

Minutes of the Chicopee Retirement Board monthly meeting held on January 28, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. in the City Council Chambers, 4th floor.

Present: Members: Timothy O'Shea, Paul Mailhott, Sharyn Riley and David Ference.

Absent: Member Boronski due to the Governor's Orders – participating via telephone

The Chairman called the Regular Meeting to Order at 8:30 a.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Mailhott and seconded by Mr. Ference to accept and approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on December 18, 2020. The minutes will be placed on file. ALL IN FAVOR.

A motion was made by Ms. Boronski and seconded by Mr. Ference to approve the monthly expense warrant #01292021A and pension payroll warrants #12312020 and 01292021. ALL IN FAVOR.

Chairman Appointment –After a discussion a motion was made by Mr. Mailhott and seconded by Ms. Boronski to appoint Board Member Timothy O. O'Shea as the Chairman of the Chicopee Contributory Retirement Board for 2021. ALL IN FAVOR.

Vice-Chairman Appointment –After a discussion a motion was made by Mr. Riley and seconded by Ms. Boronski to appoint Board Member Paul Mailhott as the Vice-Chairman of the Chicopee Contributory Retirement Board for 2021. ALL IN FAVOR.

Fifth Member Appointment - At the November board meeting the board voted unanimously to reappoint David Ference as the 5th member of the Retirement Board. We were contacted by PERAC and told that we were supposed to advertise for this position on their website prior to reappointing this member. The position was placed on PERAC's webpage stating that all interested candidates need to apply prior to January 5, 2021. We did not receive any other requests to be the 5th member of the board, so the Board will once again need to vote on whether or not they wish to reappoint Mr. Ference as the 5th member.

A motion was made by Mr. Mailhott and seconded by Ms. Riley to reappoint David Ference for a three (3) year term as the 5th Member of the Retirement Board for a term to expire on January 8, 2024. Notice will be mailed to PERAC regarding this reappointment. ALL IN FAVOR. (Mr. Ference abstained from voting.)

Executive Session:

A motion was made by Mr. Ference and seconded by Ms. Riley to enter into Executive Session at 8:40 a.m. as per M.G.L. Chapter 30A Section 21 for the purpose of discussing two Medical Panel Reviews. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Ference "Yes", Mr. Mailhott "Yes", Ms. Boronski "Yes" Ms. Riley "Yes" and Mr. O'Shea "Yes".

The Board will then reconvene in open session once this meeting is concluded.

Executive session concluded at 8:59 a.m.

The Chairman called the regular meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Involuntary Accidental Disability Application

Fisher, Sarah -, Firefighter at the Fire Department – Fire Chief Stamborski has filed an Involuntary Accidental Disability Application for Firefighter Fisher due to the fact that she was injured on October 29, 2017 while climbing into the driver side cab of the fire truck. She was seen by the medical panel we received the information that all three members voted in the affirmative on all three questions stating that Firefighter Fisher’s injury sustained in their opinion is that she is physically incapable of performing the essential duties of her job and that said incapacity is likely to be permanent and might be the natural and proximate result of the personal injury she sustained on that day on October 29, 2017.

After a discussion a motion was made by Mr. Mailhott and seconded by Ms. Boronski to accept the Involuntary Accidental Disability Application for Sarah Fisher and to submit all the necessary paperwork to PERAC for their approval. Once all of the paperwork is submitted to PERAC all members need to log onto PROSPER and state whether they voted for or against this motion. ALL IN FAVOR.

Accidental Disability Application

Myers, Frank R. -, Heavy Duty Equipment Foreman has filed an Accidental Disability Application due to the fact that he was injured in 2018 while twisting an industrial fan. He was seen by the medical panel we received the information that all three members voted in the affirmative on all three questions stating that Mr. Myers’ injury sustained in their opinion is that he is physically incapable of performing the essential duties of his job and that said incapacity is likely to be permanent and might be the natural and proximate result of the personal injury he sustained on that day in 2018.

After a discussion a motion was made by Mr. Mailhott and seconded by Mr. Ference to accept the Medical Panel findings and approve the Accidental Disability Application for Frank Myers and to submit all the necessary paperwork to PERAC for their approval. Once all of the paperwork is submitted to PERAC all members need to log onto PROSPER and state whether they voted for or against this motion. ALL IN FAVOR.

The following people applied for membership in the system according to statute:

1. Eliesett Rodriguez – Police – Group #4
2. Ayanna Meadows – Telecom – Group #1
3. Jacob Rosa – Highway – Group #1
4. Freddie Moore – Collection System Sewer – Group #1
5. Stella Curtin – COA – Group #1

6. Edward Kennedy – Police – Group #4
7. Anthony Barto – CEL – Group #1
8. Vincent Rivera – CEL – Group #1

A motion was made by Ms. Riley and seconded by Mr. Ference to approve the above mentioned individuals for membership into the System. ALL IN FAVOR.

The following people applied for Superannuation Retirement according to statute:

Lucander, Nils E. – Chicopee Wastewater – Operator – wishes to retire on January 19, 2021 with 36 years and 4 months of creditable service.

Holmberg, Lucy – School Dept. – Special Needs Paraprofessional – wishes to retire on February 1, 2021 with 29 years and 7 months of creditable service.

Baron, Anne T. – School Department – Senior Clerk – wishes to retire on February 12, 2021 with 30 years and 4 months of creditable service.

Rooke, Thomas J. – City of Chicopee – Assistant City Solicitor – wishes to retire on March 1, 2021 with 32 years and 3 months of creditable service.

Motion was made by Ms. Riley and seconded by Mr. Mailhott to approve the retirement applications. ALL IN FAVOR.

The following retirement calculations have been prepared for the Board's approval according to statute:

Gay, Paul - Police Department, Patrolman retired December 29, 2020 with an annual pension amount of \$57,384.00.

Murphy, Thomas E., Jr. - Fire Department, Lieutenant retired January 1, 2021 with an annual pension amount of \$47,309.88.

Motion was made by Mr. Ference and seconded by Ms. Riley to approve the retirement calculations. ALL IN FAVOR.

COLA Increase - COLA notice was received from PERAC for Social Security Administration with an increase in the amount of 1.3%.

Upon review of this information **a motion was made by Ms. Riley and seconded by Mr. Mailhott to table this item until next month's agenda. ALL IN FAVOR.**

Fiscal Year 2022 Appropriation – the Board needs to sign all of the appropriation letters that the Sewer Department, Water Department, Chicopee Housing Authority and Chicopee Electric will be receiving showing them the amounts that are due to the Retirement Board on July 1, 2021.

Interest Rate – PERAC has set the 2021 Interest Rate at 0.1% for all regular and additional member deductions.

Mileage – Beginning January 1, 2021 optional standard mileage rate will be .56 cents per mile (this is down 1.5 cents from last year).

PROSPER SFI Online Submission – Beginning this year PROSPER users will be able to complete and submit their Statement of Financial Interest entirely within PROSPER. There are two (2) training sessions scheduled – Tuesday, February 2, 2021 from 10 to 11 a.m. and on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 from 10 to 11 a.m. All Board members that watch one of these sessions via webinar will receive three (3) educational credits. Board members will need to log onto PERAC website and sign up for one of these sessions in advance.

Schedule for Board Meetings for 2021 – all Thursdays except when noted –

**February 25, 2021, **March 25, 2021, April 22, 2021, **May 27, 2021, June 24, 2021, July 22, 2021, **August 26, 2021, September 23, 2021, **October 28, 2021, **November 18, 2021 and December 16, 2021.

** denotes when an investment manager will be in attendance at a meeting via telephone conference until the Pandemic is over.

Reports & Notices:

- Cash Books – November
- Checking Account Balance Sheet – December
- PRIM Board Quarterly Update
- PERAC 1st Quarter Board Member Training Memo

Executive Session:

A motion was made by Ms. Riley and seconded by Mr. Ference to enter into Executive Session at 9:21 a.m. as per M.G.L. Chapter 30A Section 21 for the purpose of discussing a Medical Panel Review. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Ference “Yes”, Mr. Mailhott “Yes”, Ms. Boronski “Yes”, Ms. Riley “Yes” and Mr. O’Shea “Yes”.

The Board will then reconvene in open session once this meeting is concluded.

Executive session concluded at 9:26 a.m.

The Chairman called the regular meeting to order at 9:27 a.m.

Involuntary Accidental Disability Application

Hammon, Scott -, Firefighter at the Fire Department – Fire Chief Stamborski has filed an

Involuntary Accidental Disability Application for Firefighter Hammon due to the fact that he was injured on July 15, 2017 while lifting a patient onto the stretcher. He was seen by the medical panel we received the information that all three members voted in the affirmative on all three questions stating that Firefighter Hammon's injury sustained in their opinion is that he is physically incapable of performing the essential duties of his job and that said incapacity is likely to be permanent and might be the natural and proximate result of the personal injury he sustained on that day on July 15, 2017.

After a discussion a motion was made by Mr. Mailhott and seconded by Ms. Riley to accept the Medical Panel findings and approve the Involuntary Accidental Disability Application for Scott Hammon and to submit all the necessary paperwork to PERAC for their approval. Once all of the paperwork is submitted to PERAC all members need to log onto PROSPER and state whether they voted for or against this motion. ALL IN FAVOR.

A motion was made by Ms. Riley and seconded by Ms. Boronski to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 a.m. ALL IN FAVOR.

Ana P. Gomes, Assistant Executive Director

APPROVED: BOARD OF RETIREMENT

Timothy O. O'Shea

Sharyn Riley

Paul Mailhott

Debra Boronski

David Ference