

**PENSION COMMISSION
City Conference Room
260 Constitution Plaza
Friday, August 8, 2012
9:00 a.m.**

MINUTES

PENSION ADMINISTRATION

MEMBERS PRESENT: Peter Stevens, Chairman; Frank Lord; Gene Goldman; Marc Nelson, Employee Representative; Adam Cloud, Secretary

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

STAFF PRESENT: Anne Coleman, Assistant Plan Administrator; Lisa Silvestri, Assistant Corporation Counsel; Carmen Sierra, Assistant Treasurer; Terry Williams, Senior Administrative Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT: Richard Pokorski, Employee Benefits

Chairman Peter Stevens called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

I. Minutes of the Meeting of June 27, 2012

There were no changes or corrections to the minutes as presented.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously adopted to accept the minutes of the June 27, 2012 meeting.

II. Survivor Benefits

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously adopted to approve the following survivor benefits:

Eckstrom, James *, survivor of the late employee, member of the Municipal Employees' Retirement Fund (MERF) who died March 20, 2012 (Survivor benefits under the MERF; Emp. #S231916 / 980243)

Effective Date:	April 1, 2012	
Annual Allowance:		\$ 8,846.76
Monthly Allowance:		737.23

Peluso, Patricia *, survivor of the late employee, member of the Municipal Employees' Retirement Fund (MERF) who died June 20, 2012 (Survivor benefits under the MERF; Emp. #S587206 / 980242)

Effective Date:	July 1, 2012	
Annual Allowance:		\$ 9,203.76
Monthly Allowance:		766.98

Thompson, Roberta *, survivor of the late employee, member of the Municipal Employees' Retirement Fund (MERF) who died May 18, 2012 (Survivor benefits under the MERF; Emp. #S727180 / 980241)

Effective Date:	June 1, 2012	
Annual Allowance:		\$ 9,500.16
Monthly Allowance:		791.68

* These benefits are being presented for ratification. The first payments were made in July 2012.

III. Regular Retirements

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously adopted to approve the following regular retirement benefits:

		<u>AMOUNT</u>		
<u>Atkinson, Susan *</u>				
Emp. # 631876 / 990452				
Union: Local 2221				
		Years	Months	Days
Term of Service (including Sick Exchange):		17	0	0
Sick Exchange:		0	0	0
Grounds:	Vested Early			
Termination Date:	January 30, 2003			
Effective Date:	July 25, 2012			
Average Salary:	Highest 3 out of last 5 years			\$ 21,718.30
	Final Base Pay			23,535.00
Pension Allowed:				
Unreduced Pension:	42.50 %			\$ 9,230.28
Early Reduction Factor:	4.00 % for each year prior to age 60			20.00 %
Reduced Pension:				\$ 7,384.20
Monthly Payment:				615.35
 <u>Bajwa, Kuldip *</u>				
Emp. # 940708 / 990451				
Union: HMEA				
		Years	Months	Days
Term of Service (including Sick Exchange):		15	0	0
Sick Exchange:		0	0	0
Grounds:	Vested Service			
Termination Date:	May 16, 2002			
Effective Date:	July 4, 2012			
Average Salary:	Highest 2 out of last 5 years			\$ 55,946.77
	Final Base Pay			54,912.00
Pension Allowed:	37.50 %			20,980.08
Monthly Payment:				1,748.34

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III. Regular Retirements (continued)

AMOUNT

Barlow, Arleen

Emp. # 915467 / 990453

Union: Local 1018AB

	Years	Months	Days
Term of Service (including Sick Exchange):	10	0	0
Sick Exchange:	0	0	0
Grounds:	Service		
Effective Date:	August 13, 2012		
Average Salary:	Highest 3 out of last 5 years		\$ 58,246.54
	Final Base Pay		57,836.00
Pension Allowed:	25.00 %		14,561.64
Monthly Payment:	1,213.47		

Chase, LeeAnn *

Emp. # 919260 / 990456

Union: Local 82

	Years	Months	Days
Term of Service (including Sick Exchange):	6	0	0
Sick Exchange:	0	0	0
Grounds:	Early		
Effective Date:	July 5, 2012		
Average Salary:	Highest 3 out of last 5 years		\$ 58,446.08
	Final Base Pay		57,647.00
Pension Allowed:			
Unreduced Pension:	15.00 %		\$ 8,766.96
Early Reduction Factor:	4.00 % for each year prior to age 60		12.00 %
Reduced Pension:	\$ 7,714.92		
Monthly Payment:	642.91		

Faust, Lawrence *

Emp. # 940797 / 990454

Union: Local 760

	Years	Months	Days
Term of Service (including Sick Exchange):	31	0	0
Sick Exchange:	6	0	0
Grounds:	Service		
Effective Date:	June 6, 2012		
Average Salary:	Final Base Pay		\$ 74,739.28
Pension Allowed:	85.00 % less QDRO		37,369.56
Monthly Payment:	3,114.13		

III. Regular Retirements (continued)

AMOUNT

Howard, Deidre

Emp. # 901246 / 990459

Union: Local 1018C

	Years	Months	Days
Term of Service (including Sick Exchange):	26	0	0
Sick Exchange:	0	0	0
Grounds:	Service		
Effective Date:	August 3, 2012		
Average Salary:	Highest 5 out of last 10 years		\$ 52,767.23
		Final Base Pay	51,536.00
Pension Allowed:	52.00 %		27,438.96
Monthly Payment:	2,286.58		

Li, Jia *

Emp. # 944718 / 990457

Union: CHPEA

	Years	Months	Days
Term of Service (including Sick Exchange):	8	0	0
Sick Exchange:	0	0	0
Grounds:	Early		
Effective Date:	June 5, 2012		
Average Salary:	Highest 2 out of last 5 years		\$ 57,881.63
		Final Base Pay	57,658.00
Pension Allowed:			
Unreduced Pension:	16.00 %		\$ 9,261.12
Early Reduction Factor:	4.00 % for each year prior to age 60		12.20 %
Reduced Pension:	\$ 8,131.32		
Monthly Payment:	677.61		

McFadden, Mozallen

Emp. # 940770 / 990458

Union: Local 760

	Years	Months	Days
Term of Service (including Sick Exchange):	31	0	0
Sick Exchange:	6	0	0
Grounds:	Service		
Effective Date:	June 27, 2012		
Average Salary:	Final Base Pay		\$ 74,875.65
Pension Allowed:	85.00 %		63,644.28
Monthly Payment:	5,303.69		

III. Regular Retirements (continued)

		<u>AMOUNT</u>		
<u>Pettigrew, Thomas</u> *				
Emp. # 940775 / 990455				
Union: Local 760				
		Years	Months	Days
Term of Service (including Sick Exchange):		31	0	0
Sick Exchange:		6	0	0
Grounds:	Service			
Effective Date:	June 22, 2012			
Average Salary:	Final Base Pay			\$ 85,694.15
Pension Allowed:	85.00 %			72,840.00
Monthly Payment:				6,070.00

* These benefits are being presented for ratification. The first payments were made in July 2012.

IV. Terminated Vested – Requests to Vest Benefits

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously adopted to approve the following requests to vest benefits:

		<u>AMOUNT</u>	
<u>Garcia, Maria</u>			
Emp. # 913128			
Union: Local 1018F			
Date of Termination:	January 13, 2012		
Term of Service:	12 years		
Grounds:	Vested Service		
Normal Retirement Date:	December 12, 2020 (Age 60)		
Average Salary:	Highest 5 out of the last 10 years		\$ 33,924.34
	Final Base Pay		30,000.00
Pension Allowed:	24.00 %		8,141.88
Monthly Payment:			678.49

V. Pension Benefit Adjustments

Chairman Stevens introduced the item. The Assistant Plan Administrator, Anne Coleman, explained that Thomas Barber was one of the Pension Benefit Fund retirees entitled to a cost of living increase. While calculating the new amounts, the Pension Unit noticed that starting on July 1, 2006, the cost of living adjustment factor for Mr. Barber was changed from 34% to 25% in error, and the mistake continued until this year. To correct this underpayment, she concluded, Mr. Barber was paid a retroactive adjustment of \$3,547.44 in July, 2012.

Ms. Coleman further explained that the next two adjustments were identified while updating the retiree data base for spouses and other information.

Effective October 4, 1991 Carol Faggaini began to receive a spouse benefit plus \$100 per month for her minor child until his 18th birthday. Ms. Faggaini's minor child turned 18 on May 3, 1992, but his benefit was never stopped. With COLAs his benefit has increased to \$129.83. The minor child benefit was stopped effective July 1, 2012.

Thomas and Eleanor Hankard were married after Mr. Hankard retired. Under the provisions of the Police Benefit Fund his spouse, Eleanor Hankard, was entitled to receive a beneficiary benefit for ten years after his death on January 13, 1995. However the Pension Unit never stopped her payments. The spouse was notified that her benefits would cease as of July 1, 2012, but we would not require her to repay the overpayment. Benefits were stopped effective July 1, 2012.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously adopted to approve the following pension benefit adjustments:

Barber, Thomas A.
Emp. #32069

From: \$2,682.38
To: 2,749.28

Faggaini, Carol
Emp. #236970

From: \$1,637.97
To: 1,508.14

Hankard, Eleanor
Emp. #323210

From: \$921.12
To: 0.00

VI. Separations from Pension Payroll

The following separations from Pension Payroll were placed on file:

<u>EMPLOYEE NUMBER</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE OF DEATH</u>	<u>PENSION AMOUNT</u>	<u>PENSION PLAN</u>
56529	Boukus, Mary	06/04/2012	\$ 489.13	RAF
435074	Leach, Ellsworth	06/10/2012	6,763.15	MERF
587206	Peluso, John	06/20/2012	1,533.96	MERF
678317	Sierota, Doris	06/20/2012	131.40	MERF

The pension for the following individual has been reinstated since the Pension Unit has received verification of his address and/or status.

<u>EMPLOYEE NUMBER</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE OF REMOVAL</u>	<u>PENSION AMOUNT</u>	<u>PENSION PLAN</u>
980187	Keegan, Patricia	April 1, 2012	\$1,724.20	MERF

VII. Request for Refunds of Pension Contributions

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously adopted to approve the following refunds of pension contributions:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Abella, Sandra	\$ 3,282.73
Aldrich, Colette *	84.06
Azeez, Shane	294.81
Cocchiola, Christina S.***	1,505.70
Comer, Andrea	9,040.20
Edwards, Robert A.***	1,505.68
Edwards, Skyler I. ***	1,505.68
Erlikh, Inna *	97.80
Fleeting, Willie *	2,543.51
Glisson, Angela	3,961.04
Gonzalez, Jesus	2,134.10

VII. Request for Refunds of Pension Contributions (continued)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Gonzalez, Leslie	865.61
Hopkins, Regina M. *	320.64
Jones, Riberia *	1,696.00
Kowalsky, Bryan	12,966.75
Marvin, Jeffrey **	\$ 8,565.50
Nguyen, Giang	2,607.46
Riley, Joyce *	679.56
Rivera, Ruth *	366.38
Samuels, Jacqueline *	59.89
Waterman, Michell	8,375.13

None of the above members is vested, or, if vested, he or she has been informed of, and has waived, his or her rights to a vested benefit in lieu of a contribution refund. The amounts shown above do not include interest accrued after 2002.

* Additional contributions or interest due to the member.

** Beneficiary of deceased active MERF member James Marvin

*** Beneficiary of deceased active MERF member Diane Radicioni

VIII. Qualified Domestic Relations Orders

Chairman Stevens introduced the item. The Assistant Plan Administrator, Anne Coleman, reported that the Pension Unit had received one properly executed Qualified Domestic Relations Order (QDRO), for the MERF. Ms. Coleman recommended that the Commission approve the Order as presented.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously adopted to approve the following QDRO, with assignments as indicated, subject to like reductions in the contribution and pension accounts of the plan member.

MERF

QDRO: 12-08

Entered into Court Records: June 15, 2012

Benefit Calculation Date: January 25, 2012

		<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Dollar Amount</u>
Benefit Assigned to Alternate Payee:	Monthly:	28.50 %	\$ 1,150.53
Pension Contributions Assigned:	Pre-Tax:	28.50 %	29,246.57
	Post-Tax:	28.50 %	444.24
	Interest:	28.50 %	0.00

Alternate Payee Retirement Date: April 26, 2014

IX. Hardship Withdrawal Requests

Chairman Stevens introduced the item. The Assistant Plan Administrator, Anne Coleman, stated that the Pension Unit had received two requests for hardship withdrawals from the Section 457 deferred compensation plan.

Application 12-07: Ms. Coleman summarized the request by stating that the applicant had received a foreclosure notice for non-payment of the mortgage of his primary residence. Ms. Coleman went on to explain that foreclosure due to non-payment of the mortgage of his primary residence met the IRS guidelines for a Hardship Withdrawal and recommended that the Commission ratify the approval given by The Hartford's Hardship Review Committee and the Pension Commission's Review Committee.

Application 12-08: Ms. Coleman summarized the request by stating that the applicant had received a foreclosure notice for non-payment of the mortgage of her primary residence. Ms. Coleman went on to explain that foreclosure due to non-payment of the mortgage of her primary residence met the IRS guidelines for a Hardship Withdrawal and recommended that the Commission ratify the approval given by The Hartford's Hardship Review Committee and the Pension Commission's Review Committee.

A motion was made, seconded and adopted to ratify the approvals for hardship withdrawal requests 12-07 and 12-08 as presented.

X. Consideration of Report on Automatic Pension Adjustments for FRF and PBF

Chairman Stevens introduced the item. The Assistant Plan Administrator, Anne Coleman, summarized her report, stating that the retirees under the old closed plan, the Firemen's Relief Fund (FRF), did not receive increases with the July 31, 2012 pension payment. Ms. Coleman stated that the affected retirees were those who were covered under contractual provisions granting pension increases based on pay rates for active Firefighters in the same or corresponding grade as the retiree was in at the time of retirement.

Prior to January 2012, the April 2007 Firefighters' Agreement was used to determine the pension increases for the FRF retirees, Ms. Coleman continued, but the wage increases in that contract had expired. Beginning January 1, 2012, Ms. Coleman explained, the May 2009 Firefighters' agreement was used and due to wage concessions in the May 2009 contract there was no wage increase effective in January 2012. The Assistant Plan Administrator then stated that the next wage increase in June 2012 would result in a slight pension decrease for the FRF retirees, so there would also be no pension adjustment in July 2012 and the next pension increase for the FRF retirees would not be effective until January 1, 2013.

Ms. Coleman added that the retirees in the other old closed plan, the Police Benefit Fund (PBF), would receive an increase as of July 31, 2012, in accordance with the terms of the new collective bargaining agreement. There was no retroactive wage adjustment approved as part of the new Police contract.

The report was accepted and placed on file.

XI. Consideration of Report on Section 457 Deferred Compensation Quarterly Status

Chairman Stevens introduced the item. Ms. Coleman noted that she was providing the summary pages of the quarterly report provided by The Hartford (Hartford Life) for the Section 457 Deferred Compensation Plan and the Administrative Revenue Account for the quarter ending on June 30, 2012, as requested by the Commissioners.

The Commission received the report for advice and placed it on file.

XII. Executive Session to Discuss Pending Litigation

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously adopted to enter into executive session, after which a motion was made, seconded and unanimously adopted to return to open public session.

The Pension Commission members, Assistant Plan Administrator, Anne Coleman, Assistant Corporation Counsel, Lisa Silvestri, and Assistant Treasurer, Carmen Sierra remained for a brief update regarding the HMEA litigation. Employee Representative, Marc Nelson, then recused himself for the remainder of the discussion.

The Commission received the report for advice.

XIII. Other Business

Chairman Stevens introduced the item. There was no Other Business to come before the Commission at this meeting.

There being no further business, Chairman Stevens adjourned the Pension Administration portion of the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

Attest:



Adam M. Cloud, Secretary