

Regular Meeting – March 22, 2023

The Taunton Retirement Board (the “Board”) met at 1:07 p.m. today at the retirement board offices, 104 Dean St., Suite 203, Taunton, MA with Chairman Dennis M. Smith presiding and board members Barry J. Amaral, Thomas A. Bernier, Ian D. Fortes and Gill E. Enos was in attendance.

Roll Call

All members were present at the 1:07 p.m. roll call.

Also present were:

Karen Medeiros, Assistant Executive Director

Jessica Gonsalves, Administrative Assistant

Attorney Michael Sacco

Christine Morraity, Dunn Reporting

Charles Moniz Jr.

Attorney James Meehan

Michael Arruda, Supervisor DPW

Amy Kazlauskas, HR Director

The Board met with Atty. Michael Sacco to pre-review the upcoming evidentiary hearing on the application of Charles Moniz Jr. for accidental disability retirement and review update on the Paula DeForitis’ appeal.

At 1:18 p.m., Chairman Smith entertained a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(3) for the purpose of reviewing the accidental disability evidentiary hearing on Charles Moniz Jr. and also provide an update on Paul DeForitis’ appeal. The Board noted that it would reconvene in open session following the executive session.

VOTE: 5-0-0

A roll call vote was taken and recorded as follows: Member Amaral “YES”; Member Bernier “YES”; Member Enos “YES”; Member Fortes “YES”; Member Smith “YES”.

(The minutes of the executive session are kept in a separate minute book)

Open session returned at 1:52 p.m.

On the motion by Enos, seconded by Amaral, it was unanimously

VOTED: to record the votes taken in executive session in open session.

VOTE: 5-0-0

On the motion by Enos, seconded by Amaral, it was unanimously

VOTED: to deny the accidental disability retirement application of Charles Moniz Jr.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Regular Business:

Minutes – from the February 28, 2023 regular meeting.

On the motion by Bernier, seconded by Enos, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve the minutes.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Warrants –warrants #18 thru #26 for 2023.

On the motion by Enos, seconded by Bernier, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve the warrants.

VOTE: 5-0-0

New members of the system to date:

- James Price, DPW Street, Group 1, 9+2%
- Joseph Wakefield, DPW Water, Group 1, 9+2%
- Joseph P. Ryan, DPW Street, Group 1, 9+2%
- Joshua Moura, School, Group 1, 9+2%
- Joseph Dematos, DPW, Group 1, 9+2%
- Matthew Morast, DPW, Group 1, 9+2%
- Daniel Silva, DPW Street, Group 1, 9+2%
- Jennifer Sousa, Assessor, Group 1, 9+2%
- Christian Tavares, School, Group 1, 9+2%
- Rachel Martins, School, Group 1, 9+2%
- Angela Bouffard, School, Group1, 9+2%
- Onnicha Chaisit, School, Group 1, 9+2%
- Diana Constantino, GATRA, Group 1, 9+2%
- Sarah Mendes, GATRA, Group 1, 9+2%
- Alexis Brown, School, Group 1, 9+2%
- Kristine J. Sullivan, School, Group 1, 9+2%
- Alexis Gates, School, Group 1, 9+2%

On the motion by Bernier, seconded by Fortes, it was unanimously
VOTED: to approve the new members.
VOTE: 5-0-0

Refunds/transfers subject to D.O.R. liens:

- Benjamin Contrino, TMLP, Refund
- Jeffrey Ridley, School, Refund
- Theresa Wrightington, TNH, Refund
- Justin Stone, THA, Refund
- Joane Odate, School, Refund
- Debra Barboza, School, Refund
- Lauren Jette, School, Refund
- Glenn Rogers, Jr., DPW Water, Refund

On the motion by Bernier, seconded by Amaral, it was unanimously
VOTED: to approve the refunds & transfers.
VOTE: 5-0-0

Retirement/survivorship applications:

- Florence Canavan, School, DOR: 6/30/23, Group 1
- Terrence Downing, Police, DOR: 7/1/23, Group 4

On the motion by Amaral, seconded by Bernier, it was unanimously
VOTED: to approve the retirements and survivorships.
VOTE: 5-0-0

Deaths

- Janice Patterson, Survivor 101 of Robert Rose, DOD: 2/21/23, no further benefits payable.
- Ann Zrebiec, wife of Joseph, DOD: 2/17/23, Option C- Mr. Zrebiec will pop up to Option A
- Raymond Leanes, DOD: 3/2/23, Option B, funds used up and no further benefits payable.
- Lillian Crowninshield, Survivor of Edward, Section 101, DOD: 3/3/31, no further benefits payable

On the motion by Bernier, seconded by Enos, it was unanimously
VOTED: to acknowledge deaths and place on file.
VOTE: 5-0-0

Make-up/redeposits and liability for creditable service:

- Kristin Robbins, refund redeposit, 3 years, 7 months, 4/6/2010 to 11/30/2013

On the motion by Enos, seconded by Bernier, it was unanimously

VOTED: to accept liability for creditable service upon completion of makeup payments.

VOTE: 5-0-0

PERAC Memo's and correspondence:

- PERAC Memo #9/2023 – Tobacco Company List

On the motion by Enos, seconded by Bernier, it was unanimously

VOTED: to receive and place all memo's on file.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Investments & accounting:

- Accounting reports for m/e 12/31/2022 & m/e 01/31/2023 – Trial Balance (before & after-closing), Cash Receipts & Disbursements, and Journal Entries. Bristol County Savings Bank Checking account and the accounting reports, statement and reconciliation as of m/e 01/31/2023. After the board's full review of all reports, it was voted as follows:

On the motion by Enos, seconded by Bernier, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve the Accounting reports for m/e 12/31/2022 & m/e 01/31/2023 and the Bristol County Savings Bank Checking account statement and reconciliation as of 1/31/2022.

VOTE: 5-0-0

- Investment Purchases and Sales for m/e 01/31/2023.

On the motion by Bernier, seconded by Enos, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve the purchases & sales as of 1/31/2023, purchases (\$8,206,276.03) and sales \$8,206,276.03.

VOTE: 5-0-0

- City of Taunton FY23 pension appropriation \$4,733,266.75.

On the motion by Amaral, seconded by Bernier, it was unanimously

VOTED: to place the FY23 appropriation in the market account at M&T (People's) bank

VOTE: 5-0-0

Funding & Budget requests:

- The Board reviewed budget expenditures and account balances thru m/e 02/28/2023.

On the motion by Enos, seconded by Bernier, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve expenditures & balances and place on file.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Travel, Education & Conferences:

- MACRS Spring Conference – June 4-7, 2023 in Hyannis, MA.

On the motion by Fortes, seconded by Enos, it was unanimously

VOTED: to authorize staff and board members to attend the MACRS conference in Hyannis June 4-7th

VOTE: 5-0-0

Legal matters:

- The Board reviewed legal expenses of \$5,334.00 for m/e 2/28/2023 for Atty. Michael Sacco.

On the motion by Bernier, seconded by Enos, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve the legal expenses for m/e 2/28/2023.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Executive Director's report

- Annual Statement of the Financial Condition of the Taunton Retirement System for y/e 12/31/2022. After review and discussion, the board voted as follows:

On the motion by Enos, seconded by Bernier, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve the Annual Statement for Y/E 12/31/2022.

VOTE: 5-0-0

- Retirement staffing, succession plan, etc.

On the motion by Enos, seconded by Amaral it was unanimously,

VOTED: to have Ex. Director Slivinski provide a job description to the board during the April board meeting for the full time position which should consist of a target fulfillment date.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Board member Enos requested that Ex. Director Slivinski bring to the April board meeting what material has been put together for policy and work procedures for the Executive Director position dating back to the last time this was discussed when Ex. Director was accepting another position in Brockton.

In discussion, it was suggested that the new full time position be allowed to attend local conferences as long as the office has coverage and perhaps some or one staff member could attend the Fall conference and other could attend the Spring.

OLD BUSINESS: There was none.

NEW BUSINESS: There was none.

There being no further business to come before the board, it was voted to adjourn at 2:14 p.m.

APPROVED BOARD OF RETIREMENT

Ian D. Fortes, Ex-Officio Member

Karen Medeiros, Ass't. Executive Director

Dennis M. Smith, Elected Member, Chair

Barry J. Amaral, Appointed Member

Thomas A. Bernier, Elected Member

Gill E. Enos, Appointed Member

Jessica Gonsalves, Admin. Ass't.