

Minutes of the Chicopee Retirement Board monthly meeting held on February 25, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, 4th floor.

**Present: Members Ference, Mailhott, Riley & O'Shea
Member Boronski participated remotely due to the Governor's orders**

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 dated January 28, 2021 and the Executive Session minutes from January 28, 2021. The minutes will be placed on file. ALL IN FAVOR.

A motion was made by Ms. Riley and seconded by Mr. Mailhott to approve the monthly expense warrant #02252021, and Pension Payroll Warrant #02262021. ALL IN FAVOR.

SEI – The Board had a telephone conference call with Terry Gerlich from SEI to review the performances as of December 31, 2020. The year 2020 was a good year considering everything that was going on with COVID-19. They believe that the COVID-19 vaccines appeared to be highly effective in paving the way for an eventual return to normalcy in global economic activity. Full year market returns were much healthier than the expected for the year. The Board thanked Mr. Gerich for his presentation and look forward to hearing from him again in May of 2021.

COLA Increase - COLA notice was received from PERAC. Social Security Administration will be granting an increase in the amount of 1.3% for calendar year 2021.

Upon review of this information a motion was made by Mr. Mailhott and seconded by Ms. Boronski to notify the City Council that the Board is going to consider granting a COLA effective July 1, 2021 at a Special Public Meeting that will be held on Thursday, April 22, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. (on the same day as the regular board meeting) ALL IN FAVOR

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

1. Justin Bailey – Sanitation – Group #1
2. Benjamin Mckiernan – 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:

Hogan, Joyce B. – School Department – Library Media Technician – wishes to retire on March 4, 2021 with 31 years of creditable service.

Grey, Donald – Fire Department – Firefighter – wishes to retire on March 5, 2021 with 35 years and 1 month of creditable service.

Ribadeneyra, Roque – School Department – Paraprofessional – wishes to retire on March 5, 2021 with 16 years and 2 months of creditable service.

Contois, Nancy M. – Library, Director – wishes to retire on April 16, 2021 with 26 years and 7 months of creditable service.

Quesnel, Nancy – School Department – Senior Clerk Typist – wishes to retire on May 22, 2021 with 26 years of creditable service.

Quesnel, George M. – Chicopee Housing Authority – Mechanic Aide wishes to retire on May 24, 2021 with 22 years and 6 months of creditable service.

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

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

Holmberg, Lucy – School Department – Paraprofessional – retired 2/1/2021 - \$20,677.80 per year.

Howe, Darlene – School Department – Paraprofessional – retired 1/8/2021 - \$19,719.36 per year.

Lucander, Nils – Wastewater Department – Operator – retired 1/19/2021 - \$41,750.64 per year.

Vezina, Louis, Jr. – Police Department – Patrolman – retired 12/31/2020 - \$45,780.84 per year.

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

2021 Affidavits – It is that time of year when we need to mail out the annual Affidavits to all retirees and survivors. We did not do them last year due to COVID-19. However it is required by PERAC that they are done at least every two years – so they need to be mailed out this year. The Board needs to discuss with the Director how they wish to handle this situation. After a discussion it was decided that we would mail out the affidavits at the end of April and attach a letter to them explaining that if they wish to return them to us in person (and not have them notarized) then they would have to bring them in on the dates that we will schedule when one of our staff will be in the entry way of City Hall to receive these affidavits.

Monies owed Chicopee Retirement - we have a retiree that passed away before the end of a month and the family owes us money from their last pension check. How does the Board want to handle these issues and what timeline do this wish to follow. After a discussion the Board decided that we should take this to Small Claims Court to see if we are able to recoup the funds that way. This money should be put on the Accounts Receivable Schedule for the 2020 Annual Statement as monies owed to us.

Executive Session -

A motion was made by Ms. Riley and seconded by Mr. Mailhott to enter into Executive Session at 9:00 a.m. as per M.G.L. Chapter 30A Section 21 for the purpose of discussing an Accidental Disability Application. 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 9:10 a.m.

The Chairman called the regular meeting to order at 9:11 a.m.

Accidental Disability Applications -

Kowalik, Teresa – School Department – Paraprofessional/Bus Monitor –filed an accidental disability application due to the results of an injury that she sustained while performing her job as a bus monitor.

After a discussion a motion was made by Ms. Boronski and seconded by Ms. Riely to accept the Accidental Disability Application for Teresa Kowalik and to submit all the necessary paperwork to PERAC for a Medical Panel Review. ALL IN FAVOR.

Executive Session -

A motion was made by Ms. Riley and seconded by Mr. Ference to enter into Executive Session at 9:16 a.m. as per M.G.L. Chapter 30A Section 21 for the purpose of discussing a Three Member Medical Panel and an Accidental Disability Application. 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 9:25 a.m.

The Chairman called the regular meeting to order at 9:26 a.m.

Mead, Scott – DPW Water Department – Meter Repairman/Foreman applied for an Accidental Disability Retirement due to several injuries that he sustained over the years to his knees which resulted in two knee replacements while performing his duties as a water meter repairman/foreman. The Board received the Medical Panel opinions on Mr. Mead. All three doctors opined that he is physically incapable of performing the essential duties of his job and that such incapacity is likely to be permanent. It is also opined that said incapacity is such as might be the natural and proximate result of the personal injury sustained on account of which retirement is claimed.

After a discussion a motion was made by Ms. Boronski and seconded by Mr. Mailhott to accept the Medical Panel Findings and approve Mr. Mead's Accidental Disability Retirement. All necessary paperwork will be forwarded to PERAC for their final approval. ALL IN FAVOR.

(The board members will be notified when they need to log into PROSPER and verify how they voted on this application.)

Jebb, William – Police Department – Police Chief filed an accidental disability application under the heart law, M.G.L. chapter 32, Section 94.

After a discussion a motion was made by Mr. Mailhott and seconded by Mr. Ference to accept the Accidental Disability Application for Chief Jebb and to submit all the necessary paperwork to PERAC for a Medical Panel Review. ALL IN FAVOR.

Upcoming Board Meetings

**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.

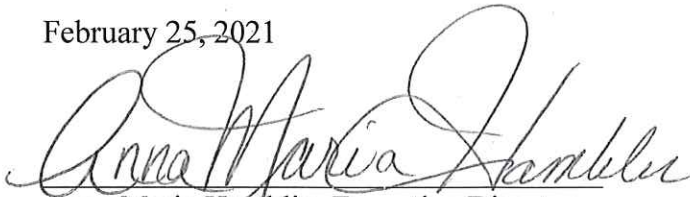
REPORTS AND NOTICES:

Bank Statements – January 2021

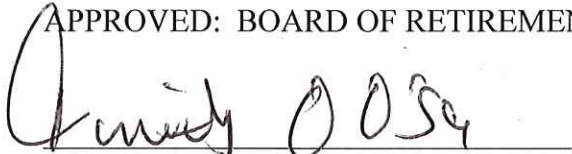
A motion was made by Ms. Boronski and seconded by Ms. Riley to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 a.m. ALL IN FAVOR.

February 25, 2021


591


Anna Maria Hamblin, Executive Director

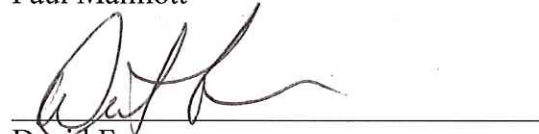
APPROVED: BOARD OF RETIREMENT


Timothy O. O'Shea


Sharyn Riley


Paul Mailhott


Debra Boronski


David Ference