

**CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
BOARD OF PENSIONS AND RETIREMENT
Meeting of October 22, 2020**

MINUTES

On October 22, 2020, Jacqueline Dunn called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Pensions and Retirement to order at 9:30 AM. The meeting was conducted by Microsoft Teams Conference App due to the State's recommendation to close the City due to the Covid-19 epidemic.

Present: Jacqueline Dunn
 Ronald Stagliano
 Carol Stukes-Baylor
 Kellan White
 Christopher Rupe
 Leontyne Freeman
 Brian Coughlin
 Veronica Pankey
 Sharolyn Murphy
 Francois Dutchie
 Marsha Greene-Jones

Also Attending: Francis Bielli, Bill Rubin – Board of Pensions
 Adam Coleman – Law Department
 Christopher DiFusco, James Cousounis – Investment Unit
 Bernard Buckley, Kristyn Bair, Tyrone Jordan – Investment Unit
 Dominique Cherry, Abdel-Aziz Ibrahim – Investment Unit
 Nick Hand, Sara DeNault – Office of the City Controller
 Brad Nyce, Bina Kumar, Jeff Francis – Nationwide
 Tom Ginsberg – PEW Trust
 Will Green – Loop Capital
 Lindsay Saienni – FIN News
 Dave Smith, Derek Schmidt, Colleen Flannery – Marquette Associates
 Kweku Obed, Brett Graffy – Marquette Associates

Jacqueline Dunn called the meeting to order and stated that the first order of business was the approval of the **Virtual Procedures** for the Board of Pensions Benefits meeting.

The motion to approve the Virtual Procedures carried unanimously 8-0 on a roll call vote.

CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2020

The motion to approve carried unanimously 8-0 on a roll call vote.

CONSIDERATION OF 118 PENSION APPLICATIONS AND 63 WITHDRAWAL APPLICATIONS

The motion to approve carried unanimously 8-0 on a roll call vote.

APPLICATION FOR SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY BENEFITS

Case of Jacqueline Morris, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits –Plan B

This is an application submitted by Jacqueline Morris, former Police Officer for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan B.

According to Ms. Morris, on February 28, 2013, after securing the rear doors of the police wagon, she was entering the passenger side when she lost her footing and slipped. Ms. Morris further states to keep herself from falling to the ground she twisted awkwardly causing an injury.

The Board voted as follows:

Brian Coughlin – Approve
Marsha Greene-Jones – Approve
Sharolyn Murphy – Approve
Veronica Pankey – Approve

Christopher Rupe – Approve
Carol Stukes-Baylor - Approve
Kellan White - Approve
Ronald Stagliano - Approve

The motion to approve carried unanimously 8-0.

Case of Robert Murray, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits – Plan J

This is an application submitted by Robert Murray, former Laborer for the Streets Department for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan J.

According to Mr. Murray, on April 24, 2017, he fell over a trash can while working on the truck sustaining injuries.

The Board voted as follows:

Brian Coughlin – Approve
Marsha Greene-Jones – Deny
Sharolyn Murphy – Deny
Veronica Pankey – Approve

Christopher Rupe – Deny
Carol Stukes-Baylor - Approve
Kellan White - Approve
Ronald Stagliano - Approve

The motion to approve carried 5-3.

Case of Lori L. Peterson, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits - Plan Y

This is an application submitted by Lori L. Peterson, former School Crossing Guard with the Police Department for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan Y.

According to Ms. Peterson, on January 29, 2016 while reaching out to stop a child from crossing behind her she pivoted to the left and heard something “pop”. Ms. Peterson states that her condition worsened following physical therapy and treatment.

The Board voted as follows:

Brian Coughlin – Approve
Marsha Greene-Jones – Approve
Sharolyn Murphy – Deny
Veronica Pankey – Approve

Christopher Rupe – Approve
Carol Stukes-Baylor - Approve
Kellan White - Approve
Ronald Stagliano - Approve

The motion to approve carried 7-1.

APPLICATION FOR SURVIVORSHIP BENEFITS ON BEHALF ON A MEDICALLY ADULT DEPENDENT CHILD

Case of Daniel J. Laverty, Deceased, Application for Survivorship Benefits on Behalf of a Medically Dependent Adult Child Plan “X”

This is an application by Christopher J. Laverty, son of Daniel J. Laverty, to receive Survivorship benefits as a medically dependent adult child under Plan X.

Retired Fire Captain Daniel J. Laverty died on April 1, 2017. He retired from the Fire Department effective April 12, 2008.

At the time of his retirement, his wife Kathleen had Power of Attorney for him and choose Survivorship Option 4. His wife, Kathleen Laverty, collected the survivorship benefit from April 2, 2017 until her death on January 15, 2020. Christopher J. Laverty’s sister, Lisa A. Laverty is his Power of Attorney.

The Board reviewed the pertinent information and documents submitted.

The Board voted as follows:

Brian Coughlin – Approve
Marsha Greene-Jones – Approve
Sharolyn Murphy – Approve
Veronica Pankey – Approve

Christopher Rupe – Approve
Carol Stukes-Baylor - Approve
Kellan White - Approve
Ronald Stagliano - Approve

The motion to approve carried unanimously 8-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Executive Director's Report – Mr. Bielli stated there is still time to register for the PAPERS virtual forum. The NASP 31st Pension Financial Services Conference will be held virtually December 7-10, 2020. Please contact staff if interested in attending the virtual forums.

The Amendment to the Board of Pensions and Retirement Rules was approved by the Ad Board at its meeting on October 9, 2020 making it effective immediately pursuant to Section 8-406 of the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter. The Amendment states that the Board may delay or postpone election of the members who are elected to serve on the Board by the employees in the Civil Service during the existence of a disaster emergency and public health crisis.

Mr. Cousounis explained that the Trustee election takes place every four years and expires November 1st of the 4th year. The last election was 2016. The Governor declared the Public Health emergency is renewed until the end of November. He recommends that meetings are held virtually, and employees' hours should be staggered for the health and safety of workers. For these reasons, the election can not be held in a safe manner.

Trustee Election

Ronald Stagliano made a motion to approve the postponement of the Trustee Election until it can be safely held. Kellan White seconded the motion.

The motion to approve the Postponement of the Trustee Election until it can be safely held carried unanimously 8-0.

Litigation Summary – Mr. Coleman stated there are no significant updates.

The meeting adjourned at 9:47 AM.