

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Division of Public Works Retirement System
Meeting Minutes
September 28, 2021

A meeting of the Board of Trustees, Public Works Retirement System was held at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 28, 2021 in the Large Conference Room located at 9 Riverside Street.

Trustees Present: Frank Anderson, Mayoral Appointee
Michael O'Brien, Aldermanic Liaison (Assistant Chair)
David Fredette, Treasurer, Member
Kevin Moriarty, BPW Commissioner
Daniel Hudson, Employee Member
Kathie Berube, Employee Member

Trustees Absent: Matt Dube, Employee Member

Others in Attendance: Mary Woods, Administrative Assistant

Expected Visitors:

None

Minutes of the Meeting:

The minutes of the July 27, 2021 meeting were presented for review and acceptance.

MOTION BY: Alderman, Kevin Moriarty moved to accept, place on file, and approve the minutes of the July 27, 2021 meeting.

SECONDED BY: Alderman, Michael O'Brien

MOTION CARRIED:

DISCUSSION:

Personnel:

The retirement of Henry Boucher was presented to the Trustees with his final calculation and the election of his retirement benefits.

MOTION BY: Trustee, Frank Anderson moved to accept the retirement calculation of Henry Boucher and the election of his retirement benefits.

SECONDED BY: Trustee, Kathie Berube

MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously

DISCUSSION:

The retirement of Sara Hyland was presented to the Trustees with her final calculation and the election of her retirement benefits.

MOTION BY: Alderman, Michael O'Brien moved to accept the retirement of Sara Hyland with her final calculation and the election of her retirement benefits.

SECONDED BY: Trustee, Kathie Berube

MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously

DISCUSSION:

The retirement of Kathryn A. Zilifian was presented to the Trustees with her final calculation and the election of her retirement benefits.

MOTION BY: Trustee, Kathie Berube moved to accept the retirement of Kathryn A. Zilifian with her final calculation and the election of her retirement benefits.

SECONDED BY: Alderman, Michael O'Brien

MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously

DISCUSSION:

The return of contributions of Philip Fote was presented to the Trustees. The board approved the return of contributions of Philip Fote.

MOTION BY: Trustee, David Fredette moved to approve the ratification and return of contributions of Philip Fote.

SECONDED BY: Trustee, Kathie Berube

MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously

DISCUSSION: Alderman O'Brien asked if there was a "cap" to what an employee could pay back into the system for any kind of leave. Trustee Fredette said that there is more of a definition in the Ordinance. Reference Section 45-21, Part G, "Service Retirement Benefits"

The approval of the Death Benefit of Donald Pelletier was presented to the Estate of Donald Pelletier being the beneficiary.

MOTION BY: Trustee, Frank Anderson moved to approve the Death Benefit of Donald Pelletier to the Estate of Donald Pelletier.

SECONDED BY: Trustee, Kathie Berube

MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously

DISCUSSION:

Old Business:

On the issue of cost sharing for pension administrative services, Trustee Anderson said that Hooker & Holcombe advised him to wait until the GASB Report was done so that he could put the actual numbers into the letter which he will do to try and get some money back from the City.

Regarding the update on the pension ordinance to ensure that it conforms to IRS Regulations, Trustee Fredette said that he received a final report from Atty. Rich and has a meeting set up with City Attorney, Dory Clarke next week because this will not be resolved before Trustee Fredette retires. Trustee Fredette asked for a red lined copy from Attorney Rich but he did not receive it in that format so it is hard to follow what the changes are. Trustee Fredette will try and get the red lined copy which will make it easier for the Alderman to follow. Trustee Fredette has already received a bill from Attorney Rich and has found an account to pay this from but there will be others coming which he would not have money for. Trustee Anderson asked if it will then go to the Board of Alderman for approval and Trustee Fredette said no, it will come back to the Board of Trustees at which time they would get an Alderman to sponsor the ordinance change. Alderman O'Brien said that he thought that this was timely because the City is getting money back from the "Cares Act" which was pre-funded. He also asked if Trustee Fredette would lead the change on this to have it resolved before he retires. Trustee Fredette said that it would be nice if they could. Alderman O'Brien said he would sponsor the ordinance change.

New Business:

Approval of the current disbursement of funds for the period of July 1, 2021 through July 31, 2021 in the amount of \$251,899.27 was presented to the Board. The Trustees reviewed the detail.

MOTION BY: Alderman, Michael O'Brien moved to approve the current disbursement of funds for the period of July 1, 2021 thru July 31, 2021 in the amount of \$251,899.27.

SECONDED BY: Alderman, Kevin Moriarty

MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously

DISCUSSION: Trustee Fredette wanted to point out the top part of the report to show the "Prior Year Disbursements" and how important that is. Trustee Anderson agreed.

Approval of the current disbursement of funds for the period of August 1, 2021 through August 31, 2021 in the amount of \$329,639.95 was presented to the Board. The Trustees reviewed the detail.

MOTION BY: Alderman, Michael O'Brien moved to approve the current disbursement of funds for the period of August 1, 2021 thru August 31, 2021 in the amount of \$329,639.95.

SECONDED BY: Alderman, Kevin Moriarty

MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously

DISCUSSION: Trustee Anderson wanted to just bring up the management fees and would like to suggest either getting an RFP going or turn this over to an "Office of Investment Advisor" which is basically a consulting firm that will hire the money managers for the board. Trustee Anderson stated that the market value is getting high and he thinks we need to protect ourselves and thinks we should turn it over to someone. Trustee Anderson thought this was something that should be done this fiscal year.

The 2021 GASB 67 68 Report was discussed and the net position of the total of pension liability is at 99.52%. Trustee Fredette said that it is very rare to see that. He stated that we are usually in the mid to high 80's. Trustee Anderson wanted to know if this was because of some of the changes that were adopted recently, such as the mortality rate increase. Trustee Fredette said that maybe Hooker & Holcombe could call in to the meeting next month. There was a discussion about the possibility of another "stipend" for retirees and Alderman O'Brien asked what the total amount was last time it was given out and Trustee Fredette responded that it was approximately \$68,000 which the investors said was manageable. Trustee Anderson said that he liked the idea of doing a stipend when the plan is strong and healthy, such as now. Trustee Anderson thought it was a good idea to have Hooker & Holcombe call into the next meeting. Alderman Moriarty asked the question, what does the 99.52% equate too? Trustee Anderson said that 100% would be "fully funded" and looking at the obligations we have today, meaning all pension members (current and retired) there would be enough money to pay all of the members pensions. Trustee Fredette said that this is very good percentage.

Period for Public Comment:

None

Items by the Trustees:

There was a discussion on Trustee Fredette's retirement which he said may be around Thanksgiving of this year.

Alderman, Michael O'Brien thought maybe the Investment Managers could call in or Zoom next month which was agreed that either in person or Zoom would be fine.

Next meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday, October 26, 2021 at 12:30p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Trustee Anderson moved to adjourn at 1:10 p.m.
SECONDED BY: Alderman, Kevin Moriarty

Minutes Transcribed by: Mary Woods