

**NEWTON RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING**  
**Tuesday, October 29, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.**  
**Location: Newton City Hall, Room 211**

PRESENT: Chairman Thomas Lopez, Anthony Logalbo, Kelly Byrne, Stephen Curley, Lisa Maloney, Esq., Barbara O'Brien, Scentia Saintcyr, Deirdre Walsh, Assistant City Solicitor/Retirement Board Counsel Jaclyn Zawada

GUESTS: David Helfman, Newton Resident and Marc Rizza, President of the Newton Firefighters Association, Local 863

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VOTED: Record in minutes the Board voted, by a vote of 4-0 (Board Member Curley abstained), to approve the regular session minutes of the September 24, 2024, Board meeting.

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VOTED: Record in minutes the Board voted, by a vote of 5-0 to deny Timothy Goodale's request to change or remove his designated Option C beneficiary and to change from Option C to Option A.

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VOTED: Record in minutes the Board voted, by a vote of 5-0, to approve, subject to a second vote upon receipt of an opinion from the System's Actuary as to any affect this change would have on the System's valuation, a revision to its installment plan for Veterans Buybacks as follows: A minimum two-payment installment plan- The first payment would be a down payment of \$25.00 due before the member accrues 11 years of creditable service or by August 8, 2025, whichever is later. The remainder would be due by the retirement effective date. The member has the option to make additional installment payments in an amount of no less than \$25.00.

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RECORD: Record in minutes that at 10:04 a.m., Mr. Rizza left the meeting.

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VOTED: Record in minutes the Board voted, by a vote of 5-0, to approve the monthly financial reporting for month ending August 2024 (trial balance, related journals, MMDT/Eastern bank statements, MMDT/Eastern Bank reconciliations, asset allocation, expense budget to actual comparison and cash flow forecast) as prepared by Director O'Brien.

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VOTED: Record in minutes the Board voted, by a vote of 5-0, to approve the acceptance of the following new members:

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>Date of Membership</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Position</u>
Betancourt	Eduardo	1	08/28/24	School	Teacher Aide
Gondek	Brennan	1	08/28/24	School	Teacher Aide
Mendick	Dawson	1	08/28/24	School	Teacher Aide
Ziegler-Lowell	Terri	1	08/28/24	School	Teacher Aide
Amatucci	Sue	1	08/28/24	School	Teacher Aide
Abramson	Maya	1	09/01/24	School	Teacher Aide
DeMeo	Devon	1	09/03/24	School	Teacher Aide
Duggan	Molly	1	09/03/24	Newton Housing	Administrative Specialist
Stoffel	Jacob	1	09/03/24	School	Teacher Aide
Farley	John	1	09/09/24	School	Teacher Aide
Heino	Ila	1	09/09/21	School	Teacher Aide
Hernandez	Nereida	1	09/09/24	School	Teacher Aide
Mahar	Sean	1	09/09/24	School	Teacher Aide
Paul	Manon	1	09/09/24	School	Teacher Aide
Quinn	Erich	1	09/09/24	School	Teacher Aide

Flomo	Patience	1	09/10/24	School	Teacher Aide
Lyons	Michael	1	09/11/24	School	Teacher Aide
Renninger	Lynn	1	09/12/24	Health & Human Serv	School Nurse
Olivero-Bello	Lianna	1	09/13/24	School	Teacher Aide
Bendok	Sofia	1	09/16/24	School	Teacher Aide
Brown	Julia	1	09/16/24	School	Teacher Aide
Day	Allyson	1	09/16/24	School	Teacher Aide
Drezek	Sydney	1	09/23/24	School	Teacher Aide
Marini	Rocco	1	09/16/24	Public Works	HME0
Mohammad	Dana	1	09/16/24	School	Teacher Aide
Morse	Miranda	1	09/16/24	Parks & Recreation	Program Manager
Mulcaire	Gabrielle	1	09/16/24	Library	SR Library Asst
Trani	Edwin	1	09/16/24	Public Works	Payroll Analyst
Swagerty	Camille	1	09/18/24	School	Teacher Aide
Muniz	Emileny	1	09/20/24	School	Teacher Aide
Zolit	Ethan	1	09/20/24	School	Teacher Aide
Cunningham	Akilah	1	09/23/24	School	Teacher Aide
Sanchez	Jennifer	1	09/23/24	School	Teacher Aide
Bertrand	Grace	1	09/24/24	School	Teacher Aide
Bethune	Michael	1	09/24/24	School	Teacher Aide
Freeman	Liana	1	09/30/24	Library	SR Library Asst
Gallella	Matthew	1	09/30/24	Public Works	HME0
Knically	Benjamin	1	09/30/24	School	Teacher Aide
Menard	Grace	1	09/30/24	School	Teacher Aide
Rumpler	Serena	1	09/30/24	Library	SR Library Asst
Sholes	Timothy	1	09/30/24	Public Works	Parking Meter Repair
Mendes	Marco	1	10/01/24	school	Teacher Aide
Simons	Howard	1	10/01/24	Inspectional Services	Zoning Enforcement Agent
Jackson	Cahrina	1	10/04/24	School	Teacher Aide
Bauer	Julie	1	10/10/24	School	Teacher Aide
Washington Matis	Edmar	1	10/14/24	School	Teacher Aide
Bailey	Jazzleigh	1	10/15/24	School	Teacher Aide
Knower	Nathan	1	10/21/24	School	Teacher Aide
Santos Gonzalez	Denirian	1	09/30/24	School	Executive Assistant
Holden	Katherine	1	10/15/24	City Clerk	Committee Clerk
Taksa	Svetlana	1	10/15/24	Planning	Fiscal Manager
Kingston	Rachel	1	10/15/24	School	Teacher Aide
Abreu	Avestil	1	10/15/24	Newton Housing	Groundskeeper/Custod.

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VOTED: Record in minutes the Board voted, by a vote of 5-0, to approve the following application(s) for superannuation and termination retirement pursuant to G.L. c. 32, §5 and §10. Retirement Board staff has verified that the necessary paperwork is in order and has determined all applicants(s) to be eligible for such benefits:

Member	Position	Dept.	Date of Retirement
Stephen Cottens	Police Officer	Police	10-19-2024
Antonette Perri	Teacher Aide	School	01-06-2025
Louis Taverna	City Engineer	DPW	01-31-2025

VOTED: Record in minutes the Board voted, by a vote of 5-0, to approve the following expense warrants:

Warrant # 24-24	10-30-2024	Administrative expense/member account disbursements	\$ 327,980.65
Warrant # 25-24	10-29-2024	10/31/2024 Contributory pension payroll	\$ 4,133,539.07
Warrant # C9-24	10-30-2024	Federal Tax	\$ 10,744.27

RECORD: Record in minutes that based on Scott Perella's oral agreement made in August 2024, Mr. Perella will mail his payment on the 25<sup>th</sup> of every month and the re-payment is scheduled to be completed by May 2029. No action taken by the Board.

RECORD: Record in minutes Director O'Brien confirmed that a response to the 9/17/24 letter to PERAC seeking clarification regarding service purchase refunds due to former elected officials is pending. No action taken by the Board.

RECORD: Record in minutes Director O'Brien confirmed that Maureen Murphy's Needham Bill Waiver Request is tabled pending a response from the 9/17/24 clarification request to PERAC regarding service purchase refunds due to former elected officials.

RECORD: Record in minutes Director O'Brien confirmed that Dori Zaleznik's Motion for Reconsideration is tabled pending a response from Board Counsel's 9/30/24 request to PERAC for a follow-up opinion based on additional details specific to Ms. Zaleznik's buyback of prior elected official service.

RECORD: Record in minutes Director O'Brien confirmed that Dori Zaleznik's Needham Bill Waiver Request is tabled pending a response from Board Counsel's 9/30/24 request to PERAC for a follow-up opinion based on additional details specific to Ms. Zaleznik's buyback of prior elected official service and a response from the 9/17/24 clarification request to PERAC regarding service purchase refunds due to former elected officials

VOTED: Record in minutes the Board voted, by a vote of 5-0, to not transfer funds to the PRIT Core Fund effective 11/1/24 as previously voted at its meeting on 5/28/24

RECORD: Record in minutes no action was taken by the Board regarding the drafting of the Employee Handbook.

RECORD: Record in minutes Director O'Brien reported that the date of the next monthly meeting with Human Resources is in the process of being scheduled.

RECORD: Record in minutes, based on the request for postponement received from Attorney Joseph Donnellan, Counsel for Michael Abbruzzese, James McCarthy, and Thomas McCarthy, the hearing, originally scheduled for 10/16/24 regarding 2023 excess earnings and refunds due the system, was rescheduled for 12/13/24 at 9:00 a.m.

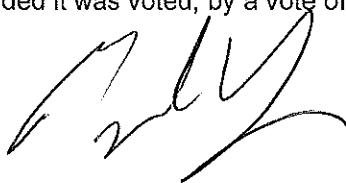
RECORD: Record in minutes Director O'Brien reported that the City will attend the 11/19/24 Board meeting to discuss the development of a process for monitoring post-retirement employment and to advise if any rehired retirees have exceeded or are close to exceeding the 2024 post-retirement hours and earnings limitations.

VOTED: Record in minutes the Board voted, by a vote of 5-0, to accept the 1/1/24 Actuarial Valuation Report, as amended, by the System's Actuary, Kathleen Riley.

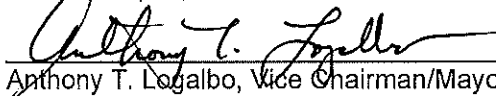
- RECORD: Record in minutes that Board Counsel provided the following updates on pending appeals:
- Kimberley Vanaman, Paula Fallon, Elizabeth Whittum and Edith Goethals-1<sup>st</sup> day of hearing was held on 10/22/2024; Day 2 scheduled for 11/6/2024
  - Jeremy Wilson – Board Counsel filed a motion to dismiss.
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- RECORD: Record in minutes that Director O'Brien provided an update on PTG's Employee Self Service, Scanning Project & Notice of Deposits.
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- RECORD: Record in minutes that Director O'Brien reported that an email "Important Message from the Newton Retirement Board about Post-Retirement Employment" was sent to active members and retirees
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- RECORD: Record in minutes Director O'Brien reported that a notice re: Veterans' Buyback changes, as reflected in PERAC Memo #23 2024, has been mailed and emailed to all active members
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- RECORD: Record in minutes Director O'Brien reported that staff joined PERAC's "Legislative Updates-Recent Legislation" Webinar on 10/23/24-Webinar will be posted on PERAC's website.
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- VOTED: Record in minutes the Board voted, by a vote of 5-0, approve the attendance of staff, Board members and Board Counsel at the 2024 MACRS Spring Conference and have their expenses covered pursuant to the Board's travel regulations.

Upon motion duly made and seconded it was voted, by a vote of 5-0, to adjourn at 10:29 a.m.

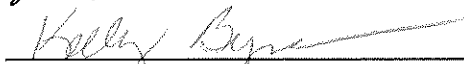
Signed:



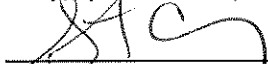
Thomas Lopez, Chairman/Elected Member



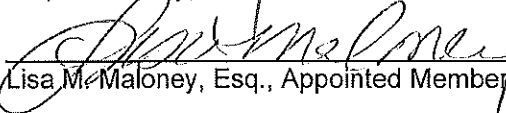
Anthony T. Logalbo, Vice Chairman/Mayoral Appointee



Kelly Byrne, Elected Member



Stephen Curley, Ex-Officio Member



Lisa M. Maloney, Esq., Appointed Member