

CITY OF MARIETTA/BLW PENSION BOARD MEETING

**Wednesday, May 12, 2021
9:00 AM – Council Chamber**

MEETING MINUTES (UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED)

Members Present: Post 1: Bill Bruton Post 2: Joseph Goldstein
Post 4: Rich Buss Post 5: Patina Brown
Post 6: Bruce Bishop Post 7: Scott Reece
Post 8: Patrick Bonito Post 9: Bobby Moss

Absent: Post 3: Cheryl Richardson

Ex Officio Members: Davy Godfrey – Pension Board Secretary and Director, Human Resources & Risk Management
Sam Lady – Pension Board Treasurer and Finance Director
Tim Milligan – Fire Chief

Visitors / Guests Ian Janecek – CBIZ (via WebEx)
Scott Arnwine – CBIZ (via WebEx)
Paul Murray – AndCo Consulting
Elizabeth Jacobs – Benefits Manager
Pam Peacock – Executive Aide to City Manager

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Bobby Moss declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 9:01am.

GENERAL PENSION REPORT – CBIZ:

Chairman Moss recognized Ian Janecek from CBIZ, who briefed the Board via WebEx, and then presented the General Pension Report for the 1st quarter of calendar year 2021.

The chair recognized Treasurer Lady, who asked the Board to consider a motion to allow him and Bobby to make any necessary moves to keep the plan in compliance prior to the end of the fiscal year on June 30, 2021.

A motion was made by Member Goldstein to authorize the Treasurer and Chairman to make the necessary moves to keep the plan in compliance prior to the end of the fiscal year on June 30, 2021, and seconded by Vice Chairman Brown.

The motion carried by the following vote: 8-0-0.

Secretary Godfrey presented the securities monitoring report as well as a monthly statement excerpt showing the litigation proceeds received by the pension fund in March 2021.

SUPPLEMENTAL PENSION REPORT – AndCo Consulting:

Chairman Moss recognized Paul Murray from AndCo Consulting, who presented the Supplemental Pension Report for the 1st quarter of calendar year 2021.

MINUTES:

February 10, 2021, Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Brown to approve the minutes from the February 10, 2021, Regular Meeting and seconded by Member Goldstein.

*The motion carried by the following vote: **8-0-0.***

PENSION EDUCATION UPDATE:

Secretary Godfrey provided the Board with a pension education update. Out of the 12 individuals who are required to complete it, 10 are current, having either completed hours in a previous cycle and a new one just began or have not begun their new cycle. The final due date for the other individuals is September 1, 2021. He explained that new members on the board after July 1, 2019, must do 8 hours the first year and then 12 hours every two years after that. Those who were on the Board on July 1, 2019, do 12 hours every two years.

RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS – Secretary Godfrey:

1. Shari Gann - Effective 01/01/2021
Plan 4022 – Survivor
24-Month Benefit ending 12/31/2022
Monthly Benefit: \$3176.66
Survivor of Gordon Gann

2. Laura Williams - Effective 01/01/2021
Plan 4022 – Survivor
24-Month Benefit ending 12/31/2022
Monthly Benefit: \$2258.01
Survivor of John L Williams

3. Marlene Wright - Effective 01/01/2021
Consolidated – Survivor 50% JSO
Monthly Benefit: \$108.79
Survivor of Phillip Wright

4. Vikki Randolph – Effective 02/01/2021
Consolidated – Unreduced Early
Single Life Only
Employed: 01/31/2005 – 01/31/2021
Total Service: 16 years
Total Credited Service: 16 years
Monthly Benefit: \$1469.49
Inspector Code Enforcement

5. Samuel Sullivan – Effective 02/01/2021
Consolidated – Early Terminated Vested
Single Life Only
Employed: 02/17/1992 – 08/12/1994; 09/26/1994 – 09/18/1995;
07/20/1998 – 04/20/2000; 03/15/2004 – 04/12/2013
Total Service: 14 years, 1 month
Total Credited Service: 14 years, 1 month
Monthly Benefit: \$509.25
Route Driver I – Sanitation

6. Wendy Bradford – Effective 03/01/2021
Consolidated – Early Terminated Vested
Single Life Only
Employed: 09/05/2000 – 08/27/2010
Total Service: 9 years, 10 months
Total Credited Service: 9 years, 10 months
Monthly Benefit: \$480.55
Legal Assistant

7. Terry Wardlaw – Effective 04/01/2021
Consolidated – Unreduced Early
Single Life Only
Employed: 08/19/1990 – 02/08/1997 & 01/05/1998 – 03/31/2021
Total Service: 29 years, 7 months
Total Credited Service: 29 years, 7 months
Monthly Benefit: \$3131.01
Police Sergeant

****Calculation Only Approval****

8. Judy Burnette – Effective 04/01/2021
Consolidated – Normal
Previous Monthly Benefit: \$1690.60 (100% JSO w/Pop Up Benefit)
New Monthly Benefit: \$2094.92
Notes: Spouse passed away on 03/03/2021. Retiree benefit recalculated effective 4/1/2021.

Secretary Godfrey presented the seven retirement applications and one recalculation due to pop-up.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Brown to approve all seven retirement applications and one recalculation and seconded by Member Goldstein.

*The motion carried by the following vote: **8-0-0.***

Secretary Godfrey then presented a list of 15 disability retirees, 13 of whom require recertification per the plan under which they retired. He asked the Board for a motion authorizing Human Resources staff to conduct recertification on the 13.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Brown to authorize recertification on the 13 disability retirees and seconded by Member Buss.

*The motion carried by the following vote: **8-0-0.***

Secretary Godfrey then presented a proposal to convert the current pension verification process to an online process via recognized databases. He explained that the City/BLW Tax Division uses Accurint through LexisNexis and that staff have been conducting monthly death checks to prevent pension overpayment. He explained, along with presenting a legal guidance memorandum from Elarbee Thompson, that the current checks for existence, address, and phone number can be performed once

every two years through the same online database at less cost, with less required manpower, and removing a burden from the retirees. Discussion was held regarding utilizing mailed documents as a backstop in case of discrepancy, and Secretary Godfrey explained that any change to a retiree's account, whether it's an address or to verify existence, is done via written request or through verifiable death information published by a third party (published obituary or submitted death certificate).

A motion was made by Member Bruton to authorize staff to conduct pension verification via electronic methods and seconded by Vice Chairman Brown.

The motion carried by the following vote: 8-0-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Secretary Godfrey reminded the members about registration for the upcoming GAPPT events. Specifically, the Atlanta Braves event on July 20, 2021, at Truist Park (non-Board funded member cost is \$30.00), and the Board-funded annual conference at Callaway Gardens from September 19-22, 2021. He advised that Sue Reynolds has advised that the lodging for the annual conference is 50% reserved. He also requested that all members let him know regarding their attendance so he can conduct a mass registration submitted on a separate request form, but advised that members should make their own lodging reservations and submit their own travel and training forms without putting the registration cost on there.

NEW BUSINESS:

Although no new business was noted, Chairman Moss posed a question to the membership regarding election procedures that require three people to be nominated to run for an expiring or open seat in the police or fire departments. Discussion was held regarding potentially amending the plan in the future to avoid placing individuals on a department's ballot when they may not have wanted to run. Chairman Moss also asked the members if the plan could be amended to reflect that the Director of Human Resources and Risk Management and Director of Finance could automatically be assigned as the Board Secretary and Treasurer, respectively. Discussion was held regarding requirements of Council appointment, and it was determined that those positions do not require Council appointment unlike the voting members. After opening the floor for any final questions or concerns for possible future discussion, Member Buss and Chairman Moss pitched an idea to allow a retiree to revoke survivor benefits after retirement and revert to the original single life amount. Discussion centered on possible cost or benefit to the plan. Secretary Godfrey reminded the Board that any actuarial study related to how a benefit change affects funding percentage would cost \$2,000.

FUTURE ESTABLISHED MEETINGS:

August 11, 2021, Regular Meeting

ADJOURNMENT:


A motion was made by Member Buss to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Vice Chairman Brown.

The motion carried by the following vote: 8-0-0. Meeting was adjourned at 11:13am.


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Wednesday, May 12, 2021
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APPROVED THIS 11th DAY OF August, 2021


Abby Moss, Pension Board Chairman

ATTEST:


Davy Gindrey, Pension Board Secretary