use his position to secure unwarranted privileges or exemptions for himself or others.

4-307. Strikes. No town officer or employee shall participate in any strike against the town.

## CHAPTER 4

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH PROGRAM

## SECTION

4-401. Title.

4-402. Town recorder designated program director.

4-403. Program standards.

4-404. Effective date of plan.

4-401. Title. This chapter shall be known as the "Occupational Safety and Health Program for the Employees of the Town of Gainesboro."

4-402. Town recorder designated program director. The Town of Gainesboro hereby designates the town recorder hereinafter referred to as the "director," to establish a safety and health program in compliance with the town recorder requirements of the Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1972 and he is hereby given the authority to implement a plan which shall encompass the issues and standards which have been promulgated by applicable state standards.

4-403. Program standards. This plan shall be at least as effective as the federal or state standards on the same issues and shall include the following:

(1) The director or his authorized representatives shall have the right to enter at any reasonable time any establishment, construction site, plant or other area, workplace or environment where work is performed in the Town of Gainesboro; and to inspect and investigate any such place of employment and all pertinent conditions, processes, machines, devices, equipment and materials therein, and to question privately any supervisor or employee.

(2) The director may issue subpoenas to require the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of evidence under oath for the purpose of confirming or supplementing his findings.

(3) The director shall provide for education and training of personnel for the administration of the program, and he shall provide for the education and training of all employees of the town to the extent that same is necessary for said employees to recognize and report safety and health problems as defined in the applicable standards.

(4) All employees shall be informed of the policies and the standards set forth by the Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Act.

(5) All employees of the town shall be informed of safety hazards, exposure to toxic or harmful materials and imminent danger situations that may occur in their jobs.

(6) The director or his authorized representative shall upon any allegation of imminent danger immediately ascertain whether there is a reasonable basis for the complaint. He shall make a preliminary determination of whether or not the complaint appears to have merit. If such is the case he or his authorized representative shall report same to the board of mayor and aldermen.

(7) Any employee shall be given the right to participate in an investigation or inspection which involves a safety and/or health situation which concerns his work area.

(8) The director shall establish a safety and health training program designed to instruct each employee in the recognition and avoidance of unsafe conditions and the regulations applicable to his work environment.

(9) The director shall contact the Commissioner of Labor of the State of Tennessee by telephone in the event of the death of an employee involved in a work-related accident. This notification will be done as soon after the fatality as possible but not to exceed 48 hours.

(10) The director shall setup a procedure for requesting a variance from the Tennessee Department of Labor in the event an operation within the town does not meet the standards set by the Occupational Safety and Health Act and immediate action to alleviate the discrepancy is not possible.

(11) The director shall establish and maintain a system for collecting and reporting safety and health data required under the Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Act.

(12) The director shall apply this program to employees of each administrative department, commission, board, division or other agency of the Town of Gainesboro.

(13) The director shall make an annual report to the Commissioner of Labor for the State of Tennessee showing the accomplishments and progress of the Town of Gainesboro in its Occupational Safety and Health Program.

(14) The director shall provide a means whereby any employee may submit a report of what he feels is a safety and/or health hazard to his immediate supervisor and the director without fear of jeopardizing his job or chances for future promotion. Such reports shall be preserved and the action thereon shall be noted on said reports and signed by the director or his designees.

(15) In implementing the plan the director shall adopt therein all the words and phrases designated as "definitions" in the Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Act, promulgated regulations and standards thereunder.

4-404. Effective date of plan. The plan, upon its approval by the Tennessee Department of Labor, shall become effective to the Town of Gainesboro and at this time shall become a part of this chapter as fully and completely as if set out herein.

CHAPTER 5

INFECTIOUS DISEASE CONTROL POLICY

SECTION

- 4-501. General information.
- 4-502. General policies and procedures.
- 4-503. Vaccinations, testing and post-exposure management.
- 4-504. Training.
- 4-505. Records and reports.
- 4-506. Legal rights of victims of communicable diseases.
- 4-507. Amendments.

4-501. General information. (1) Purpose. It is the responsibility of the Town of Gainesboro 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 Gainesboro, 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).

(2) 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 infectious material from potentially infected individuals. Those high risk occupations include but are not limited to:

- (a) Paramedics and emergency medical technicians;
- (b) Occupational nurses;
- (c) Housekeeping and laundry workers;
- (d) Police and security personnel;
- (e) Firefighters;
- (f) Sanitation and landfill workers; and
- (g) Any other employee deemed to at high risk per this policy

and an exposure determination.

(3) Administration. This infection control policy shall be administered by the mayor or his/her designated representative who shall have the following duties and responsibility:

(a) 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;

(b) Make an exposure determination for all employee positions to determine a possible exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials;

(c) Maintain records of all employees and incidents subject to the provisions of the chapter;

(d) Conduct periodic inspections to determine compliance with the infection control policy by municipal employees;

(e) Coordinate and document all relevant training activities in support of the infection control policy;

(f) Prepare and recommend to the board of mayor and aldermen any amendments or changes to the infection control policy;

(g) 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

(h) Perform such other duties and exercise such other authority as may be prescribed by the board of mayor and aldermen.

(4) Definitions. (a) "Body fluid" - 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.

(b) "Exposure" - the contact with blood or other body fluids 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.

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

(d) "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.

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

(f) "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. (as added by Ord. #93-3-1, § I, April 1993)

4-502. General policies and procedures. (1) Policy statement. All blood and other potentially infectious materials are infectious for several blood-borne pathogens and some body fluids can 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 body fluids which contain visible blood. 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.

(2) General guidelines. General guidelines which shall be used by everyone include:

(a) Think when responding to emergency calls and exercise common sense when there is potential exposure to blood or body fluids which require universal precautions.

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

(c) 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.

(d) 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.

(e) 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:

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

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

(3) 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. Employee shall not wash or disinfect surgical or examination gloves for reuse.

(f) 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 victims' blood and blood contaminated saliva, respiratory secretion, and vomitus, are available to all personnel who provide or potentially provide emergency treatment.

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

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

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

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

(k) 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 object must be placed in an impervious container and then taken to a hospital for disposal.

(l) 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:

(1) 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.

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

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

(m) 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 line. 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.

(n) Whenever possible, disposable equipment shall be used to minimize and contain clean-up. (as added by Ord. #93-3-1, § II, April 1993)

4-503. Vaccinations, testing and post-exposure management.

(1) Hepatitis B vaccinations. The Town of Gainesboro shall offer the appropriate hepatitis B vaccination to employees at risk of exposure free of charge and in amounts 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.

(2) 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 (ie., needle sticks, blood contact on broken skin, body fluid contact with eyes or mouth, etc...):

(a) Notify the infectious disease control coordinator of the contact incident and details thereof.

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

(c) 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.

(3) 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) 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 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 6 weeks, 12 weeks, and 6 months after exposure to determine whether transmission has occurred. During this follow-up period (especially the first 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 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.

(5) 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 T.C.A. 50-6-303. (as added by Ord. #93-3-1, § III, April 1993)

4-504. Training. (1) 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.

(2) 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 as per this policy.

(3) 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. (as added by Ord. #93-3-1, § IV, April 1993)

4-505. Records and reports. (1) Reports. Occupational injury and illness records shall be maintained by the infectious disease control coordinator. Statistics shall be maintain 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 (ie. gama 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. (as added by Ord. #93-3-1, § V, April 1993)

4-506. 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 holdstrue with any potential risks of contacting a communicable disease as surely as it does with the risks of confronting an armed criminal.

(2) Any officers 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 circumstances 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. (as added by Ord. #93-3-1, § VI, April 1993)

4-507. Amendments. amendments or revisions of these rules may be recommended for adoption by any elected official or by department heads. Such amendments or revisions of these rules shall be by ordinance and shall become effective after public hearing and approval by the governing body. (as added by Ord. #93-3-1, § VII, April 1993)

## CHAPTER 6

### TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT REGULATIONS

#### SECTION

4-601. Purpose.

4-602. Enforcement.

4-603. Travel policy.

4-604. Travel reimbursement rate schedules.

4-605. Administrative procedures.

4-601. Purpose. The purpose of this chapter and referenced regulations is to bring the town into compliance with Public Acts 1993, Chapter 433. This act requires Tennessee municipalities to adopt travel and expense regulations covering expenses incurred by "any mayor and any member of the local governing body and any board or committee member elected or appointed by the mayor or local governing body, and any official or employee of the municipality whose salary is set by charter or general law."

To provide consistent travel regulations and reimbursement, this chapter is expanded to cover regular town employees. It's the intent of this policy to assure fair and equitable treatment to all individuals traveling on town business at town expense. (as added by Ord. #93-10-1(O), § 1, Nov. 1993)

4-602. Enforcement. The chief administrative officer (CAO) of the town or his or her designee shall be responsible for the enforcement of these travel regulations. (as added by Ord. #93-10-1(O), § 1, Nov. 1993)

4-603. 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. Reimbursement 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:

- directly related to the conduct of the town business for which travel was authorized, and
- 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 \$5 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 reimbursement 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. (as added by Ord. #93-10-1(O), § 1, Nov. 1993)

4-604. Travel reimbursement rate schedules. Authorized travelers shall be reimbursed according to the State of Tennessee travel regulation rates. The town's travel reimbursement rates will automatically change when the State of Tennessee 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. (as added by Ord. #93-10-1(O), § 1, Nov. 1993)



4-605. 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. (as added by Ord. #93-10-1(O), § 1, Nov. 1993)