

**NEWTON RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING**  
**Tuesday, August 23, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.**  
**Location: Newton City Hall, Room #204**

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

Guests: Maureen Lemieux, City of Newton's Chief Financial Officer, Mark Rizza, Newton Firefighters Local 853 Union president and David Huffman, Newton resident were also present.

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**VOTED:** Record in minutes the Board voted, by a vote of 5-0, to approve the regular session minutes of the meeting held on July 26, 2022.

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**RECORD:** Record in minutes that Board Member Logalbo reviewed his August 9, 2022 handout titled "Actuarial Data Review" that was previously provided to all Board members via email on August 10, 2022. Maureen Lemieux participated in related discussion, reiterated that the adoption of funding schedules is the Retirement Board's responsibility and stated that both her and Mayor Fuller are committed to maintaining the 9.6% annual increases to the funding schedule and trying to be fully funded by 2030. Board Member Logalbo suggested the Retirement Board memorialize their intended approach in regard to funding the unfunded liability at the next meeting and Chairman Lopez agreed to this addition to the agenda.

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**RECORD:** Record in minutes that Chairman Lopez stated he would take the agenda items out of order and address the pre-employment physicals matter since Maureen Lemieux was currently present. Chairman Lopez explained the importance of the City having to maintain employees' pre-employment physicals specifically due to the fact that PERAC is now enforcing the pre-employment physical requirement as it relates to disability applications. Maureen Lemieux confirmed that some exams cannot be located by the City and addressed the City's plan for maintaining them going forward. Additionally, Ms. Lemieux explained the process that the City will follow in determining which employees have missing pre-employment physicals and the steps that will be taken for those employees. She also stated she will look into whether an employee who, for example, changes position from Dispatch to Police or Fire, is required by the City to have a second pre-employment physical. Due to the Cancer Presumption, Chairman Lopez suggested the City follow the same process for employees of the Fire Department who retired in the last five years. Chairman Lopez also suggested the City consider providing the employee and headquarters with a copy of the pre-employment exam. Ms. Lemieux explained that although Michelle Pizzi O'Brien, the City's Director of Human Resources was not able to attend this month's meeting, she and Ms. Pizzi O'Brien will attend the October 2022 Board meeting to provide an update of the City's findings. Mr. Rizza and Ms. Lemieux left the meeting.

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**VOTED:** Record in minutes the Board voted, by a vote of 5-0, to approve the June 30, 2022, monthly financial reporting packet (trial balance, related journals, MMDT/Eastern bank statements/MMDT reconciliation, 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:

Last Name	First Name	Group	Date of Membership	Department	Position
Adjei Awuah	Ophella	1	07/11/22	Jackson Homestead	Museum Clerk
Howard	Ryan	4	07/25/22	Police	Police Officer
Hutchings	Mollie	1	07/25/22	Planning	Chief Preservation Planner
MacDonald	Erlc	4	07/25/22	Police	Police Officer
Sisson	John	1	07/27/22	Planning	Economic Develop Director
Doyle	John	1	07/28/22	City Clerk	Election Supervisor
Jasset	John	1	08/01/22	DPW	HMEO
Natarajan	Gayathri	1	07/22/22	School	Admin Asst
Warren	Dominic	1	08/08/22	City Clerk	Asst Clerk Council

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.	Date of Retirement
Susan Berube	Secretary/Bulding Aide	School	08/09/2022
Linda Sawyers	School Nurse	School	08/31/2022
Gabriel Federico	Construction Engineer	City	09/30/2022

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

Warrant # C7-22	8/24/2022	Federal tax deposit funding re: member account disbursements	\$ 73.77
Warrant # 19-22	8/24/2022	Administrative expense/member account disbursements	\$ 506,823.19
Warrant # 20-22	8/28/2022	8/31/2022 Contributory pension payroll	\$3,957,305.00

VOTED: Record in minutes the Board voted, by a vote of 5-0, to approve the attendance of staff and Board members at the 2022 MACRS Fall Conference (October 2-5, 2022)

RECORD: Record in minutes that Director O'Brien provided an update in regard to the action taken by the Retirement Office pursuant to PERAC Memo #14/2022 "Supreme Judicial Court Decision In Vernava II-Action Required" and PERAC Memo #21/2022 "Vernava II - Important Update".

RECORD: Record in minutes that pursuant to Board Member Logalbo's request at last month's meeting, Board member Curley relayed the City's Financial Planner & Analysis Manager, Perry Rosenfield's explanation as to the City's process of converting annual salary to weekly salary. Director O'Brien responded to Board Member Logalbo's inquiry and explained the process followed in reimbursing the City quarterly for Staff payroll paid through the City's MUNIS payroll system.

RECORD: Record in minutes that Director O'Brien explained a practice in which Board members provide signatures on all Pension Technology Group (PTG) warrants: retirees' monthly payroll warrants, monthly vendor payment warrants and when applicable, death warrants. This practice will be instituted as there were no objections.

RECORD: Record in minutes that Director O'Brien provided the following updates regarding pending disability retirement applications:

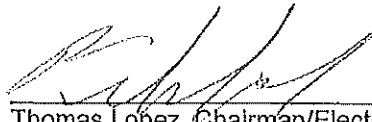
Applicant	Dept.	Current Status
William J. Bianco	Fire	7/26/22 Board accepted application. Retirement Staff is in the process of collecting medical records.
Lee Gilliam	Fire	Medical appts scheduled for: 6/10/22, 6/18/22 and 6/20/22; 3 Medical Panel Certificates received; Atty Poser, Board Counsel, is expected to provide a recommendation to the Board at the next meeting scheduled for 9/27/22.

RECORD: Record in minutes that Retirement Board Counsel Marie Lawlor reported PERAC has appealed DALA's decision in favor of Edward Murphy and that Mr. Murphy's counsel, Attorney Paul Hynes, now has a period of time to submit his brief to CRAB.

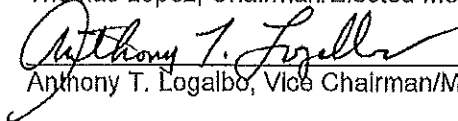
RECORD: Record in minutes that Chairman Lopez, on behalf of the Retirement Board, thanked outgoing elected Board Member, Paul Bianchi, for his 19 years of service on the Newton Retirement Board and 35 years of Newton public employment as a custodian and a police officer.

Upon motion duly made and seconded it was voted, by a vote of 5-0, to adjourn at 10:13 a.m.

Signed:

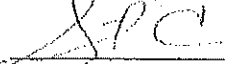


Thomas Lopez, Chairman/Elected Member

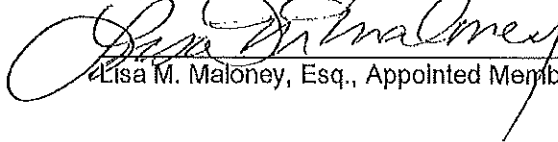


Anthony T. Logalbo, Vice Chairman/Mayoral Appointee

Paul Bianchi, Elected Member



Stephen Curley, Ex-Officio Member



Lisa M. Maloney, Esq., Appointed Member