

**CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
BOARD OF PENSIONS AND RETIREMENT
Meeting of July 23, 2020**

MINUTES

On July 23, 2020, Jacqueline Dunn called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Pensions and Retirement to order at 9:35AM. 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.

Ms. Dunn asked the Board to approve the revised procedures of the Rules of Order for Motions, Discussion and Voting that were prepared by James Cousounis. For substantive motions the Chair will state the motion in the affirmative, the Board will consider the motion moved and seconded and then the Chair will ask for any comments or discussion before going into a roll call vote. For a procedural motion, the Chair will ask the Board for discussion, unless there are any objections, the motion will be declared and adopted unanimously. The Board adopted the procedures unanimously.

Present: Jacqueline Dunn
 Ronald Stagliano
 Carol Stukes-Baylor
 Kellan White
 Rebecca Rhinehart
 Brian Abernathy
 Michael Zaccagni
 Christopher Rupe
 Marsha Greene-Jones
 Leontyne Freeman
 Brian Coughlin
 Veronica Pankey
 Sharolyn Murphy
 Marcel Pratt
 Matt Stitt
 Francois Dutchie

Also Attending: Francis Bielli, Shamika Taliaferro, Bill Rubin – Board of Pensions
 Ellen Berkowitz, 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
 Brad Nyce, Bina Kumar – Nationwide

Jacqueline Dunn called the meeting to order and stated that the first order of business was the Consideration of the Minutes of June 25, 2020.

The motion to approve carried unanimously 8-0.

CONSIDERATION OF 89 PENSION APPLICATIONS AND 23 WITHDRAWAL APPLICATIONS

The motion to approve carried unanimously 8-0.

APPLICATION FOR SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY BENEFITS

Case of Angela DeVito, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits – Plan B

This is an application submitted by Angela DeVito, former Police Officer for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan “B”.

According to Ms. DeVito, on August 22, 2017 while waving her arm directing traffic and pedestrians at the Philadelphia International Airport she heard a pop in her left shoulder. Ms. DeVito states that her shoulder became very painful.

The Board voted as follows:

Brian Coughlin – Approve	Christopher Rupe – Deny
Marsha Greene-Jones – Deny	Carol Stukes-Baylor - Approve
Sharolyn Murphy – Deny	Kellan White - Approve
Veronica Pankey – Approve	Ronald Stagliano - Approve

The motion to approve carried 5-3.

Case of Jonathan White, Application for Service-Connected Disability Benefits - Plan B

This is an application submitted by Jonathan White, former Police Officer I for Service-Connected Disability benefits under Pension Plan “B”.

According to Mr. White, on July 8, 2015 he and his partner were involved in a vehicular accident. Mr. White states that the vehicle was struck from behind and the impact forced his head forward and then backward striking the headrest. Mr. White sustained multiple injuries and other complications.

The Board voted as follows:

Brian Coughlin – Approve	Christopher Rupe – Deny
Marsha Greene-Jones – Deny	Carol Stukes-Baylor - Approve
Sharolyn Murphy – Deny	Kellan White - Approve
Veronica Pankey – Approve	Ronald Stagliano - Approve

The motion to approve carried 5-3.

Case of Alonzo J. Vincent, Request to Apply for Service-Connected Disability Benefits beyond the one-year deadline – Plan Y

This is a request from Alonzo J. Vincent, former Equipment Operator with the Water Department to apply for Service-Connected Disability benefits beyond the one-year deadline.

Alonzo Vincent separated from City service effective June 13, 2016.

The Board of Pensions received a letter from Mr. Vincent on June 15, 2020 requesting to apply for Service-Connected Disability benefits beyond the one-year deadline. He states that he did not know he had to apply within one-year and has been on Workers' Compensation from 2015.

The Board of Pensions issued an Administrative Denial letter dated June 22, 2020.

Mr. Vincent submitted a letter of appeal on June 26, 2020.

The Board voted as follows:

Brian Coughlin – Abstain	Christopher Rupe – Deny
Marsha Greene-Jones – Deny	Carol Stukes-Baylor - Abstain
Sharolyn Murphy – Deny	Kellan White - Deny
Veronica Pankey – Abstain	Ronald Stagliano - Abstain

The motion to approve was 0-4-4. The motion fails and is denied.

NEW BUSINESS

Executive Director's Report – Mr. Bielli stated there were seven responses to the RFP for the Auditor. The expiration date for the current Auditor contract expires on August 8, 2020. The Board would like to extend the date for the subcommittee to continue to evaluate the current responses to the RFP. When the review is completed the committee will make a recommendation to the full Board.

The Board voted as follows:

Brian Coughlin – Approve	Christopher Rupe – Approve
Marsha Greene-Jones – Approve	Carol Stukes-Baylor - Approve
Sharolyn Murphy – Approve	Kellan White – Approve
Veronica Pankey – Approve	Ronald Stagliano - Approve

The motion to extend the expiration date for the current Auditor contract carried unanimously 8-0.

Virtual Hearing Procedures – Mr. Bielli stated that he thought there would be more options for the hearing process once the City went Green. However, they see now that is not the case and in order to move cases along a virtual hearing process will need to be implemented. Mr. Cousounis and Ms. Berkowitz are working on procedures and will keep the Board posted.

Board Trustee Election - Mr. Stagliano proposed a resolution to consider postponing the trustee election as some trustees will have problems getting petition signatures. The motion to introduce the resolution will be held over to the next Board meeting.

Veronica Pankey made a motion to consider a resolution to suspend the trustee election. Kellan White seconded the motion.

The motion to consider a resolution to suspend the trustee election carried unanimously 8-0.

Litigation Summary – Ms. Berkowitz stated there were no changes.

The motion to adjourn carried 8-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:47.