

Town of Newtown
Special Pension Committee Meeting
May 24, 2018 7:30pm
Lower Meeting Room, 3 Main Street

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE PENSION COMMITTEE.

1. Meeting called to order by Ellen Whalen at 7:34pm.

Committee Members in attendance: Patrick Burke, Sam Broomer, Guy Howard, Scott Schwartz, Paula Wickman, Ellen Whalen. Charles Farfaglia absent.

2. Minutes

Motion by Patrick Burke, seconded by Guy Howard to approve Minutes of April 19, 2018 Meeting. All in favor.

3. Correspondence

None

4. Retirement/Expense Payment Approval

Retirement – Motion made by Patrick Burke, seconded by Sam Broomer to pay Termination Benefit (Return of Contributions) to Brigid Altimari and pay Dianne Hughes a Death Benefit (Beneficiary of Robert Berkins) representing a return of Mr. Berkins' contributions. All in favor.

Expenses – No expenses.

5. Old Business

FIA Investment Proposal/Committee Recommendation – Patrick Burke, Guy Howard, Sam Broomer, Investment Committee Members, discussed FIA Investment Reallocation Proposal and liquidation of the Bronzo Group Pension/OPEB Bond Portfolios. A motion was made by Guy Howard to liquidate the assets of the Pension/OPEB Bronzo Group Bond Portfolios, as soon as practicable, and move the cash proceeds to the Vanguard Total Bond Market Index Fund (VBTLX) for the purpose of increasing our investment diversity, reducing risk, lowering fees and consolidating all our Trust investments under the review of Fiduciary Investment Advisors (FIA). This will then terminate our relationship with the Wells Fargo Bronzo Group. Motion seconded by Patrick Burke. All in Favor. The Investment Committee will schedule a meeting with the First Selectman to provide overview of PC investment recommendations.

DROP Update – Ellen Whalen noted Pullman & Comley reviewing DROP Election & Beneficiary Forms. One Police Plan participant will elect DROP as of July 1st. Dave Leonard, TR Paul, and Patrice Fahey will coordinate payment of Pension retirement benefits with retiree. G. Kasper, Pullman & Comley responded to question re participant retirement benefits deposited in Pension Trust vs ICMA. Police Department Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) provides for DROP payments to be credited to a Town-Designated 401(a) plan. After review by Legal, the Town and Pension Committee, it was determined participant DROP payments can be commingled with Pension Trust Assets with separate recordkeeping at the Plan and Participant Level.

6. New Business

Wells Fargo

Trust Review – April 30, 2018 Market Value: Pension \$42.8; OPEB \$2.4. First Qtr. Plan Accounting will be available June Meeting.

Custodian – Board of Selectmen acted upon Pension Committee recommendation to terminate Well Fargo as Pension and OPEB Custodian. Wells Fargo notified, termination tentatively September 30th. Will coordinate with Wells Fargo for termination. FIA will do Custodian Search and provide recommendations to Pension Committee for June 21st meeting.

7. Voter Comment

None

8. Date of Next Meeting: June 21, 2018

Town Hall South, 3 Main Street, Lower Meeting Room.

9. Adjournment

With no further business, Paula Wickman motioned to adjourn meeting, Sam Broomer seconded, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Whalen, Pension Committee Chair