

Minutes

Police Pension Board Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 16, 2024 ~ 8:15 AM
Richland City Hall ~ Parkway Conference Room
625 Swift Boulevard

Police Pension Board Regular Meeting No. 777

Mayor Richardson called the meeting to order at 8:16 a.m.

Attendance:

Mayor Richardson	Present
Finance Director Allen	Present
Police Representative Moore	Present
Police Representative Thomas	Present (telephonic)
Police Pension Board Secretary Rogers	Present

Presentations

1. Law Enforcement Officers and Fire Fighters' (LEOFF) Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)

Finance Director Allen presented on the 2024 LEOFF COLA, noting that this year's adjustment of 5.2% was effective April 1, 2024. He explained that the adjustments do not alter the pension paid but affect the split of payments between the state and city contributions. Finance Director Allen further explained that while the state's contribution may increase, the city's share will remain the same,

The COLA adjustments were detailed in three (3) documents: one for a group tied to the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA), another for captains and lieutenants, and a third for the deputy chief and director.

Mr. Moore and Finance Director Allen engaged in a discussion regarding whether staff should mail pensioners notice of the changes. Finance Director Allen reiterated that though state contributions might change, the overall payments to pensioners from the city will not be affected. Finance Director Allen added that he will research whether the state provides notification to each pensioner directly.

Public Comments

None.

Minutes

1. Approval of the March 19, 2024 Police Pension Board Regular Meeting Minutes

MR. MOORE MOVED AND FINANCE DIRECTOR ALLEN SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MARCH 19, 2024 MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

Financial Reports and Investments

2. March 2024 Preliminary Financial Statements

Finance Director Allen provided a summary of the March 2024 Preliminary Financial Statements. Medical expenses were under \$600, lower than February and comparable to January. Spending is at 17.5% of the budget for the first quarter, with adjustments anticipated to adjust slightly in April to allow for retirement allowances. There were no questions from the Board.

MR. MOORE MOVED AND MR. THOMAS SECONDED THE MOTION TO RECEIVE AND PLACE ON FILE THE MARCH 2024 PRELIMINARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

Medical/Dental/Vision/Medicare/Other Claims

3. April 2024 Medical/Dental/Vision/Medicare/Other Claims Report

Police Pension Board Secretary Rogers provided an overview of the nine (9) claims submitted by four (4) pensioners. There were no questions from the Board.

MR. MOORE MOVED AND MR. THOMAS SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE APRIL 2024 MEDICAL/DENTAL/VISION/MEDICARE/OTHER CLAIMS REPORT AS PRESENTED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,094.65. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

Business Items

5. Revised Police Pension Board Policies

Finance Director Allen reviewed the red-lined copy of the revised Police Pension Board Policies which incorporated changes previously discussed and agreed upon by the Board. The amendments highlighted the updated language on meeting schedules and to the hearing aid benefit section.

Mr. Moore expressed concerns about inconsistencies between the Fire Board and the Police Board's policies and noted that in years past, the two Boards held a joint meeting annually to review policies to ensure policy consistency, except where state law dictates otherwise. Mr. Moore expressed his intention to thoroughly review the Fire Pension Board Policies and the Police Pension Board Policies to identify any substantial differences that might necessitate further discussions and policy amendments.

Finance Director Allen emphasized the importance of ensuring both Board's having

identical policies but acknowledged that each Board has the autonomy to set its own policies, which can't be forcibly aligned. He then stated that the City does not control or manipulate the pension board policies. While city employees serve on both Boards, any policy changes must be collectively decided by the Board members and cannot be unilaterally enacted by the City. He refuted the notion of City interference and encouraged Mr. Moore to review the publicly available policies on the City's website and bring any specific concerns to a future Board meeting for discussion.

Mr. Moore conceded that he currently has no issues with the existing policies but will remain vigilant about ensuring parity and transparency between the Boards.

Finance Director Allen recommended the Board adopt the proposed amendments and consider making any adjustments to align with the Fire Pension Board Policies at a future meeting.

MR. MOORE MOVED AND FINANCE DIRECTOR ALLEN SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADOPT THE POLICE PENSION BOARD POLICY AMENDMENTS AS PRESENTED. THOSE IN FAVOR: MAYOR RICHARDSON, FINANCE DIRECTOR ALLEN, MR. MOORE, MR. THOMAS, AND POLICE PENSION BOARD SECRETARY ROGERS. THOSE OPPOSED: NONE. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

Board Member Comments

None.

Adjournment:

MR. MOORE MOVED AND MAYOR RICHARDSON SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:37 a.m.

APPROVED:



Mayor Richardson, Chair

ATTEST:



Jennifer Rogers, Police Pension Board Secretary

DATE APPROVED: May 21, 2024

DATE PUBLISHED: May 29, 2024