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Northbridge Retirement Board Minutes
Date: August 24, 2022 - Time: 2:35 p.m.
Place: Northbridge Retirement Office

The Northbridge Retirement Board met on Wednesday August 24, 2022 at 2:35 p.m. in the Northbridge Retirement Office at the Northbridge Town Hall in Whitinsville. Board members present: Neil Vaidya, George Murray, and Tom Frieswyk. Also, present, Scott McGrath, Board Administrator. John Meagher and Sharon Susienka were unable to attend.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

(None)

WARRANTS:

Warrants totaling \$342,354.74 for the month of August were carefully reviewed and approved by the Board. Bank Reconciliations for the month of July 2022 was carefully reviewed and approved by the Board. The Board was informed of a transfer of funds in July from PRIT to checking of \$230,000.00. The Board was informed of a transfer of funds in July from Money Market acct. to Checking of \$98,263.15.

MINUTES:

George Murray made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 22, 2022 Retirement Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Tom Frieswyk.

The Board voted unanimously 3-0 to accept the June 22, 2022 Retirement Board meeting minutes.

George Murray made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 25, 2022 Retirement Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Tom Frieswyk.

The Board voted unanimously 3-0 to accept the July 25, 2022 Retirement Board meeting minutes.

NEW MEMBERS:

George Murray made a motion to deny membership for Joshua Berkowicz, Ally Boucher, Mikayla Gallerani, Ava Lesiak, Owen O'Brien, and Geoffrey Reichert because they do not meet the minimum 28 hour regularly scheduled work week. The motion was seconded by Tom Frieswyk.

The Board voted unanimously 3-0 to deny membership to these employees and to provide these applicants with information regarding their right to appeal.

NEW RETIREES:

The Board did not receive any applications for a superannuation retirement this month.

REQUEST FOR BUYBACK

The Board received no requests for buyback this month.

REQUEST FOR LIABILITY:

There were no requests for liability this month.

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REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL OF FUNDS:

The Board received an application for the withdrawal of funds from Mr. Kenneth Wilson. Mr. Wilson was an Instructional Aide with the Northbridge School Department. He had 4 years and 2 months of creditable service and a start date of December 7, 2017.

Tom Frieswyk made a motion to approve the withdrawal of funds for Kenneth Wilson in the amount of \$7,686.59. The motion was seconded by George Murray.

The Board voted unanimously 3-0 to approve the withdrawal of funds for Kenneth Wilson.

The Board received an application for the withdrawal of funds from Ms. Dominique Arsenault. Ms. Arsenault was a Title 1 Tudor with the Northbridge School Department. She had 9 years and 9 months of creditable service and a start date of November 4, 2019.

George Murray made a motion to approve the withdrawal of funds for Dominique Arsenault in the amount of \$59,027.25.

The motion was seconded by Tom Frieswyk.

The Board voted unanimously 3-0 to approve the withdrawal of funds for Dominique Arsenault.

REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF FUNDS:

The Board received no request for the transfer of funds this month.

DECEASED RETIREES:

The Board was no informed of the passing of any retirees this month.

LEGAL:

The Board had no legal issues this month.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There were no executive session issues to discuss.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

The Board was given the Cash Books for July 2022. The Board reviewed the Cash Books which consist of the accounts receivables, accounts payables, the adjusting entries, the monthly trial balances and the year to date trial balances. The Board had no questions on the reports.

The Board had a discussion about granting mileage reimbursement for the members to attend the monthly meetings. The suggestion was made to set it up as on a person to person basis but for a limited time period. However, the idea that it could create problems down the road was also discussed as some may use it to take advantage of getting on the board for the sole reason of getting a mileage check. Also, the point was made that it should be for everybody's benefit and not for some was mentioned. The fact is this is a volunteer Board that only meets once a month, some felt it was not asking a lot for members to show up without being enticed to get reimbursed for their travel. The Board decided that it was not a good idea and to look into remote participation instead. They were unanimous in their decision.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Board had no new business to discuss this month.

CORRESPONDENCE OUT:

There was no outgoing Correspondence this month.

PERAC:

Expiration of Open Meeting Law Waiver Memo 18/2022 was discussed at the meeting. The memo discussed remote participation for the members to attend the month meetings. The Board felt this would be a good alternative to mileage reimbursement for the members. The Memo states that **Public bodies will need to resume having meetings take place in person at locations which are open and accessible to the public with at least a quorum of the public body physically present.** The Board realizes that **a quorum of the body, including the chair of, in the chair's absence, the person chairing the meeting , must be physically present at the meeting location. All votes taken during the meeting in which a member participates remotely must be taken by a roll call vote.** The Board asked the Administrator to write up a policy for remote participation pursuant to 940 CMR 29.10. Neil Vaidya made a motion to accept Perac Memo 19/2022 to allow remote participation. The motion was seconded by Tom Frieswyk.

The Board voted unanimously 3-0 to accept Memo 18/2022 to allow remote participation.

The Board was informed that pursuant to G.L. c. 32 @91A one of our retirees had excess earnings in 2021. The member will enter into a repayment agreement with the Board to refund the amount of \$1,537.08. The member will have a total of three payments of \$512.36 each withheld from their monthly retirement allowance.

The Board was informed of PERAC's annual Emerging Issues Forum to be held on September 15, 2022.

PRIM:

Summary of Plan Performance July 2022.
PRIM Board Quarterly Update Second Quarter 2022

MACRS:

The Voice Newsletter-September 2022

RETIRED STATE COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES ASSOC. OF MA:

There was nothing to report this month.

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE:

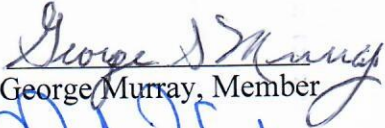
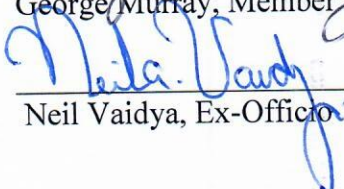
There were no correspondences this month.

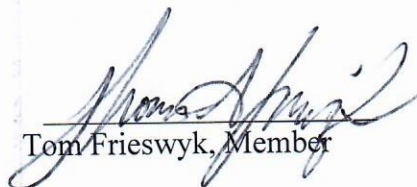
George Murray made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:38 p.m. The motion was seconded by Tom Frieswyk.

The Board voted 3-0 in support.

The next meeting of the Northbridge Retirement Board will be at 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday September 21, 2022 at the Northbridge Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted:


George Murray, Member

Neil Vaidya, Ex-Officio


Tom Frieswyk, Member