

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

A regular quarterly meeting of the Fire and Police Retirement System Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, the 15th of August 2023 in Conference Room A at City Hall, 145 Taunton Avenue, East Providence, RI 02914 at 9:00 a.m.

Trustees:

- Capt. James Nelson, Chairman, Police Representative – present
- Lt. Adam Christina, Vice Chairman, Fire Representative - present
- James Bellamy, Retiree Representative - absent
- John F. Wallace, Civilian Representative - present
- Frank Fogarty, Councilman, City Council Representative – arrived 9:10 a.m.
- Roberto L. DaSilva, Mayor – present
- Malcolm Moore, Director of Finance, Administrator – present

Other Attendees:

- Michael Dwyer, Wainwright Investment Counsel, LLC
- Jeff Fabrizio, Wainwright Investment Counsel, LLC
- Kim Brown, Pension Clerk

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

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

Presentation by Wainwright Investments LLC

Michael Dwyer stated that that the stimulus money hasn't all been spent yet and is keeping the economy going. However, when it runs out things will not look so good. It's an unusually time but we are making some money this year. Mike had Jeff go over the June report. The fund total is \$151,663,214; year to date the portfolio is up 5.85%, in line with our custom index. The areas of strength that have helped the portfolio are Domestic and International Equities each up approximately 11.3%. Jeff stated as a note to everyone, especially for the newer members, Realest and Private Equity portfolios are limited partnerships and usually ten plus year commitments and not liquid. When we get pricing for them it is a one quarter lag and that is typical with standard industries. Cash is now getting an annual return of 5% which hasn't been seen in years.

Mike has an update for new Emerging Market Equity manager Westwood as of July. It has grown very well within the very short period of time the Board has had them. A lot of funds have been given to Real Estate but with the current high interest rates that market will begin to slow right down. The good news is that the Board doesn't have a lot of commercial real estate. We are in line to liquidate and rebalance realest but are in the que for Principal and Lion and have to wait until they sell property to pay plans out. The portfolio is diversified and he still suggests staying the course.

A motion was made to accept the performance report handout into record by Trustee DaSilva and 2nd by Trustee Christina

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

To Approve the Consent Calendar

All items under “Consent Calendar” are considered to be of a routine and noncontroversial nature by the Board and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a Board member so requests, in which event, the item will be removed from the “Consent Calendar” and will be considered in its normal sequence on the docket.

1. Pension meeting journal for May 24th 2023
2. COLA listings for June, July and August 2023
3. Principal Custody Solutions Fee Advise 2nd Qtr.
4. Wainwright Investment Counsel, LLC 2nd Qtr.
5. Principal U.S. Property Account 2nd Quarter Highlights
6. Capital Call – Dover Street X L.P.
7. APRA request from Prequin – Kim replied
8. APRA request from Prequin – Kim replied
9. APRA request from FIN News – Kim replied
10. APRA request from ISS – Kim Replied
11. Correspondence – Lt. Wyrostek retiring / Lt. Christina appointed as Fire Representative
12. Correspondence – J. Neale retiring / J. Bellamy appointed as Civillian Representative
13. Correspondence – F Connors regarding new law related to heart disease – Solicitor replied

A motion was made to accept all items on the consent calendar by Trustee Moore and 2nd by Trustee Wallace

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

Request to buy back into the pension fund from a returning employee who left the City and removed his contributions.

Kyle Graves resigned in Aug of 2021 and took a lump sum payment of his pension contributions in June of 2022. Per Section 11-242 of the Pension Ordinances he is able to return the refund plus accrued interest and will be entitled to regain his previously forfeited service credits following at least three years of service after his latest reentry. In a notice to the Pension Board dated 8/8/23 Kyle Graves is requesting to pay the amount in full. Trustee DaSilva asked how much the total amount was and Kim replied, the total with interest good until 9/16/23 is \$23,654.94.

A motion was made to have Kim send notice to Kyle Graves allowing him to return his prior contributions plus interest Trustee DaSilva and 2nd by Trustee Wallace

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

A Discussion regarding the assumptions from the actuarial consultant pertaining to payroll growth and mortality changes.

Trustee Moore handed out a copy of a memo received from the actuarial consultant, nyhart. Two years ago the actuary suggested three changes. The only one adapted to date is the interest went from 7.5% to 7.25%. Trustee Moore was thinking that the company could come to the next meeting to go over their suggestions. They would like to change the payroll assumption from a fixed 4% to an adjustable rate due to step increases in reflected in the contracts. They would also like to change the mortality rate. Trustee DaSilva would like nyhart to come in and have an action plan to review along with answering any questions the Board may have. Trustee Moore stated that the fund is at approximately 565 which is critical status. Chairman Nelson ask if the fund was still split by police and fire as required due to the Google contribution to the fund. Trustee DaSilva wants the plan to be self-sufficient for the relief of the tax payers. He also suggests that the Board has some input when contract negotiations come along because benefits in the contract greatly affect the pension fund. Trustee DaSilva wants to preserve the pension long term, long after he is gone and not on the back of the tax payers.

A motion was made to have Trustee Moore contact nyhart and invite them to the next meeting to go over their recommended assumption changes and have a plan of action by Trustee DaSilva and 2nd by Trustee Wallace

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

Trustee DaSilva had to leave the meeting at 9:55 a.m. He did submit, and Kim will read into record in executive session, a Statement of Conflict of Interest pursuant to RI Gen Laws 36-14-6 before he left pertaining to the Executive Session on the agenda for today.

A Discussion / Action regarding accepting one of the RFQ submissions for legal counsel to assist the Board with updating the ordinances and setting policies or to re-post.

Kim handed out the bids received to the Board members that did not pick them up prior to the meeting. Chairman Nelson stated after reviewing the two bids received he reviewed the minuets from the last meeting and in his opinion he doesn't think the RFQ as advertised was what the Board was looking for and would like those extra items, especially the union contract negotiations taken out and the RFQ reposted. Trustee Christina noted that one of the bids specialized in global insurance and risk management.

A motion was made to table awarding the RFQ as it currently is, the Chairman will work with the Procurement Specialist to update the specification and repost the RFQ by: Trustee Christina and 2nd by Trustee Wallace

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

Executive Session

The Chairman suggested that due to the Solicitor not being here today and no additional information had been received regarding Det. Medeiros to update that there was no need for executive session.

A motion was made to not have executive session by: Trustee Wallace and 2nd by Trustee Christina

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

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 10:09 am by: Trustee Fogarty and 2nd by Trustee Christina

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