

**A special meeting of the Town of West Hartford Pension Board was held on
Monday, September 26, 2022 at 7:45 a.m. in room 400 of Town Hall.**

The meeting was called to order at 7:52 a.m.

I. Roll Call/Attendance

Pension Board Members: Chair Lazaro Guzman and Commissioners Alan Lebow, Perry Salonia (via phone), and Brittany MacGilpin.

Participants/Guests: Rick Ledwith, Town Manager, Chris Kachmar, Fiducient Advisors (via phone), Lori Kearney, Clerk of the Board, Cathy Lombardi, Acting Director of Human Resources, and Kathy Zager, Senior Personnel Analyst

Absent: Commissioner Peter Privitera, Mayor Cantor, Mary Fay, Town Council

II. Chair's Opening Comments

A. Kathy Zager named Clerk of the Board effective November 1, 2022.

III. Chris Kachmar, Fiducient Advisors

A. Quarterly investment review – Q2 2022

Fiducient Advisors reviewed the investment policy statement as part of the fiduciary governance calendar for Q2. There are no recommendations for change. The Pension Board will review the IPS by the end of the year. Fiducient Advisors also reviewed Board Best Practices and consider the Pension Board's governance framework to be in good working order with no action items identified. There was continued volatility in the capital markets year to date that will likely continue for the remainder of the year due to the question on where the Fed will be with rates. Returns across asset classes were largely negative for the quarter. The mild recession YTD may lead to better returns in 1Q 2023. How severe the recession might be remains an unknown. The portfolio dashboard shows the pension plan down by approximately 11% QTD, although it has held up fairly well given the challenges. Current manager performance all in maintain status. The pension portfolio's asset allocation is close to targets. The final POB funds will be invested next week.

B. Active versus passive investment strategy

The portfolio is almost half indexed. Board to focus on asset allocation work and active versus passive strategy over the next few months with deeper discussion of funds that fall in passive and active zones. Total manager value added is -.9% for the one year period ending June 30, 2022.

IV. Unfinished Business

A. Continued discussion on valuation service change (biennial to annual)

Changing from the current biennial valuation to an annual valuation will increase fees by \$18,000. There would be a credit of \$2,000 if the pension census data comes from the MARC administration system. This credit would cancel out the additional cost to enhance the valuation to provide additional information for AI's pension dashboard. The Board discussed whether changing to an annual valuation schedule would benefit the Board and/or impact or change its actions and decisions. An annual valuation may be more beneficial to Town operations. Biennial valuations seemed to be working for the Pension Board. However, an annual valuation would be beneficial by providing more frequent information for the pension dashboard and POB program in terms of returns, potential asset allocation changes, and funding. **Motion by Chair Guzman to move from biennial to annual valuations. Motion seconded by Al Lebow.**

Brittany MacGilpin – yes

Al Lebow– yes
Perry Salonia – yes
Lazaro Guzman– yes
Peter Privitera – absent
All in favor. Motion passed.

V. Brittany MacGilpin, Town Matters
No items to report.

VI. Lori Kearney, Clerk of the Board
A. Meeting schedule for 2022

October 17 and November 14, 2022, both planned as in-person meetings.

B. Status update on MARC pension administration system
Corporation Counsel review the MARC agreement and made suggestions for edits and clarifications. These areas were discussed with Milliman and revisions were made to the agreement based on those negotiations. Lori will provide the pertinent changes to the Board.

C. Summary of Pension Administration

VII. Formal Actions

A. Minutes

1. Approval of the minutes for the virtual regular meeting held on Monday, May 16, 2022.

Motion by Chair Guzman for approval of the minutes for the virtual regular meeting held on Monday, May 16, 2022. It was unanimously voted to approve the minutes for the virtual regular meeting held on Monday, May 16, 2022.

2. Approval of the minutes for the virtual special meeting held on Monday, June 13, 2022.

Motion by Chair Guzman for approval of the minutes for the virtual special meeting held on Monday, June 13, 2022. It was unanimously voted to approve the minutes for the virtual special meeting held on Monday, June 13, 2022.

B. Pension Administration

Motion by Chair Guzman for approval of the items under Pension Administration. It was unanimously voted to approve the items under Pension Administration.

1. Memberships

BOE – Kristen Aceto, Tyanna Arroyo, Kristen Banning, Victoria Batayte, Kelly Condon, Lauren Corneau, Debbie DeJesus, Kathleen Duford, Emily Miller, Erin Peters, Emiko Shin, Eileen Theriault, Linda Todd, Sara West

Town – Derek Andrade, Brandon Barlow, Dustin Belfiore, Debra Biella, Briana Brumaghim, Marie Callahan, Isaiah Colon, Esteban Enriquez, David Frost, Marie Gilbuena, David Kent, Jeffrey Kyle, Patrick Lacruz, Tiana Pelletier, Donato Pesce, Adnan Sadiku, Benjamin Santandreu, Wojciech Sigut, Erica Sledge, Martyna Srebrna, Claudia Tata, Sean Waltman, Ryan Winterberger

2. Terminations and Refunds

BOE – Illona Dubaldo (contributions deducted in error), Polly LaValley

Town – Scott Smith

3. Applications for Approval

a. Vested interest applications

BOE – Kathleen Langan

Town – Paula Knake

b. Early retirement applications

BOE – Mary Daly

c. Normal retirement applications

BOE – Thomas Amodio, Wanda Bender, Linda Epstein, Maryann Hall, Marcia Katz, Ellen Martinelli, Stephen Mason, Alan Pinto, Jeffrey Runyon (100% CA of Dorothy Runyon), Francine Therion
Town - Kerry Cloukey, Leopoldo Negrón, Lane Pelton, Nelson Petrone III, Susan Rheaume, Eric Rocheleau, Nicholas Roman, Barbara Rowson (50% CA of Robert Rowson)

c. Survivorships applications

Town – Borghil Bilak (survivor of Fred Bilak, Fire), Audrey Plourd (survivor of Richard Plourde, Fire)

IX. Adjournment

Motion by Chair Guzman to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 a.m. It was unanimously voted to adjourn.

Attest:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Lori Kearney", written in a cursive style.

Lori Kearney, Clerk of the Board

AMENDED (IV A)

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Absent: Commissioner Peter Privitera, Mayor Cantor, Mary Fay, Town Council

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Al Lebow – yes

Perry Salonia – yes

AMENDED (IV A)

Lazaro Guzman– yes

Peter Privitera – absent

All in favor. Motion passed.

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BOE – Thomas Amodio, Wanda Bender, Linda Epstein, Maryann Hall, Marcia Katz, Ellen Martinelli, Stephen Mason, Alan Pinto, Jeffrey Runyon (100% CA of Dorothy Runyon), Francine Therion

AMENDED (IV A)

Town - Kerry Cloukey, Leopoldo Negron, Lane Pelton, Nelson Petrone III, Susan Rheaume, Eric Rocheleau, Nicholas Roman, Barbara Rowison (50% CA of Robert Rowison)

c. Survivorships applications

Town – Borghil Bilak (survivor of Fred Bilak, Fire), Audrey Plourd (survivor of Richard Plourde, Fire)

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Lori Kearney, Clerk of the Board