

**CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE
POLICE AND FIRE RETIREMENT SYSTEM
JOURNAL**

A special meeting of the Fire and Police Retirement System Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, the 24th of April 2024 in Conference Room A at City Hall, 145 Taunton Avenue, East Providence, RI 02914 at 9:00 a.m.

Trustees:

- Lt. Adam Christina, Chairman, Fire Representative - present
- Det.Cpl. Patrick Kelley, Vice Chairman, Police Representative – absent
- James Bellamy, Retiree Representative - present
- John F. Wallace, Civilian Representative - absent
- Frank Fogarty, Councilman, City Council Representative – absent
- Roberto L. DaSilva, Mayor – present
- Malcolm Moore, Director of Finance, Administrator – present

Other Attendees:

- Michael J. Marcello, City Solicitor
- Bernadette Fraiss, City HR Benefits and Payroll Administrator
- Kim Brown, Pension Clerk

Open Session Called to Order at 9:05 a.m. by Chairman Christina

VOTE	ADAM CHRISTINA	PATRICK KELLEY	JAMES BELLAMY	JOHN WALLACE	COUNCILMAN FOGARTY	MAYOR DaSILVA	MALCOLM MOORE
Aye	√		√			√	√
Nay							
Abstain							
Absent		√		√	√		

Vote to go into Executive Session

The Fire and Police Retirement System of the City of East Providence will meet in closed Executive Session pursuant to RI General Laws § 42-46-5 (a)(1) for a discussion related to the physical or mental health of a person or persons related to a request for a disability pension – notice given.

A motion to go into and call Executive Session to order at 9:06 am was made by Trustee DaSilva and 2nd by Trustee Bellamy

VOTE	ADAM CHRISTINA	PATRICK KELLEY	JAMES BELLAMY	JOHN WALLACE	COUNCILMAN FOGARTY	MAYOR DaSILVA	MALCOLM MOORE
Aye	√		√			√	√
Nay							
Abstain							
Absent		√		√	√		

Reconvene in Open Session at 9:22 am

Reading of the votes from Executive Session

The clerk stated that there were no votes made during executive session, it was discussion only.

Discussion / Action / Vote regarding hiring of outside counsel interviewed in response to RFQ EP22/23-26R City’s Private Pension Plan Review

The Chair stated that the Solicitor hosted a meet with Buck and Ice Miller. The Vice Chair, Trustee Moore and the Solicitor participated in the ZOOM interviews. The Chair was not available but the Solicitor recorded the meeting which the Chair reviewed several times. The Chair felt that they both presented similar solutions with different approaches. In his opinion with different levels of professionalism, he preferred Ice Miller. The Solicitor agrees with the Chair. He thought they were better prepared and had a better plan. Trustee Moore agreed that Ice Miller was his choice; they were proactive and had done research on the City and the pension plan which gave them a leg up, it showed they were willing to go above and beyond in Trustee Moore’s opinion. The Chair stated that they were ready to go. They strongly urged to get certified with the IRS getting a letter of exemption. Trustee DaSilva stated that this is a great opportunity to get the ordinances updated and create a handbook to give employees at retirement, he’s excited. He asked what the cost would be. The Solicitor stated that it wasn’t cheap. The Chair did get the impression that there was wiggly room. The Chair asked if the City was still willing to sharing the cost 50/50 with the Board as he heard was previously discussed. Trustee DaSilva stated that it was fair and the City would split the cost. The Solicitor will contact Ice Miller for an engagement letter and provide the information to the procurement specialist. Trustee DaSilva stated that everyone’s interest at the table is to insure that the fund continues to be solvent and continues to serve the employees for decades to come. He’s hoping the City gets to a point where they will not have to keep increasing the contributions that are needed year over year.

A motion was made to award Ice Miller the RFQ and to share the fees equally with the City by Trustee DaSilva and 2nd by Trustee Bellamy

VOTE	ADAM CHRISTINA	PATRICK KELLEY	JAMES BELLAMY	JOHN WALLACE	COUNCILMAN FOGARTY	MAYOR DaSILVA	MALCOLM MOORE
Aye	√		√			√	√
Nay							
Abstain							
Absent		√		√	√		

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 am by Trustee DaSilva and 2nd by Trustee Moore

VOTE	ADAM CHRISTINA	PATRICK KELLEY	JAMES BELLAMY	JOHN WALLACE	COUNCILMAN FOGARTY	MAYOR DaSILVA	MALCOLM MOORE
Aye	√		√			√	√
Nay							
Abstain							
Absent		√		√	√		