

**APPROVED
Minutes
TOWN OF TRUMBULL
Special Pension Board Meeting
June 23, 2020**

Call to Order

Chairman Lavin called the virtual Pension Board meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. via zoom.

PRESENT

James Lavin
Donna Pellitteri
James Daly
Maria Pires
James Meisner
Anthony Musto
Patrick Clark

ABSENT

Also present: John Oliver Beirne – Beirne Wealth Consulting; Lindsey Allard – Beirne Wealth Consulting; J. Bradford Fisher – Findley; Sarah Powers – Findley

Actuarial Valuation 2020 – Findley

Mr. Fisher indicated that he would be giving a brief overview of the upcoming Actuarial Valuations for the Town of Trumbull Retirement Plan. Sarah Powers, who is also in this meeting, is now a dedicated resource for the Town of Trumbull.

Mr. Fisher presented the 2020 Actuarial Valuation and his recommendations for changes. He discussed the various inputs used in compiling the valuation, including the actuarial methods and assumptions, and the parties responsible for providing the information.

The valuations are used for 3 distinct purposes: Funding; Town's Financial Reporting and the Plan's Financial Reporting, and there is some overlap.

The assumptions include information such as the assumed rate of return, mortality of individuals, assumed salary increases, employee turnover rate and retirements. These results are less relevant given a small group such as ours. However, he added, no matter what we choose, costs depend on what is actual vs. assumptions (estimates). Costs are contingent upon what actually occurs. Going forward, we will see a decline since the Plan is closed and you will see the number of retirees increase.

Mr. Fisher indicated that he recommended updating the mortality assumption for the 2018 or 2020 valuation. He is now recommending we update the mortality assumption this year. In 2018, the estimated impact of updating this assumption could increase the Plan's Actuarially Determined Contribution by +/- \$300,000.

He indicated that an Experience Study is sometimes performed to update the information used in the actuarial assumptions at a cost between \$15-20,000. It was noted that it had been quite a while since one may have been done. Mr. Lavin expressed interest in having it done.

Mr. Lavin indicated that we are currently using 7.5% as the assumed rate of return but we may want to reduce it. He asked that the Board begin to think about it. Mr. Clark indicated the median rate last time we did it this was around 7.25%.

Mr. Fisher thought it might be between 7% and 7 1/8%. Mrs. Pires asked that he give us information covering a range of assumed rates between 7.0% -7.5%.

Investment Update – Beirne Wealth Consulting

Mr. John Oliver Beirne spoke to the Board indicating that as of the close of business last evening we are just under \$3.8 million. That will bring the performance of the assets just under 6% at the end of the fiscal year. We purchased \$1.3 million in equities bringing the cash position from 3% to 6.4%. The greatest strength has been in large cap growth in the areas of technology and health care.

Approval of Resolution

Ms. Pires spoke about the Resolution which will make the plan more equitable for the beneficiaries of those who pass away while employed and are not 100% vested. Currently the beneficiaries are only given the option of taking the contributions plus interest . The resolution to amend the Plan will allow the beneficiary the option of taking the contributions plus interest or the actual pension for 10 years..

Ms. Pires, seconded by Ms. Pellitteri, moved to approve the resolution to amend the Pension Plan, as discussed.

Vote: 7-0-0 motion passes

Ms. Pellitteri moved, seconded by Mr. Meisner, to send the Resolution to the Town Council for approval.

Vote: 7-0-0 motion passes

Approval of Pension Benefits

Ms. Pires moved, seconded by Ms. Pellitteri, to approve the Pension Benefit requests as presented.

Vote: 7-0-0 motion passes

Approval of Minutes – January 29, 2020

Mr. Lavin moved, seconded by Ms. Pires, to approve the minutes of the January 29, 2020 meeting subject to the Clerk reviewing and correcting the actual votes made for the election of officers, as follows: 5-0-0; 4-0-1 (abstained: Lavin) 4-0-1 (abstained: Clark)

Vote: 7-0-0 motion passes

Mr. Lavin moved, seconded by Ms. Pires, to approve the minutes of the January 29, 2020 meeting subject to the Clerk reviewing and correcting the actual votes made for the approval of the pension benefits as follows: 5-0-0

Vote: 7-0-0 motion passes

Approval of Minutes – March 13, 2020

Mr. Meisner moved, seconded by Ms. Pires, to change the following paragraph: “Mr. John Oliver Beirne explained that based on the current market conditions, we are not getting a strong rally, and it seems that there **will be another downsize**” to read as follows: “Mr. John Oliver Beirne explained that based on the current market conditions, we are not getting a strong rally, and it seems that there **could be additional downsizing**.”

Vote: 7-0-0

Mr. Meisner moved, seconded by Ms. Pellitteri, to approve the amended minutes, as discussed.

Vote: 5-0-2 (abstained: Musto; Clark)

Adjournment

By unanimous consent, the meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Phyllis C. Collier

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Pension Board Clerk