



Old Saybrook Pension and Benefits Board
Thursday, November 30, 2017
5:00 p.m.
First Floor Conference Room

Board Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Members Present:

- Suzanne Taylor (Chair)
- Lynn Dallas, via conference call
- Ray Muratori
- Carol Voigt
- Paul Tracey
- Rowena Moffett
- Carl Fortuna, First Selectman

Others Present:

- Lee Ann Palladino, Finance Director and Plan Administrator
- Janet Vinciguerra, Pension Board Liaison
- Tom Forma, Morgan Stanley
- Kevin Nichols, Morgan Stanley

Welcome and Public Comment

The Chair noted that a quorum was present as she called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. and welcomed the Pension and Benefit Board (“PBB”) members.

Chair Taylor opened her remarks by congratulating Tim Kellogg and his wife on the birth of their twins and said he will be back to work for the January PBB meeting. She then commented that there was no attendance at the CPPF fall conference. Next she presented a short video entitled “The Big Idea in 4 Minutes”, which discussed the aging of America and encouraged all PBB members to think about how this will impact retirement benefits.

Next the PBB reviewed the minutes of the October 26, 2017 meeting and the Chair called for a motion of acceptance. It was moved by Carl Fortuna to approve the minutes with an amendment to add the names of the PBB members that approved the October 26 minutes; it was seconded by Paul Tracey as amended, and approved unanimously.

Chair Taylor then presented the floor to the Pension Liaison, Janet Vinciguerra to give the monthly retirement report. Ms. Vinciguerra presented her written report and discussed the light activity for the month and gave an update on new retirements.

The Chair then asked Morgan Stanley to discuss their reports. Mr. Nichols gave an overview on the performance of the Town and Fire Pension plans noting the positive performance for both plans in this strong economic environment. Next Tom Forma discussed the plans for liquidating the Other Post Employment Benefit ("OPEB") fund and reallocating the securities and proceeds first to place \$1 million into the Town pension and then to send a check for the remaining balance, approximate \$230 thousand, to the Town to place it in the post-employment payout fund. The transaction will take place on December 1, 2017.

Next Chair Taylor called upon Lee Ann Palladino, the plan administrator to give her report and said that she and Ms. Palladino have not yet spent time working on the RFP for actuarial services but will do so in January.

Ms. Palladino began her discussion by reviewing the responses from the asset allocation questionnaire that PBB members submitted. She said that this information will be used to create four asset allocation scenarios that will be presented in January. Once the PBB has digested the information and determines the best asset allocation choice, the investment policy statement will be updated. Mr. Fortuna said it would be a good time to reconsider the actuarial assumptions, including the discount rate.

Next she reviewed the monthly pension report and reviewed the trends in withdrawals from the pension plan corpus, monthly payrolls, employee contributions, non-vested withdrawals, plan expenses and employer contributions. Ms. Moffett asked questions about the relevance of this report and the committee discussed its purpose.

The Chair then called upon First Selectman Fortuna to follow up on a discussion regarding an early retirement/disability matter. Mr. Fortuna stated that he had contacted the family, however, a meaningful response was not received. After discussion Mr. Fortuna said he would contact the family and make it clear that a timely response is needed in order for the PBB to keep this matter on the table. Mr. Fortuna then followed up on the status of the DC plan summary document.

The next item of business was the selection of a Chair for 2018. Mr. Fortuna said that if the current Chair wished to maintain the seat that she had the votes to do so. The PBB discussed the potential of a new successor and said that the PBB does not have a Vice Chair position. Mr. Fortuna said that he would research the Town Code and its relevance to a Vice Chair and report back to the PBB on his findings. A motion was made by Lynn Dallas to nominate Suzanne Taylor as Chair for the PBB for 2018. All were in favor.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Carl Fortuna and seconded by Paul Tracy. The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ann Palladino
Recording Secretary