

Minutes

Police Pension Board Special Meeting
Thursday, April 13, 2023 ~ 8:15 AM
Richland City Hall ~ Parkway Conference Room
625 Swift Boulevard

Police Pension Board Regular Meeting No. 765

Mayor Pro Tem Richardson called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

Attendance: Mayor Pro Tem Richardson, Finance Director Allen, Police Pension Members Couch, Moore and Thomas, and Police Pension Board Secretary Rogers.

Other individuals present: Randy Carper and Bill Tanner

Presentations

1. 2023 LEOFF COLA

Finance Director Allen provided an overview of the 2023 LEOFF COLA changes. The 2023 LEOFF COLA changes include an 8.81% increase, effective on April 1, 2023.

Public Comments

Police pensioner Randy Carper requested clarification on current dental benefits. Mr. Carper then read excerpts from previous Police Pension Board meeting minutes in which Finance Director Brandon Allen referenced a \$2,000 increase to the dental benefits offered through Cigna, and suggestions to amend the Police Pension Board Policies to reflect an increase in the dental benefit.

Next, Mr. Carper read aloud the correspondence mailed to all pensioners by Police Pension Board Secretary Rogers, which summarized total annual maximum dental benefits. Mr. Carper added that the correspondence caused confusion among pensioners because the letter stated, "*The total combined dental benefit with Cigna and Police Pension Board Policies is now \$4,000 per calendar year*". However, Cigna representatives confirmed the annual maximum dental benefits to be \$4,000 per calendar year. The total benefits listed on the correspondence and total benefits outlined in the Cigna plan and Police Pension Board Policies do not align.

Lastly, Mr. Carper asked the Board to consider voting to maintain the \$2,000 annual maximum dental benefit listed in the recently amended Police Pension Board Policies along with the dental benefit coverage provided by the City of Richland.

Mr. Moore added that several pensioners have also contacted him, seeking clarification to the current maximum annual dental benefits. Mr. Moore suggested that at minimum, a second letter should be mailed to provide clarification. Next, Mr. Moore added that

pensioners are now required to pay a co-pay for dental services.

Mayor Pro Tem Richardson suggested the Board proceed with agenda items as presented and resume the dental benefits conversation under Board Member Comments.

Minutes

2. Approval of the March 16, 2023 Police Pension Board Meeting Minutes

MR. COUCH MOVED AND MR. MOORE SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MARCH 16, 2023 MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Financial Reports and Investments

3. March 2023 Preliminary Financial Statements

Finance Director Allen provided an overview of the March 2023 Preliminary Financial Statements then welcomed questions from the Board.

MR. COUCH MOVED AND MR. MOORE SECONDED THE MOTON TO RECEIVE AND PLACE ON FILE THE MARCH 2023 PRELIMINARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Medical/Dental/Vision/Medicare/Other Claims

4. April 2023 Medical/Dental/Vision/Medicare/Other Claims Report

Police Pension Board Secretary Rogers provided an overview of the claims report. Six (6) reimbursement claim forms were submitted by five (5) pensioners.

MR. MOORE MOVED AND MR. COUCH SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE APRIL 2023 MEDICAL/DENTAL/VISION/MEDICARE/OTHER CLAIMS AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Business Items

5. P7 Reimbursement Request

Police Pension Board Secretary Rogers stated P7 submitted a reimbursement request for \$69 for the repair of one (1) hearing aid. The repairs were completed by a state licensed audiologist as required by the Police Pension Board Policies.

MR. MOORE MOVED AND FINANCE DIRECTOR ALLEN SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE P7'S REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST FOR THE REPAIR OF A HEARING AID. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Board Member Comments

Finance Director Allen explained the prior annual maximum dental coverage provided to pensioners though the Cigna plan was \$2,000 and an additional \$1,200 with the Police Pension Board Policies, for a total of \$3,200. He further explained the intent was to add an additional \$2,000 to the existing \$2,000 dental benefit, all to be covered under Cigna to reduce the number of claim submissions. Mr. Allen stated that though the correspondence mailed to pensioners could have been written with more clarity, it accurately reflected the annual maximum of dental benefits of \$4,000 per calendar year.

Next, Mr. Allen suggested the Board consider amending the Police Pension Board Policies to reference the total dental benefits would be covered under the City's dental insurance plan.

Mr. Moore led a discussion regarding co-pays for dental services, as communicated to him by a fellow pensioner. Police Pension Board Secretary Rogers stated the co-pay might be associated with other dental services, as the Cigna Dental Benefits Summary states there is no deductible for routine evaluations and cleanings. Finance Director Allen added that providers often calculate the patient responsibility balance and require the patient to pay the balance prior the procedure.

Mr. Moore expressed an interest in reviewing and amending the Police Pension Board Policies at an upcoming meeting to clarify annual maximum dental benefits. Lastly, Mr. Moore suggested a second letter be mailed to pensioners clarifying dental benefits offered with the Police Pension Board Policies and the dental benefits covered under the City's insurance policy. Finance Director Allen offered sample language amendments to the dental benefits section of the Police Pension Board Policies.

Police Pension Board Secretary Rogers announced that the 2023 Police Pension Board Election is forthcoming. Mr. Moore's term will expire on June 30, 2023 and a Notice of Election will be mailed to all pensioners in the next couple of weeks.

Additionally, Police Pension Board Secretary Rogers stated the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) training is past due for two pensioners, and offered assistance if needed.

Police pensioner Tanner requested an update to the Police Pension Board Secretary issue. Mr. Moore replied he is waiting to meet with the City Manager to discuss this.

Next, Mr. Tanner inquired of the process to view past meeting minutes. Police Pension Board Secretary Rogers replied that that meeting minutes can be viewed on the City's website.

Lastly, Mr. Moore asked Finance Director Allen for a status update to the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) negotiations for captains, lieutenants and whether the payments will be retroactive when the CBA is finalized. Finance Director Allen replied that he is not involved in the negotiation process but will request information from staff then provide an update at a future meeting.

Adjournment:

MR. MOORE MOVED AND FINANCE DIRECTOR ALLEN SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 a.m.

APPROVED:



Mayor Pro Tem Richardson, Chair

ATTEST:



Jennifer Rogers, Police Pension Board Secretary

DATE APPROVED: May 25, 2023

DATE PUBLISHED: May 26, 2023