

## Regular Meeting – June 28, 2023

The Taunton Retirement Board (the “Board”) met at 1:00 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 1:00 p.m. roll call.

Also present were:

Karen Medeiros, Assistant Executive Director

Paul J. Slivinski, Executive Director

Board Attorney Michael Sacco

Amy Kazlauskas, HR Director

Paul Garguilo, DPW/Water Dept.

Michael Arruda, DPW Superintendent

Margie Simmons, Dunn Reporting

### Regular Business:

**Minutes** – Review minutes from the May 31, 2023 regular meeting and executive session.

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

**VOTED:** to approve the minutes.

VOTE: 5-0-0

**Warrants** –warrants #48 thru #55 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:

- Francisco I Medeiros, School Dept., Group 1, 9+2%
- Cassidy O’Hara, Board of Health, Group 1, 9+2%
- Todd Pilling, Board of Health, Group 1, 9+2%
- Susan Szyp, School Dept., Group 1, 9+2%
- Jeffrey Pellitier, GATRA, Group 1, 9+2%
- Renee Desper, GATRA, Group 1, 9+2%
- Anna Bullard, School Dept., Group 1, 9+2%
- Michael Fernandez, GATRA, Group 1, 9+2%
- Gabrielle Sousa, THA, Group 1, 9+2%
- Michael Medeiros, TMLP, Group 1, 9+2%

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

**VOTED:** to approve the new members.

VOTE: 5-0-0

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

- Lynn Davine, TMLP, transfer to Attleboro retirement, *Taunton will accept 4 years, 11 mos. of liability under G.L. c. 32, section 3(8)c on a 12-month basis.* 07/24/2017 to 02/07/2020 and 11/18/2020 to 04/28/2023.
- Karen Sau, refund, School, 3/24/2021 to 5/22/2023
- Nancy Ward, refund, DPW Water Dept., 1/28/2019 to 12/6/2019
- Meaghan Kirby, School, transfer to MTRS, *Taunton will accept 2 years and 10 months of liability under G.L. c. 32, section 3(8)c on a 12-month basis.* 10/3/2018 to 8/20/2021

- Craig Fonseca, TMLP, transfer to Middlesex County Retirement, *Taunton will accept 9 years, 11 mos. of liability under G.L. c. 32, section 3(8)c on a 12-month basis.* 12/01/1997 to 01/05/2001 and 01/08/2007 to 11/11/2013.
- Teresa Bonenfant, School, transfer to MTRS, *Taunton will accept 8 months of liability under G.L. c. 32, section 3(8)c on a 12-month basis.* 08/24/2018 to 05/15/2019.

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

**VOTED:** to approve the refunds & transfers.

VOTE: 5-0-0

**Retirement/survivorship** applications:

- Jeffrey Bagge, Group 4, TMLP, Superannuation, DOR: 8/1/23
- Bridget Levesque, Group 1, School, Superannuation, DOR: 9/5/23
- Lorri Emond, Group 1, GATRA, Superannuation, DOR: 7/7/23
- Marilyn Moskos, Group 1, School, Superannuation, DOR: 9/5/23
- Renee Ocampo, Group 4, TMLP, Superannuation, DOR: 10/1/23
- Therese Winnett, Group 1, School, Superannuation, DOR: 7/7/23

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

**VOTED:** to approve the retirements and survivorships.

VOTE: 5-0-0

**Deaths**

- Maureen Blaine, survivor of Thomas, Opt C survivor DOD: 5/28/23, no further benefits payable

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

**VOTED:** to acknowledge deaths and place on file.

VOTE: 5-0-0

**Make-up/redeposits** and liability for creditable service:

There were none.

**PERAC**

- PERAC Memo #13/2023 – 2022 Salary Verification Request
- PERAC Memo #14/2023 – Tobacco Company List

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

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

VOTE: 5-0-0

**Investments** & accounting:

- Accounting reports for m/e 04/30/2023 – Trial Balance, Cash Receipts & Disbursements, Journal Entries and General Ledger. Bristol County Savings Bank Checking account statement and reconciliation as of m/e 04/30/2023. After full review of all the reports, the board voted as follows:

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

**VOTED:** to approve the Bristol County Savings Bank Checking account statement and reconciliation as of 04/30/2023 and all accounting reports for m/e 04/30/2023.

VOTE: 5-0-0

- Investment Purchases (\$5,103,105.49) and Sales \$5,079,148.69 for m/e 04/30/2023.

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

**VOTED:** to approve the purchases & sales as of 04/30/2023.

VOTE: 5-0-0

- City of Taunton FY2023 Pension Appropriation \$4,733,266.75.

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

**VOTED:** to place money in market account at People's bank (M&T bank)

VOTE: 5-0-0

### **Funding & Budget requests:**

- The Board reviewed budget expenditures and account balances thru m/e 05/31/2023

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

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

VOTE: 5-0-0

### **Travel, Education & Conferences:**

There were none

### **Legal matters:**

- The Board reviewed legal expenses of \$11,026.45 for m/e 05/31/2023 for Atty. Michael Sacco.

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

**VOTED:** to approve the legal expenses for m/e 05/31/2023.

VOTE: 5-0-0

### **Executive Director's report**

- Review CleanX performance for custodial services. They have done an excellent job and it was recommended to continue with their services.

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

**VOTED:** to continue cleaning-services with CleanX

VOTE: 5-0-0

- Pension Software Services (currently with PTG) – seven (7) year contract expires October 2023. Discuss conducting a procurement for these services – i.e. RFP

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

**VOTED:** to conduct a formal RFP process. Atty. Sacco will draft the RFP. Ex. Dir. Slivinski will advertise the RFP for software services ASAP.

VOTE: 5-0-0

- Newsletter – ideas for articles for each board member  
Ex. Dir. Slivinski discussed with the board that he will be preparing a newsletter in the near future. He made suggestions and asked for ideas as to what each board member would like to submit for an article. Tentatively: Smith will do an article on the COLA, Amaral will do an article on Cybersecurity, Fortes will do an article on Fiduciary responsibilities, Bernier will do an article on Post Retirement Earnings and Enos will do an article on OPEB. In the upcoming newsletter Ex. Dir. Slivinski will be revisiting Ch 167.
- Ex. Dir. Slivinski provided a notice to the board on the 5% COLA on the deaths that was retroactive to 7/1/2022. All eligible pensioners have now received the FY2023 cola. The office had to perform a manual calculations because PTG did not have an automated procedure within the software.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- Paul Garguilo (DPW-Water Dept.) – accidental disability retirement
- Paula DeForitis – review update on her appeal for survivor benefits

At 1:24 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 the reviewing the application of Paul Garguilo for accidental disability retirement and also an update on the Deforitis appeal matter. 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 1:56 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

In Executive Session the board voted to send Paul Garguilo to be evaluated by 2 medical panels.

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

**VOTED:** to send Paul Garguilo to be evaluated by 2 medical panels due to separate conditions.

VOTE: 5-0-0

**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 2:25 p.m.

APPROVED BOARD OF RETIREMENT

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Ian D. Fortes, Ex-Officio Member

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Karen Medeiros, Ass't. Executive Director

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Dennis M. Smith, Elected Member, Chair

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Barry J. Amaral, Appointed Member

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Thomas A. Bernier, Elected Member

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Gill E. Enos, Appointed Member

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Paul J. Slivinski, Executive Director