

Minutes of the Chicopee Retirement Board monthly meeting held on August 26, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. in the Auditor's Conference Room, 3rd floor, City Hall.

Present: Members Ference, Mailhott, Boronski, Riley & O'Shea

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

A motion was made by Mr. Ference and seconded by Ms. Boronski to accept and approve the Regular Meeting minutes and Executive Session minutes from July 22, 2021. The minutes will be placed on file. **ALL IN FAVOR.**

A motion was made by Ms. Riley and seconded by Mr. Ference to approve the monthly expense warrant #08272021 and pension payroll #07302021. **ALL IN FAVOR.**

SEI - The Board had a conference call with Terry Gerlich from SEI Investments to discuss the 2nd quarter. Bonds rallied, interest rates are still down, the market is going higher. It was a very good second quarter. Looks like it will continue for now. The Board is in a good position right now. Hopefully when he returns in November with the 3rd quarter results things will look just as good. The Board thanked him for his time and look forward to seeing him in November.

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

1. Angel Serrano – CHA – Group #1
2. Jacob Fields – CHA – Group #1
3. Julio Ruiz – Police – Group #4
4. Vincent E. Golemme – Police – Group #4
5. Kimberly L. Therrien – School – Group #1
6. James Mercer – Parks – Group #1
7. Esmalee Donohue – School – Group #1
8. Elizabeth A. Ferrando – COA – Group #1
9. Steven Proulx – Water – Group #1
10. Erik Dahl – School – Group #1
11. Jane M Steffes – Human Resources – Group #1
12. Erika L. Martinez – Collector's – Group #1

A motion was made by Ms. Boronski 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:

Clark, Edward James, Police Department – Patrolman – wishes to retire on July 22, 2021 with 27 years and 7 months of creditable service.

McQuaid, Francis, Police Department – Patrolman – wishes to retire on July 23, 2021 with 28 years and 5 months of creditable service.

Wojcik, Marjorie, School Committee Member Ward 3 – wishes to retire on September 1, 2021 with 25 years and 8 months of service.

Vitorino, Karen – School Department – Paraprofessional- wishes to retire on September 3, 2021 with 10 year of service.

Guertin, Ann Marie – School Department – Office Assistant wishes to retire on September 10, 2021 with 25 years of service.

Potter, Daniel – DPW – Highway General Foreman – wishes to retire on September 12, 2021 with 40 years of creditable service.

Avery, Judith – School Department – Paraprofessional – wishes to retire on September 24, 2021 with 24 years of creditable service.

Carney, Louis – School Department – Custodian – wishes to retire on October 1, 2021 with 10 years of creditable service.

Parsons, Kenneth, Jr. – School Department – Transportation Manager – wishes to retire on October 15, 2021 with 29 years and 9 months of creditable service.

Heroux, David A., - Police Department – Sergeant – wishes to retire on October 19, 2021 with 33 years and 1 month of creditable service.

A motion was made by Mr. Ference 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:

Clark, Edward – Police Department – Officer – retired on July 22, 2021 - \$38,464.56 per year.

Dakin, Lonny – Police Department – Acting Chief – retired on July 30, 2021 - \$113,651.64 per year.

McQuaid, Francis – Police Department – Officer -- retired on July 23, 2021 - \$46,629.24 per year.

Patuano, Stephen – Wastewater Department – Acting Sr. Pump Station Operator – retired on June 29, 2021 - \$49,280.28 per year.

Petitt, Charles – School Department – Senior Custodian – retired July 21, 2021 - \$39,618.24 per

year.

Slapski, William – Building Department – Electrical Inspector – retired July 9, 2021 - \$10,776.96 per year.

A motion was made by Ms. Riley and seconded by Ms. Boronski to approve the retirement calculation. ALL IN FAVOR.

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

Hogan, Joyce – School Department – Library Media Tech., – retired on March 4, 2021 -yearly pension \$29,122.56.

Howe, Darlene – School Department – Paraprofessional – retired on January 8, 2021 – yearly pension \$19,771.56.

Pouliot, Charlene – School Department – Library Media Tech., - retired October 30, 2020 – yearly pension \$16,737.84.

Quesnel, Nancy – School Department – Senior Clerk – retired May 22, 2021 – yearly pension \$23,325.48.

A motion was made by Mr. Mailhott and seconded by Ms. Riley to approve the retirement re-calculations due to longevity payments. ALL IN FAVOR.

The following transfer has been prepared for the Board's approval according to statute:

Navis, Christopher, Chicopee Electric Light – 2nd Class Lineman – transferred to the Plymouth County Retirement Board - \$9,620.44.

After a discussion a motion was made by Mr. Ference and seconded by Ms. Riley to approve the above mentioned transfer. ALL IN FAVOR.

90A's & 90C's – The Board was presented with a schedule of monies showing increases to the different unions regarding the 90A's and 90C's effective July 1, 2021.

After a discussion a motion was made by Ms. Riley and seconded by Mr. Ference to table this until next month's meeting to see if the other Unions will settle their contracts and we will have a more updated list of monies that will be needed. ALL IN FAVOR.

Staff Contracts & Salary – contracts for the retirement board staff need to be drawn up as the current one expired on December 31, 2020. Does the Board want to continue to have the contracts on a calendar year or do you want to change them to a fiscal year? Are we going to continue going by the same pay scale as the one the City uses or are we going to vote each year on our own increases?

After a discussion of this information a motion was made by Ms. Riley and seconded by Mr. Mailhott to have the Director do an amendment to the current contract that expired for January 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021. And then from July 1, 2021 the Retirement Board Staff will have contracts on a Fiscal Year instead of a calendar year. The new contracts will be for a three year period ending on June 30, 2023. The Retirement Board Staff will follow the same payscale as detailed in the Administrations Contract. ALL IN FAVOR.

Regulations – Our office received a letter from Attorney Sacco suggesting that we update our regulations. A copy of that letter is in everyone's packet. The following recommendations were made:

- A member in service who is employed in a full-time capacity, he/she will receive one (1) month of creditable service for each full month for which the employee receives regular compensation and remits the appropriate contributions to the Chicopee Retirement System, with said service not to exceed one (1) year of creditable service in any calendar year. For the purpose of this regulation, "full time" shall include all salaried employees and all hourly employees who are required to work at least 30 hours per week.
- Any member in service who is employed in a part-time capacity throughout his/her entire career, will receive one (1) month of creditable service for each full month which the employee receives regular compensation and remits the appropriate contributions to the Retirement System, with that said service not to exceed one (1) year of creditable service in any calendar year. For the purpose of this regulation, any employee that works less than 30 hours per week in considered part-time.
- For a member who has rendered membership service in the System in both a full-time and a part-time capacity, the member shall receive full credit for all the full-time service and prorated credit for the part-time service.
- For a member who has rendered membership service in the System in a part-time capacity and becomes full-time within the last three years of his/her service then the System will prorate service accordingly. The part-time service will be prorated based on the full-time equivalency.

Example: If the full-time position is 35 hours per week and the part-time service was 22.5 hours per week – and they have 15 years of service (10 years part time and 5 years full time) then we do the following:

22.5 hours x 52 weeks a year = 1,170 x 10 years = 11,700 hours worked divide by 35 full time hours = 334.2857 divide by 52 weeks = 6.4286 years = 6 years and 5 months of creditable service.

6 years and 5 months of part time service and 5 years of full time service = 11 years and 5 months of creditable service (not 15).

- In the case of the School Department Employees whose full-time employment requires them to work from on or about September 1st to on or about June 30th, including but not limited to cafeteria workers, clerical and secretarial staff, paraprofessionals, etc. said employees shall receive one month of creditable service for each full month the employee is receiving regular compensation, with ten (10) months being the equivalent of one (1) year of creditable service, provided the member returns to work the following school year. School employees who are employed in a part-time capacity shall have their creditable service prorated in the same manner as all members of the system as set forth in this regulation.
- The Board recognizes that certain School Department employees, including but not limited to custodians and clerks, are required to work the entire calendar year, and in such a situation, said employee's creditable service will be calculated based on a twelve (12) month year.
- Members of the System may only purchase and receive credit for past non-membership service rendered in a member unit of the System consistent with the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 32, Section 4 (2) (c), or if the past service was rendered under the jurisdiction of another retirement system, such service may only be purchased pursuant to Section 3 (5) if rendered in a temporary, provisional or substitute capacity, provided that the individual was excluded from membership in the other retirement system.
- Past non-membership service may be purchased consistent with this supplemental regulation. In addition, for all service rendered on or after July 1, 2009, no creditable service will be granted unless the individual received at least \$5,000 in wages during that calendar year.

After a discussion a motion was made by Ms. Boronski and seconded by Mr. Ference to accept these changes to the Regulations of the Retirement Board and submit them to PERAC for their approval. ALL IN FAVOR.

Legal Matters - Frank Myers has filed an appeal with CRAB regarding his retirement date of December, 2020. Attorney Sacco will be handling this case for the Retirement Board.
(A copy of the Notice is in the Board's packet.)

Comprehensive Medical Evaluations - The Board received notice from PERAC that two of their retirees were evaluated for possible return to service under M.G.L. Chapter 32, Section 8. At this time, the retirees are unable to perform the duties of the job, but may be subject to future evaluation. No Board action is necessary at this time.

Upcoming Board Meetings

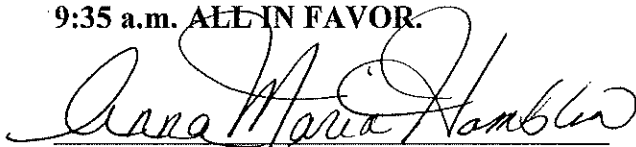
September 23, 2021, **October 28, 2021, **November 18, 2021 and December 16, 2021.

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

REPORTS AND NOTICES:

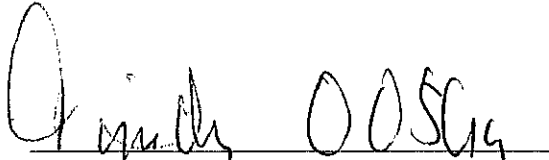
Bank Statement – July
Cash Books – May
PRIM Second Quarter Update

A motion was made by Ms. Riley and seconded by Mr. Ference to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 a.m. ALL IN FAVOR.




Anna Maria Hamblin, Executive Director

APPROVED: BOARD OF RETIREMENT




Timothy O. O'Shea

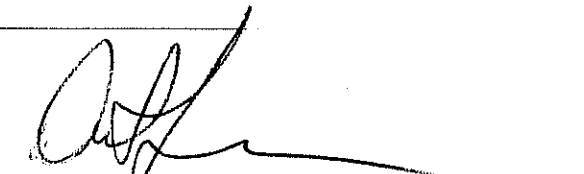


Sharyn Riley

Paul Mailhott



Debra Boronski



David Ference