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CHELSEA RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING
500 Broadway, Chelsea MA, 3rd Floor Conference Room of the Chelsea City Council
Minutes from meeting held on Thursday, June 17, 2021 at 9:00AM

Present Were: Board Chairman, Mr. Joseph M. Siewko, Ms. Carolyn Russo and Mr. Richard Carroccino

Also Present: Mrs. Barbara A. O'Brien, Executive Director, Mrs. Cindy Donarumo, Assistant Director, and Mr. Brian P. Monahan, Esq., Board Counsel

Not Present: Mr. Edward Dunn and Ms. Cheryl Watson Fisher due to scheduling conflicts

Chairman Siewko opened the meeting at 9:12 AM.

Mark Lee's request for an Accidental Disability Retirement remained on the table since no additional information was received.

At 9:15 AM Mr. Carroccino made a motion seconded by Ms. Russo to approve the Regular Session Minutes from the May 20, 2021 Retirement Board meeting. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko: Yea Ms. Russo: Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

At 9:16 AM Ms. Russo made a motion seconded by Mr. Carroccino to approve the Executive Session Minutes from the May 20, 2021 Retirement Board meeting. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko: Yea Ms. Russo: Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

Susan Sullivan – Distribution of annuity balance

Board Counsel stated that the Division of Administrative Law Appeals (DALA) filed its final dismissal of Kate Lynn Sullivan's appeal pending any motion of good cause why they should not dismiss the appeal.

At 9:18 AM Mr. Carroccino made a motion seconded by Ms. Russo to enter Executive Session under Purpose One of the Open Meeting Law due to the sensitive nature of the Susan Sullivan matter. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko: Yea Ms. Russo: Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

At 9:24 AM the Board returned to Regular Session.

At 9:25 AM Mr. Carroccino made a motion seconded by Ms. Russo to have the Executive Director send a certified letter to Kerry Sullivan verifying Kerry Sullivan's address. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko: Yea Ms. Russo: Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

Ana I. Vega, spouse of deceased active member, Carlos J. Vega – Request for Option D benefit effective June 8, 2021

At 9:26 AM Ms. Russo made a motion seconded by Mr. Carroccino to grant Ana I. Vega an Option D benefit with any applicable dependent benefits. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko: Yea Ms. Russo: Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

The Board discussed that pursuant to PERAC Memo #16, 2021, the process of mailing the Annual Affidavits should begin.

There was discussion relating to Retirement Staff continuing staggered schedules due to continuing COVID-19 and COVID variant concerns. There was also discussion relating to possibly scheduling counseling sessions in available City Hall conference rooms due to the limited space in the Retirement Office.

Massachusetts Teachers Association (MTA) – Public Records Request

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CHELSEA, MA
2021 NOV 16 A 10:19

At 9:33 AM Ms. Russo made a motion to deny the MTA's public record request based on Exemption O and the fact that the Board is not required to create a record that does not already exist. Ms. Russo stated that the Board has taken diligent steps consistently to protect the Board's vulnerable retirees from solicitation. Ms. Russo further stated that if the Board was to release sensitive retiree information, the Board would then have no control over where the information is distributed and to whom. Mr. Carroccino seconded the motion and the votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

Board Counsel added that although §10B of M.G.L. c. 66 was amended in 2019 to allow disclosure of public employees' personal information including, addresses and phone numbers, to unions in certain circumstances, Board are not required to do so.

The following Retirement Systems have requested the transfer of funds for the following members:

Name/Title/Group	Board Requesting Transfer	Accumulated Deductions	Total Service Credit / 3(8)c Liability	10/12 Month Basis
Kennel Etienne/ Paraprofessional/1	Boston Ret. System	\$10,501.83	4.5167	12
Carla Calderon/Principal Clerk/1	Boston Ret. System	\$8,724.51	2.0000	12
Gina Rosinski / Paraprofessional/1	Middlesex Ret. System	\$2,414.23	.3333	12

At 9:35 AM Mr. Carroccino made a motion seconded by Ms. Russo to approve the above transfers. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

The following members have requested a refund of their accumulated deductions:

Name/Title/Group	Accumulated Deductions	Age	Service Credit	Taxes Withheld
Jason Travis/Maintenance Mechanic/1	\$27,350.80	36	4.1667	Yes
Alisa Leduc/Crime Analyst/1	\$16,723.72	50	2.3333	Yes

At 9:36 AM Mr. Carroccino made a motion seconded by Ms. Russo to approve the above refunds. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

Attorney's Report:

- Board Counsel stated that Attorney Boumil, at the M.G.L. c. 32, s. 15(4) hearing held on June 16, 2021, referenced that the Retirement Board is statutorily commanded to return Mr. Michael McLaughlin's accumulated deductions under s. 15(4). Board Counsel stated that he explained to Attorney Boumil that in order to do so there must be a s. 15(4) finding. Board Counsel explained that he called Attorney Boumil to let him know that the Board submitted the calculation of the retirement deductions due to Mr. McLaughlin pursuant to the s. 15(7) finding to PERAC and that the request for the refund to Mr. McLaughlin will be placed on the Board's agenda upon receipt of PERAC's approval. Board Counsel stated that he also explained to Attorney Boumil that if Mr. McLaughlin were successful with his s. 15(7) appeal to DALA, he would then be required to return those deductions. Board Counsel also discussed the matter relating to the retirement deductions that would be due to Mr. McLaughlin in the event of a finding in any of the three s. 15(4) hearings. Board Counsel stated that the Chelsea Housing Authority (CHA) has an appeal with DALA in regards to s. 15(1) and that if the CHA were to be successful with this appeal, the Board would be required to hold a s. 15(1) hearing and that the CHA would potentially have a claim to the annuity due to Mr. McLaughlin, on account of s. 15(4). Board Counsel explained in that event, he would recommend filing an interpleader action for the funds, naming both the CHA and Mr. McLaughlin as interested parties and let a court decide who gets the funds. Board Counsel stated that the CHA would not have claim to the deductions owed to Mr. McLaughlin pursuant to the s. 15(7) finding.

Executive Director's Report:

- Executive Director and Assistant Director attended MACRS 2021 Virtual Spring Conference

The following vouchers were approved for payment:

Somerville Ret. Board 3(8)(c)- stop payment on 1/21/21 ck	\$ -9,405.74
City of Chelsea – Reimb. Postage Meter	\$ 208.59
GovConnection, Inc.-2 monitors	\$ 462.94
FedEx	\$ 232.78
Brian P. Monahan, Esq.	\$ 4,500.00
Ricoh USA Inc.	\$ 135.25
Thomas Reuters – West	\$ 1,128.00
W.B Mason	\$ 99.21
Boston Retirement Board-Kennel Etienne	\$ 10,501.83
Boston Retirement Board-Carla Calderon	\$ 8,724.51
Middlesex County Ret. Board-Gina Rosinski	\$ 2,414.23
MWRA-3(8)(c)	\$ 1,416.87
Newburyport Ret System-3(8)(c)	\$ 596.99
Somerville Ret. Board-3(8)(c)-reissue of 1/21/21 ck	\$ 9,405.74
MACRS	\$ 200.00
Alicia Leduc-Refund	\$ 13,378.98
City of Chelsea-Fed. Taxes-Leduc	\$ 3,344.74
Jason Travis-Refund	\$ 21,880.64
City of Chelsea-Fed. Taxes-Travis	\$ 5,470.16

Retiree payroll and Staff payroll were approved.

9:43 AM – 9:50 AM Recess

9:50 AM Executive Director and Assistant Director left the meeting. Chairman Siewko stated he would take the minutes in the Executive Director's absence.

Retirement Staff Pay Increases

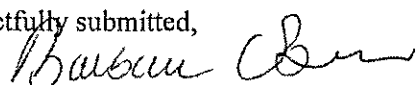
9:51 AM Mr. Carroccino made a motion seconded by Ms. Russo to grant both the Executive Director and Assistant Director a 3% salary increase. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

Distribution of:

- MACRS Virtual 2021 Spring Conference handouts: "Select Cases and Current Legal Issues" and "Veteran's Benefits"
- PERAC Memo #16/2021 Coronavirus Reopening Memo
- April 2021 PRIT Breakdown

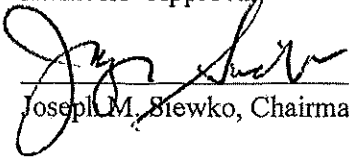
At 9:54 AM Ms. Russo made a motion seconded by Mr. Carroccino to adjourn. The votes were as follows: Chairman Siewko:Yea Ms. Russo:Yea Mr. Carroccino: Yea

Respectfully submitted,


Barbara O'Brien

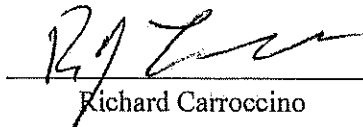
Executive Director

Members' Approval

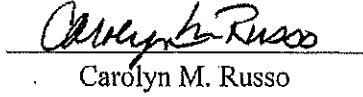


Joseph M. Siewko, Chairman

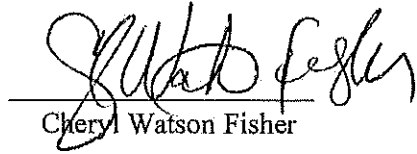
Edward M. Dunn, Ex Officio



Richard Carroccino



Carolyn M. Russo



Cheryl Watson Fisher

