

ORDINANCE NO. 2476

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 26 OF THE CODE OF SUSSEX COUNTY REVISING COMPUTATION OF PENSION BENEFITS FOR SUSSEX COUNTY EMPLOYEES.

WHEREAS, Chapter 26 of the Code of Sussex County is known as the "Sussex County Employee Pension Plan Act" which governs pensions for Sussex County employees; and

WHEREAS, Sussex County desires to revise § 26-7 with respect to the computation of pension benefits for covered employment of Sussex County employees as set forth herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. The Code of Sussex County, Chapter 26, §26-7, is hereby restated in its entirety and is hereby amended by deleting the language in brackets and inserting the underlined language as follows:

“§ 26-7 Computation of benefits.

- A. The benefits shall be computed as follows: The wages or salary of the highest paid three years of Sussex County [service]covered employment shall be averaged by dividing the total by 36 months. This product shall be divided by a constant of 60. The product of these functions shall be multiplied by the number of years of covered employment[years' service and] plus [fractions of years' service]full months of covered employment divided by 12. The result shall be the monthly pension payment. The number of years of covered employment[years' service] factored into the above calculations for those employees hired after July 1, 2000 and who retired before January 1, 2017, will be a maximum of 25 or 30 [years]in determining benefits provided pursuant to § 26-6B(3) and (4) above. For those covered employees **HIRED AFTER JULY 1, 2000 AND** who retire after December 31, 2016, the number of years of covered employment factored into the calculations of benefits, will be a maximum of 30 or 35 in determining benefits provided pursuant to § 26-6B(3) and (4) above. For purposes of computing benefits under this § 26-7A for those covered employees who retire after December 31, 2016, wages or salary for each year of Sussex County covered employment shall be computed by multiplying the employee's highest hourly rate for the year by the number of regularly scheduled workweek hours and then multiplying the product thereof by 52 weeks. For a covered employee who is classified as a paramedic or emergency communications specialist and who works scheduled twelve-hour shifts, including management personnel who are required to maintain certifications necessary to relieve as a paramedic or emergency communications specialist who retires after December 31, 2016, wages or salary for each year of Sussex County covered employment shall be computed by multiplying the employee's highest hourly rate for the year by 42 hours and then multiplying the product thereof by 52 weeks.
- B. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the benefits shall be computed as follows for a covered employee, hired after July 1, 2001 and who retire before January 1, 2017, who is classified as a paramedic or emergency communications specialist and who works scheduled twelve-hour shifts, including management personnel who are required to maintain certifications necessary to relieve as a paramedic or emergency communications specialist: The wages or salary of the highest paid three years of Sussex County [service]covered employment shall be averaged by dividing the total by 36 months. This product shall be divided by a constant of 50. The product of these functions shall be multiplied by the number of years of [service]covered employment, which number shall not exceed 25. The result shall be the monthly pension payment. For such covered employee described in this § 26-7B hired after July 1, 2001 and who retires after December 31, 2016, for purposes of computing benefits under this § 26-7B, the number of years of covered employment shall not exceed 30, and wages or salary for each year of Sussex County covered employment shall be computed by multiplying the employee's highest hourly rate for the year by 42 hours and then multiplying the product thereof by 52 weeks.”

Section 2. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective on January 1, 2017.

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF ORDINANCE NO. 2476 ADOPTED BY THE SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL ON THE 29TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2016.

**ROBIN A. GRIFFITH
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL**