Minutes of the Chicopee Retirement Board monthly meeting held on March 26, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. at City Hall in the Auditors Conference Room.

Present: Boronski, Mailhott, Ference & O'Shea
Absent: Riley (excused)

The Chairman called the Cost of Living Portion of the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

**COLA INCREASE** - COLA notice was received from PERAC for Social Security Administration with an increase in the amount of 1.6%. The Board discussed whether or not to give the Retirees a Cost of Living Adjustment in the amount of 3% on the first $15,000 as of July 1, 2020.

A motion was made by Mr. Mailhott and seconded by Ms. Boronski to grant a COLA, effective July 1, 2020 in the amount of 3% on the base of a retirement allowance to those retirees and survivors who are eligible and to notify PERAC, the Mayor and the City Council. ALL IN FAVOR.

The Chairman called the Regular Meeting to Order at 8:42 a.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Ference and seconded by Ms. Boronski to accept and approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting dated February 27, 2020 and the Executive Session Meeting dated February 27, 2020. The minutes will be placed on file. ALL IN FAVOR.

A motion was made by Ms. Boronski and seconded by Mr. Ference to approve the monthly expense warrant #03262020, refund warrant #03272020 and payroll warrant #03312020. ALL IN FAVOR.

The following people applied for membership in the system according to statute:

1. Kayleigh Morin – Library – Group #1
2. Michelle Hogan – School – Group #1
3. Corinne LaRochelle – School – Group #1
4. Mark Misalek – School – Group #1
5. Brent Lenox – CEL – Group #4
6. Mark Smith – CEL – Group #4

A motion was made by Mr. Ference and seconded Ms. Boronski to approve the above mentioned individuals for membership into the System. ALL IN FAVOR.
The following people applied for Superannuation Retirement according to statute:

Mead, Scott – Water Department Meter Repairman – Department of Public Works - wishes to retire on April 3, 2020 with 30 years and 10 months of service.

Billips, Kimberly – Principal Clerk at the Department of Public Works – Water Department wishes to retire on May 22, 2020 with 33 years and 9 months of service.

Barrett, Rebecca – Food Service Cook/Manager at the School Department – wishes to retire on June 26, 2020 with 31 years and 5 months of creditable service.

Renkie, Debra – Kitchen Helper at the School Department – wishes to retire on June 26, 2020 with 30 years and 9 months of creditable service.

Motion was made by Ms. Boronski and seconded by Mr. Ference to approve the retirement applications. ALL IN FAVOR.

The following retirement calculations have been prepared for the Board’s approval according to statute:

Boutin, Arthur – Line Foreman at Chicopee Electric Light, retired March 1, 2020 - $77,829.48 per year.

Rolandini, Mark – Senior Custodian – School Department retired March 11, 2020 - $40,558.20 per year.

Motion was made by Mr. Mailhott and seconded by Mr. Ference to approve the retirement calculations. ALL IN FAVOR.

The following retirement re-calculation have been prepared for the Board’s approval according to statute:

Dennis Bajek, Firefighter, Fire Department retired January 5, 2019 new yearly amount $48,723.24.

Patricia Delmonte, Cook/Manager - School Lunch Department retired March 29, 2019 new yearly amount $20,760.12.

Steven Russell, Custodian, School Department – retired August 2, 2019 new yearly amount $30,023.16.
March 26, 2020

Estelle Vanasse, Cafeteria, School Lunch Department retired December 31, 2017 new yearly amount $9,566.16.

Deborah Willette, Administrative Assistant, School Department retired December 31, 2018 new yearly amount $39,391.68.

Motion was made by Ms. Boronski and seconded by Mr. Mailhott to approve the retirement re-calculation. ALL IN FAVOR.

Small Refunds:

There are three individuals that we had to do small refunds on this month warrant - when we did housekeeping at the end of the year we found that they were being charged the wrong percentage rate for retirement. (example – 9% instead of 7% or 9% instead of 8%).

The following refunds have been prepared for the Board’s approval according to statute:

Andrus, Tony – Paraprofessional – School Department – resigned 1/7/2020 - $23,746.65

Scott, Kevin – Maintenance Manager – Housing Authority – resigned 12/3/2019 - $23,005.97

Lyons, Thomas – Assistant Assessor – City of Chicopee – terminated 3/20/2018 - $25,081.99

Motion was made by Ms. Boronski and seconded by Mr. Ference to approve the retirement refund applications. ALL IN FAVOR.

CME Reports – PERAC has completed their evaluations pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 32, Section 8 regarding the return to work of two of our Accidental/Ordinary Disability Retirees and have determined that they are unable to perform the essential duties of their job. No Board action is needed at this time.

COVID-19 Update - at a Department Head meeting on Monday, March 16, 2020 the Mayor informed all department heads that if employees need to stay out for day care reasons or illnesses then they can work at home if possible. They would not have to use their sick time, they would be paid as on Paid Administrative Leave. The Board needs to discuss this and decide if this is something that they will do as well.

Also, as of Tuesday, March 24, 2020 all nonessential employees are to stay home. But the Mayor is asking that we work on a skeleton crew basis. The Assistant Director and the Director will work every other day and the other two will rotate as well.

After a discussion a motion was made by Mr. Mailhott and seconded by Mr. Ference to
follow the same rules as the City of Chicopee regarding these two circumstances.

**Schedule for Board Meetings for 2019** — all Thursdays except when noted, **February 27, 2020, March 26, 2020, April 23, 2020, May 28, 2020, June 18, 2020, July 23, 2020, August 27, 2020, September 24, 2020, October 22, 2020, November 19, 2020 and December 17, 2020.**

** denotes when an investment manager will be in attendance at a meeting.

**REPORTS AND NOTICES:**

- checking account balance sheet December, January and February
- PRIM 4th quarter 2019 update

The reports were reviewed and placed on file.

A motion was made by Ms. Boronski and seconded by Mr. Ference to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 a.m. ALL IN FAVOR.

Anna Maria Hamblin, Executive Director

APPROVED: BOARD OF RETIREMENT

Timothy O. O'Shea

Paul Mailhott

David Ference

Sharya Riley

Debra Boronski