

NEWTON RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, February 27, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.
Location: Newton City Hall, Room 204
Agenda

RECEIVED
By City Clerk at 4:59 pm, Feb 22, 2024



New Agenda Items:

1. Chris Lodge, President and COO from Pension Technology Group (PTG) and Stephan Georgacopoulos, PTG's Director of Northeast Markets, to attend meeting to discuss contract renewal options, Pension Pro +, Self Service Portal and Scanning module
2. Board to review regular session minutes of meeting held January 23, 2024
3. Board to review executive session minutes of meeting held January 23, 2024

Administrative Agenda Items:

4. Monthly financial reporting for month ending December 2023
5. Board to review projected 2024 administrative expense report prepared by Director O'Brien
6. Board to review FY2025 budget of the Newton Retirement System as prepared by Director O'Brien
7. Board to approve new members as indicated on list provided in Board Member's monthly packet
8. Receipt of request for Accidental Death Benefit pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 32, s.9 & s. 94 from Stephanie Spalding, widow of William Spalding, Police Captain, who died on November 1, 2023. The Board may enter Executive Session pursuant to Purpose 7 of the Open Meeting Law: "To comply with, or act under the authority of, any general...law", that law being Exemption (c) of the Public Records Law - G.L., c. 4, s. 7(26) (c).
9. New application(s) for superannuation & termination retirement:

Member	Position	Dept.	Date of Retirement
Karen Peirce	Associate Director of Special Needs	Parks and Recreation	03/18/2024

10. Board to approve the following expense warrants:

Warrant # 03-24	02/28/2024	Administrative expense/member account disbursements	\$ 783,967.52
Warrant # 04-24	02/27/2024	02-29-2024 Contributory pension payroll	\$ 4,057,125.71
Warrant #C1-24	02/28/2024	Federal Tax	\$ 395.86

Pending Agenda Items:

1. Discussion relating to updating the Newton Retirement Board's Investment Policy
2. Preliminary discussion relating to January 2024 actuarial valuation-Kathleen Riley of Segal to attend 4/23/24 Ret. Bd. Mtg.
3. Discussion relating to cash reserves - scheduled for 5/28/24 Ret. Bd. Mtg.
4. Retirement Office staff policy and procedures handbook update
5. Newton Retirement Board Travel Regulations – PERAC approval received on January 29, 2024
6. Notification to Group 4 members regarding pre-employment physicals being mandatory to retire under the heart, lung and cancer presumption; Update regarding the 2/2/24 monthly meeting with Human Resources
7. Current status of pending disability retirement applications – **informational only:**

Applicant	Dept.	Current Status
Lisa Mikoleit	Police	Tabled by NRB on 11/28/23 for review by counsel for Ms. Mikoleit
Aaron MacGovern	Fire	Disability Transmittal approved by PERAC on 1/25/24
Russell Adam	Police	Submitted remand response to PERAC on 2/1/24
Bradford Leitch	Police	Disability Transmittal approved by PERAC on 02/16/24

8. Current status of pending appeal cases – The Board may enter Executive Session for reason 3 under G.L. c.30A s.21 (“To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares”)

Petitioner	Docket#	Most Recent Status
Edward Murphy	CR-17-724	DALA hearing held 9/12/21;5/17/22 recvd DALA decision -NRB’s decision which was based on PERAC’s directive/ approach re Shift Substitution was reversed.5/31/22 PERAC appealed DALA’s decision;9/13/22 CRAB granted a 90 day extension with a filing date on or before 12/21/22 to the member’s counsel,Atty Hynes.
Richard Metro	CR-20-0237	5/19/20 Mr. Metro appealed denial of \$300/yr. veteran’s benefit. 2/1/22 Order to Show Cause issued to Mr. Metro by DALA. Metro filed reply w/ DALA on 2/7/22;3/18/22 recvd DALA’s final decision-Dismissal;3/23/22 recvd CRAB’s Receipt of Notice of Richard Metro’s Objection to DALA dismissal.
Scott Perella	CR-22-0103	3/18/22 recvd DALA’s Notice of Receipt of Appeal-Mr. Perella is appealing the effective date of his ADR.;3/30/23 recvd Scheduling Order from DALA;5/3/23 recvd copy of Petitioner’s Memorandum; 6/29/23 Board Counsel filed Memorandum to DALA and motion to add PERAC as an addtl party;7/18/23 recvd copy of Atty. Judith Corrigan’s filing to DALA of Notice of Appearance for PERAC;8/15/23 PERAC’s Memorandum of Law was filed; 1/26/24 DALA Ordered that petitioner may withdraw appeal within 14 days;2/8/24 recvd DALA’s Order that the appeal is dismissed.
Kimberley Vanaman	CR-22-0180	5/16/22 recvd DALA’s Notice of Receipt of Appeal-Ms. Vanaman is appealing the calculation of her creditable service.2/28/23 recvd Scheduling Order from DALA; 8/1/23 Board Counsel filed Memorandum relative to consolidated appeal
Susan Cellucci	CR-22-0199	5/25/22 recvd DALA’s Notice of Receipt of Appeal-Ms. Cellucci is appealing the calculation of her creditable service; 11/28/22 recvd First Pre-Hearing Order-Joint Pre-hearing Memorandum due by 3/17/23;3/9/23 Board Counsel filed Motion for Summary Decision;3/13/23 Counsel for Ms. Cellucci filed Motion to Withdraw Without Prejudice
Paula Fallon	CR-22-0200	5/25/22 recvd DALA’s Notice of Receipt of Appeal-Ms. Fallon is appealing the calculation of her creditable service.;4/05/23 recvd Scheduling Order from DALA; 8/1/23 Board Counsel filed Memorandum relative to consolidated appeal
Elizabeth Whittum	CR-22-0211	6/7/22 recvd DALA’s Notice of Receipt of Appeal-Ms. Whittum is appealing the calculation of her creditable service; 4/10/23 recvd Scheduling Order from DALA; 8/1/23 Board Counsel filed Memorandum relative to consolidated appeal
Edith Goethals	CR-22-0248	7/1/22 recvd DALA’s Notice of Receipt of Appeal-Ms. Goethals is appealing the calculation of her creditable service;4/28/23 recvd Scheduling Order from DALA; 8/1/23 Board Counsel filed Memorandum relative to consolidated appeal
Lee Gilliam	CR-23-0039	1/25/23 recvd DALA’s Notice of Receipt of Appeal-Mr. Gilliam is appealing the NRB’s decision in connection with his Ordinary Disability Retirement;5/8/23 recvd First Pre-Hearing Order; 10/25/23 Opposing Counsel filed parties’ joint pre-hearing memo;10/27/23 DALA granted parties’ joint motion to join PERAC as additional party

Director’s Report

Correspondence:

- PERAC Pension Newsflash – February 15, 2024
- PERAC Memo #07 2024 Buyback and Make-up Repayment Worksheets
- PERAC Memo #08 2024 PROSPER COLA Submission is almost here!
- PERAC Memo #09 2024 Actuarial Data

Next scheduled retirement board meeting: Tuesday, March 26, 2024 @ 9:00 a.m.

NOTE: The Board reserves the right to consider items on the agenda out of order. The listing of matters is those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law. Items identified for discussion in Executive Session may be conducted in open session, in addition to or in lieu of discussion in Executive Session. A motion to convene an Executive Session may be entertained during the meeting. Meetings are open to the public and will be held in the designated meeting room in Newton City Hall. The location of this meeting is wheelchair accessible and reasonable accommodations will be provided to persons with disabilities who require assistance. If you need a reasonable accommodation, please contact the City of Newton’s ADA/Sec. 504 Coordinator, Jini Fairley, at least 2 business days in advance of the meeting: jfairley@newtonma.gov or 617-796-1253. The city’s TTY/TDD direct line: 617-796-1089. For the Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS), dial 711.