

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES CITY OF LANSING POLICE AND FIRE RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Regular Meeting
Council Conference Room
10th Floor, City Hall
Lansing, MI

February 16, 2016
Tuesday, 8:30 a.m.

The Board was called to order at 8:32 a.m.

Present: Trustees Fabus, Good, Oleson, Rose, St. Aubin, Wohlfert, Wood – 7.
Absent: Trustee Bernero

Others: Karen E. Williams, Finance Department; Attorney Ken Lane, Clark Hill (representing the City Attorney's Office), Gina Lee, Marie Rosicky, Fire retirees.

It was moved by Trustee Oleson and supported by Trustee Good to approve the Official Minutes of the Police and Fire Retirement System Board Meeting of January 19, 2016.

Adopted by the following vote: 7– 0

Secretary's Report.

0 new fire member(s), 1 new police members, 0 reinstatement(s), 0 refund(s), 0 transfers, 3 retired. Total: Active membership: 319. 3 death(s), Dennis R. George, Fire, died 11/10/2015, age 68, beneficiary to receive 50%; Patricia A. Thomas, died 12/24/2015, age 75, spouse of Fire retiree; Russell S Holliday, Fire, beneficiary to receive 50%; died 2/3/2016, age 83, . Refunds made since the last regular meeting amounted to \$0.00. Reimbursements to the System year-to-date amount to \$0.00. Retirement allowances paid for the month of January 2016 amounted to \$2,457,002.37. Total retirement checks printed for the P&F System: 720. Total retirement checks printed for both systems: 1634. Domestic relations order received: 0. Domestic relations orders pending: 0. Eligible domestic relations orders certified: 0.

It was moved by Trustee Wohlfert and supported by Trustee Good to approve the following applications for Regular Age & Service Retirement.

Stephen H. Babcock, Fire Department, 21 years, 8 months of service credits, age 65, effective February 2, 2016.

William A. Oberst, Fire Department, 25 years of service credits, age 54, effective February 19, 2016.

Adopted by the following vote: 7 – 0.

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Karen E. Williams reported that the Retirement Office had received Applicant #2016-F0119 documents for his request for a Duty Disability Retirement. The Retirement Office is waiting for medical records from the City to forward to the medical director.

Karen E. Williams was reported that documentation was received from Applicant #2015-P1110. The documentation will be forwarded to the Medical Director for review and scheduling.

Karen E. Williams reported that there was a MAPERS One Day Conference scheduled for March 4, 2016. She requested that members who wished to attend should contact the Retirement Office.

There were no requests for refund of accumulated contributions.

Ms. Gina Lee, Fire retiree, informed the Police and Fire Retirement Board that she recently was informed by Comp One Administrators that her case was reviewed in August of 2015, returned to full duty with no restrictions, and that the matter was closed. Ms. Lee discovered the information in January 2016 while trying to fill a prescription. Her prescription was denied.

Ms. Lee contacted the City's Worker's Compensation Office and was told that David Mayne had submitted her medical file to the City's doctor, who reviewed her files and determined that she was capable to return to firefighting with no limitations. Ms. Lee states that she never saw the City's doctor and she was never informed that her case was up for review, and that she had been returned to full duty. Ms. Lee inquired, if it is legal for the City to change the status and deny benefits.

Ms. Lee was informed that she could contest the decision made by Comp One. Ms. Lee contacted City Worker's Compensation Office and requested information regarding contesting a decision. Ms. Lee was told that she could lose all her benefits if she lost the decision. Ms. Lee was concerned that she would lose her retirement pension and health care. Ms. Lee wanted to bring the issue to the Police and Fire Retirement Board's attention.

Trustee Oleson stated that the retiree had not seen Dr. Roth for a determination. Therefore, Ms. Lee is entitled to continue to receive her pension and health from the City of Lansing Police and Fire Retirement System.

Trustee Wood expressed concerned that there was a threat to terminate duty disability benefits with no notification to the Retirement Board.

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Ms. Angela Bennett offered to accompany Ms. Lee to talk with the Human Resource Director to address the issues and review the process.

Trustee Wood requested that Attorney Ken Lane be involved the review process and a report be brought back to the Police and Fire Retirement Board.

Trustee St. Aubin indicated that Worker's Compensation is not a part of the Police and Fire Retirement System. Trustee St. Aubin expressed appreciation to Ms. Lee for bring the issue to the Board's attention. Trustee St. Aubin recommended that Ms. Lee bring her issue to the attention of City Council. Trustee St. Aubin stated that the Police and Fire Retirement Board still considered Ms. Lee to be disabled. Trustee St. Aubin stated that duty disability retirees are periodically sent to the Board's medical doctor for review.

Trustee Rose expressed concern that there was no notification from Worker's Compensation that Ms. Lee was deemed able to return to duty.

Attorney Lane explained that there are two separate tracks for Worker's Compensation and for duty disability retirement. The Police and Fire Retirement Board does not govern the Worker's Compensation process.

Trustee Wood expressed concern that City's doctor states that the retiree can go back to work and the Board's doctor states that the retiree is disabled. Trustee Wood stated that questions would arise if there was an audit.

Ms. Marie Rosicky also had issues with Comp One. Ms. Rosicky was informed that she would not be approved for another surgery because it was deemed not work related.

Attorney Ken Lane updated the Police and Fire Retirement Board that the Ordinance is still pending final review from the City Attorney's Office.

Attorney Ken Lane was unable to meet with the Human Resources Director to complete the service credit policy regarding the interface between the Retirement Office and Human Resources.

Attorney Lane presented the 2016 draft budget for the Police and Fire Retirement Board for review, and adoption.

It was moved by Trustee Fabus and supported by Trustee Wood to approve the 2016 Police and Fire Retirement Board budget.

Adopted by the following vote: 7 – 0.

Trustee St. Aubin requested with consent of the Board to add another item to the agenda regarding the fire death in the line of duty benefits. Trustee St. Aubin explained that he received an email from Michigan Planned Parenthood questioning the duty death benefits for the Rodeman's unborn child.

Attorney Lane indicated that there is case law that support the child death benefits approved in the Police and Fire Retirement Board policy.

Ms. Williams presented Quarterly Expenses Report and the Securities Lending Report for the month of January 2016.

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 a.m.

Minutes approved on _____

Angela Bennett, Secretary
Police & Fire Retirement System

Brad St. Aubin, Chairperson
Police & Fire Retirement System