

**Town of East Windsor  
Pension Committee  
Joint Meeting with Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen  
Special Meeting Minutes  
March 29, 2010 - 6:00 PM**

**ATTENDANCE**

**PENSION COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Jason Bowsza, Chairman (also Board of Finance member)

John Burnham, BOS

Kathy Pippin, BOF

Denise Menard, Ex Officio Board of Selectmen

Dale Nelson, Member at Large

Edward Bowsza, Member at Large

Unable to attend:

Tommy Strempher, Police Commission

John Pica Sneed, BOE

Robert Little, BOF

Also in attendance: Cathy Cabral, Town Treasurer

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEMBERS**

As Stated above, also including, Richard Pippin, Jr.

**BOARD OF FINANCE**

As stated above, also including Marie Desousa

I. The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Jason Bowsza at 6:02 p.m. at the East Windsor Town Hall, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT 06016.

II. Approval of Proposed of Pension Ordinance Change to include OPEB Trust

Denise Menard passed out the Ordinance Establishing Retirement System for Officers and Employees of the Town of East Windsor with additional revisions, specifically

1. Retirement board is not what it's called in Charter – made reference to “Pension Board”, which is what Charter calls it.
2. Section 3: changed it to reflect that the Pension Board has “oversight of” investments, as opposed.

It was noted, for consistency similarly language should be reflected in Section 6. The Pension board serves as a check of the professionals.

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**MOTION: In addition to those changes suggested for Section 2 and Section 3 as discussed above, to add the word “oversight” to Section 6 as well, so the final sentence reads “[t]he retirement board shall have the responsibility for the oversight investment of the OPEB Trust.”**

**Made by Ms. Nelson, Seconded by E. Bowsza  
ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION: To approve the Ordinance Establishing Retirement System for Officers and Employees of the Town of East Windsor, as amended, and to send the Ordinance to the Board of Selectmen for their approval and recommendation to town meeting.**

**Made by Ms. Nelson, seconded by Mr. Ed Bowsza**

Discussion: The make up of the Board and voting was discussed. This is for clean up and consistency in wording of the Ordinance and to include OPEB.

**ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

III. Approval of Pension Draft

The Board discussed the suggested revisions and discussions with the attorney. The attorney noted that some of the suggested changes would change the intent of the original draft – and they need to stay with the original intent – all suggestions are not incorporated. This also has the piece about the Charter.

Ms. Menard noted the changes requested by Mr. Mannette at last meeting actually are substantive changes to plan. This draft was envisioned to combine all revisions authorized through collective bargaining and the intent of this is to combine everything into one clean document. This is not opening negotiations with union contract, this is what they have been promised – this is making it all one clean document. This needs to go to the bargaining units to assure it is a correct comprehensive document

Ms. Menard distributed an email from the attorney noting no intent to change substance. None of Mr. Manette’s changes could be incorporated as they were substantive and that is not the intent of this draft. Ms. Menard provided specific examples of how the changes were not substantive.

Edward Bowsza asked how often this document referred to. Ms. Menard noted often and more often than not attorneys have to be called in to review it to answer questions. Also, anything specific for a particular bargaining unit will be on a separate document. This will provide for a master document with the ability to reference appropriate addendums.

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Mr. Burnham asked who would have a problem with this. It was noted all employees will question this document.

Bruce Barth was an attorney hired by previous selectmen to advise only on pension. He is from Robinson and Cole and he is known for pension work. The town is too vested in this attorney to change attorneys, and also it would slow the process done. This attorney is used for the Pension Board and the Pension Plan, including legal interpretations and he is the Advisor for the Pension board. It was noted that at one time Attorney Barth spoke to the board and pulled things apart to allow for a simpler layman term understanding.

This is the retirement plan which all employees reference for their retirement and financial planning.

It was noted the Pension Board was not active for awhile and, to employees' credit, they have been patient for years. For years the employees did not get an annual projection or statements. Ms. Menard it was an oversight the statements were not provided. Ms. Menard was a ware employees did not get the statements as she would get phone calls from employees asking when they would get information. It was noted the employees got their first statement in April, 2009. Employees will get statements on an annual basis from this point forward. That is part of contract with the current company.

The audience was full, but it was noted public participation was not on the agenda, and could not be added, as this was a special meeting. It was noted that public participation will be added to future agendas. It was noted the board could take a recess and have general discussion, off the record, with constituents and reconvene.

**MOTION: To take a ten minute break at 6:25 and reconvene at 6:35  
Made by Mr. Burnham, seconded by Mrs. Pippin  
ALL MEMBERS IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Jason Bowsza reconvened meeting at 6:35 p.m.

It was noted this draft will go to the bargaining units for confirmation of accuracy, but if they not for an opinion as to if they "like it" but for assertion that the draft is correct. If there is an error it can come back after it's reviewed by attorneys. It is the belief this document is in good faith and meets all criteria and it's always good for the eyes to review it and make sure it's correct. There was discussion as to whether time limitations to this process were appropriate.

**MOTION: To approve the proposed Town of East Windsor Pension document as presented as amended and restated effective January 1, 2009  
Made by Mr. Burnham, seconded by Mr. Edward Bowsza  
ALL MEMBERS IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED**

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IV. Motion to Adjourn

**MOTION: To adjourn at 6:45 p.m.  
Made by Ms. Nelson, seconded by Edward Bowsza  
ALL MEMBERS IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia D. Croxford  
Recording Secretary