

NEWTON RETIREMENT BOARD
Meeting - - February 22, 2022 (9:00 a.m.)
Conference Room #211, Newton City Hall

NOTE: This meeting was held both in-person and virtually using ZOOM software link:
<https://zoom.us/j/95762423054?pwd=a0RmVWFVMDJJeGhVcnN3eU10SWtadz09>

PRESENT: Thomas Lopez, Anthony Logalbo, Paul Bianchi, Stephen Curley, Lisa Maloney, Esq., Kelly Byrne, Scenia Saintcyr, Deirdre Walsh, Deputy City Solicitor/Retirement Board Counsel Marie Lawlor and Barbara O'Brien.

Paul Bianchi participated remotely as his physical attendance at the meeting was deemed unreasonably difficult. All votes were taken by roll call vote.

VOTED: Record in minutes the Board voted, by a vote of 5-0, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 11, 2022.

VOTED: Record in minutes the Board voted, by a vote of 5-0, to approve the minutes of the special meeting held on January 14, 2022.

VOTED: Record in minutes the Board conducted a public hearing for the purpose of determining the FY2023 retiree cost-of-living increase. Also in attendance were retired Deputy Fire Chief Michael Castro (via Zoom) and retired Deputy Fire Chief Isreal Jimenez (in-person). Both Castro and Jimenez participated in the discussion, primarily about raising the \$12,000 COLA base. At approximately 9:18 a.m. the Board experienced technical difficulties with the Zoom platform and recessed to address the issue. The Board reconvened at 9:35 a.m., both in-person and via Zoom using the posted link. Retired Deputy Fire Chief Castro exited the meeting during the recess. After the public comment period concluded, the Chair closed the public hearing and Jimenez departed the meeting. The Board discussed the concerns raised during the hearing, explained their prior (unsuccessful) efforts to raise the COLA base and recognized that the Newton City Council has to approve such an increase as well. The Board will continue to monitor the issue. The Board voted, by a vote of 5-0, to provide a 3% COLA, on the first \$12,000 of pension benefits, to eligible pensioners effective July 1, 2022.

VOTED: Record in minutes the Board voted, by a vote of 5-0, to approve the accidental disability retirement application submitted by Firefighter James DeMeo pursuant to G.L. c. 32, §§ 7 & 94.

VOTED: Record in minutes the Board voted, by a vote of 5-0, to accept the accidental/ordinary disability retirement application submitted by Atty. Paul T. Hynes on behalf of Firefighter Lee Gilliam, pursuant to G.L. c. 32, §§ 6 & 7, and to petition PERAC to convene a regional medical panel to examine Firefighter Gilliam.

VOTED: Record in minutes the Board voted, by a vote of 5-0, to approve the 12/31/2021 monthly financial reporting packet (trial balance, related journals, MMDT/Eastern bank statements/reconciliation/ outstanding check list, asset allocation, expense budget to actual comparison and cash flow forecast) as prepared by Director Byrne.

VOTED: Record in minutes the Board voted, by a vote of 5-0, to approve the projected administrative expense for calendar year 2022, in the amount of \$441,931, to provide to the Actuary in preparation of the 1/1/22 actuarial valuation of the Newton Retirement System.

VOTED: Record in minutes the Board voted, by a vote of 5-0, to approve the FY2023 budget of the Newton Retirement System in the amount of \$38,631,457.

RECORD: Record in minutes Director Byrne updated the Board with the Director position transition and that the process is moving along without delay. No action necessary.

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

Member	Position	Dept.	DOR
Anne Banks	Admin. Executive Asst.	School	2/8/2022
Kelly Byrne	Director	Retirement	3/18/2022
Qui Chau	Finance Director	Housing Authority	3/31/2022
Brenda Goldman	Asst. Supervisor of Public Services	Library	3/23/2022
Katy Hax Holmes	Chief Preservation Planner	Planning	5/14/2022
Judith McDonald	Asst. Crime Analyst	Police	4/15/2022
Cherylann Salvucci	Teacher Aide	School	3/31/2022
Steven Umina	Police Officer	Police	2/28/2022

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

Warrant# C1-22	2/23/2022	Federal tax deposit funding re: member account disbursements	\$ 3,483.68
Warrant# 3-22	2/23/2022	Administrative expense/member account disbursements	\$ 1,422,144.26
Warrant# 4-22	2/23/2022	2/28/2022 Contributory pension payroll	\$ 3,822,665.10
Warrant# 5-22	2/23/2022	Additional Funding - 12/31/2021 Contributory pension payroll	\$ 4,195.87

Note: Director Byrne advised that W# 5-22 was due to a payment incorrectly voided on PTG (Hickey) which resulted in an initial underfunding of the 12/31/21 pension payroll.

RECORD: Record in minutes Retirement Board Counsel, Atty. Marie Lawlor, provided an update on pending appeal cases (Caissie, Metro and Zunick).

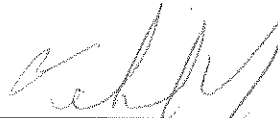
RECORD: Record in minutes Chair Lopez recognized the upcoming retirement of Director Byrne and on behalf of the Board, thanked her for her service and commitment to the members of the retirement system during her career.

RECORD: Record in minutes the following have been enrolled as new member(s) of the Newton Retirement System since the last monthly Board meeting:

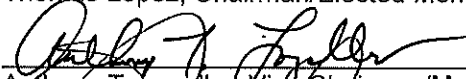
[see attached excel spreadsheet]

Upon motion duly made and seconded it was voted, by a vote of 5-0, to adjourn at 10:22 a.m.

Signed:



Thomas Lopez, Chairman/Elected Member



Anthony T. Logalbo, Vice Chairman/Mayoral Appointee



Paul Bianchi, Elected Member



Stephen Curley, Ex-Officio Member



Lisa M. Maloney, Esq., Appointed Member

**New membership enrollments - 2/22/22 minutes*

Last Name	First Name	Department	Position
Baia	Brandon	Police	Police Officer
Barrett	Sheryl	School	Teacher Aide
Brissett	Kayla	School	Teacher Aide
Brito	Elvis-Aaron	Police	Police Officer
Bromley	Zoe	Police	Emergency Dispatch
Brown	Hannah	Library	Sr. Library Asst
Case	Jason	School	Teacher Aide
Connell	Robert	Police	Emergency Dispatch
Davis	Cove	School	School Committee Member
Doucette	Michael	Public Works	HMEO
Fitzgerald	Thomas	Public Works	Director of Utilities
Fulchino	Gregory	Library	Sr Library Asst
Ghazaleh	Randa	School	Teacher Aide
Gilbert	Peterson	Police	Police Officer
Gittleman	Johanna	School	Teacher Aide
Hunt	Nora	School	Teacher Aide
LeBlanc	Michael	DPW	HMEO
Levy	Paul	School	School Committee Member
Loughnane	Shannon	Health & Human Services	Nurse
Macri	Kara	School	Teacher Aide
Matthews	Christopher	Police	Police Officer
McGaffigan	Cynthia	School	Teacher Aide
Merrill	Ryan	Public Works	Laborer
O'Kane	Victoria	Health & Human Services	Nurse
Pomerantz	Rebecca	School	Teacher Aide
Riche	Joe	Public Works	HMEO
Ricupero	Jessica	School	Teacher Aide
Rollins	Andres	School	Teacher Aide
Roma	Silvia	Library	Sr. Library Asst
Stewart	Patricia	School	Teacher Aide
Timbers	Amalia	Executive	Citizens Assistance Officer
Yuan Salzman	Xiujuan	School	Teacher Aide