

**PENSION COMMISSION
City Conference Room
260 Constitution Plaza
Friday, June 26, 2015
9:00 a.m.**

MINUTES

PENSION ADMINISTRATION

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

STAFF PRESENT: Donna Parker, Plan Administrator; Rebecca Crowley, Assistant Plan Administrator; Lisa Silvestri, Assistant Corporation Counsel; Carmen Sierra, Assistant City Treasurer; Terry Williams, Senior Administrative Assistant; Chelsea Mott, Accountant

OTHERS PRESENT: Richard Pokorski, Employee Benefits; George Zoltowski, Management and Budget

Chairman Peter Stevens called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

I. Minutes of the Meeting of May 29, 2015

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 May 29, 2015 meeting.

II. Survivor Benefits

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

Brown, Janet, survivor of the late Arthur Brown, member of the City Annuity Fund who died March 26, 2013 (Survivor benefits under the City Annuity Fund; Emp. #S069205 / 980308)

Effective Date:	April 1, 2013	
Annual Allowance:		\$ 2,294.28
Monthly Allowance:		191.19

Dashefsky, Solly survivor of the late Gertrude Dashefsky, member of the Municipal Employees' Retirement Fund (MERF) who died April 5, 2015 (Survivor benefits under the MERF; Emp. #S172138 / 980309)

Effective Date:	May 1, 2015	
Annual Allowance:		\$ 5,274.36
Monthly Allowance:		439.53

Dillon, Beverly survivor of the late Edward Dillon, member of the Municipal Employees' Retirement Fund (MERF) who died May 27, 2015 (Survivor benefits under the MERF; Emp. #S196452 / 980310)

Effective Date:	June 1, 2015	
Annual Allowance:		\$ 16,142.28
Monthly Allowance:		1,345.19

III. Regular Retirements

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

		<u>AMOUNT</u>		
<u>Kelley, Gregory</u>				
Emp. # 942649 / 990685				
Union: Local 760				
		Years	Months	Days
Term of Service (including Sick Exchange):		24	0	0
Sick Exchange:		4	0	0
Grounds:	Service			
Effective Date:	May 19, 2015			
Average Salary:	Final Base Pay			\$ 85,652.65
Pension Allowed:	66.00 %			56,530.80
Monthly Payment:				4,710.90

<u>McBride, Valentina</u>				
Emp. # 905756 / 990684				
Union: Local 78				
		Years	Months	Days
Term of Service (including Sick Exchange):		10	0	0
Sick Exchange:		0	0	0
Grounds:	Vested Service			
Termination Date:	July 25, 2007			
Effective Date:	May 6, 2015			
Average Salary:	Highest 3 out of last 5 years			\$ 59,725.69
	Final Base Pay			63,085.10
Pension Allowed:	25.00 %			14,931.48
Monthly Payment:				1,244.29

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>O'Donnell, Kellie</u>		
Emp. # 862738		
Union: Library Non-Union		
Date of Termination:	June 10, 2015	
Term of Service:	20 years	
Grounds:	Vested Service	
Normal Retirement Date:	January 30, 2021 (Age 60)	
Average Salary:	Highest 2 out of the last 5 years	\$ 74,845.88
	Final Base Pay	75,974.00
Pension Allowed:	40.00 %	29,938.32
Monthly Payment:		2,494.86

V. Separations from Pension Payroll

The following separations from Pension Payroll were placed on file:

<u>EMPLOYEE</u> <u>NUMBER</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE OF</u> <u>DEATH</u>	<u>PENSION</u> <u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>PENSION</u> <u>PLAN</u>
S082236	Byrom, Rose	05/27/2015	\$ 563.32	MERF
533521	Byrom, Rose	05/27/2015	1,034.75	MERF
196452	Dillon, Edward	05/27/2015	4,878.67	MERF
990574	Jackson, Dorothy	05/04/2015	1,132.87	MERF
990269	Luster, Melton	03/06/2015	127.73	MERF
S566765	O'Brien, Solveig	05/19/2015	709.26	MERF

V. Separations from Pension Payroll (continued)

The pensions for the following individuals were reinstated since the Pension Unit received verification of their addresses.

<u>EMPLOYEE NUMBER</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE OF REMOVAL</u>	<u>PENSION AMOUNT</u>	<u>PENSION PLAN</u>
990179	Boria, Maria	05/01/2015	\$1,352.14	MERF
136662	Cooper, Johnny	05/01/2015	3,189.02	MERF
319520	Hall, Bryan	05/01/2015	2,786.72	MERF
477125	Mansfield, Alonzo	05/01/2015	879.25	MERF
942882	Perez, Lourdes	05/01/2015	1,730.42	MERF
631523	Rocco, Anthony	05/01/2015	1,165.73	MERF
669679	Sharkevich, Robert	05/01/2015	4,217.95	MERF

VI. 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>
Caamano, Oscar	\$ 12,846.97
Colon, Tina	8,963.75
Davis, Dajavon	4,369.90
Gonzalez, Nydia	49,320.76

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 include interest.

VII. Service Purchases

Routine Service Purchases

Chairman Stevens introduced the item. The Plan Administrator stated that the following individuals have requested the purchase of additional pension service under the provisions of the Municipal Code of the City of Hartford, Article I, Division I, Section 2A-8.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously adopted to approve the following service purchases:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TYPE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>			<u>PURCHASE</u>
		<u>Years</u>	<u>Months</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
Blake, Alfie *	CMERS	3	2	18	\$ 3,656.04
Canga, Jose **	CMERS	15	3	23	37,983.07

* This individual has completed his service purchase.

** This individual set up payroll deduction.

VIII. Qualified Domestic Relations Orders

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

VIII. Qualified Domestic Relations Orders (continued)

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 and approved payment to the Alternate Payee effective no earlier than June 1, 2015 subject to receipt of a properly executed *Application for Pension*.

MERF

QDRO: 15-6

Entered into Court Records: May 11, 2015

Benefit Calculation Date: May 7, 2015

		<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Dollar Amount</u>
Benefit Assigned to Alternate Payee:	Monthly:	5.00 %	\$ 327.29
Pension Contributions Assigned:	Pre-Tax:	5.00 %	5,128.04
	Post-Tax:	5.00 %	2,476.10
	Interest:	5.00 %	0.00

Alternate Payee Retirement Date: June 1, 2015

IX. Request to Extend Term of Promissory Note

Chairman Stevens introduced the item. The Plan Administrator stated that the Pension Unit received a request from Tanya Rivera to extend the term of her promissory note to purchase 7 years of CMERS service for one year from August 30, 2015 to August 30, 2016.

The Plan Administrator noted that Ms. Rivera had met the new guidelines for requesting a promissory note extension that were adopted at the July 31, 2011 Commission meeting.

- Ms. Rivera requested the extension before her promissory note expired.
- The applicant was an active employee and had signed the original promissory note.
- This was her first request for an extension.
- Ms. Rivera had made a payment in excess of 20% of the original amount of her promissory note.
- Ms. Rivera intended to complete the payments by December 31, 2015 with a transfer from the Deferred Compensation Plan.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously adopted to extend the term of Ms. Rivera's promissory note for one year from August 30, 2015 to August 30, 2016.

X. Police Early Retirement Factors

Chairman Stevens introduced the item. The Plan Administrator, Donna Parker, presented an early retirement factor table for the Police (HPU) that was prepared by the MERF's actuary, Hooker & Holcombe, based on the interest rate and mortality table used in the actuarial valuation report of the MERF.

Ms. Parker explained that the Municipal Code states that "The early retirement allowance for all pre-1999 HPU sworn officers and post-1999 HPU sworn officers shall, at the election of the employee, consist of ... an immediate allowance equaling the actuarial equivalent, as **determined by the pension commission.**"

The Plan Administrator stated that normal retirement for post-1999 HPU sworn officers was 25 years of service, instead of 20 years, and the Pension Unit had received several requests for early retirement estimates recently, but the Pension Unit did not have an approved actuarial equivalent factor table. The Employee Representative, Nick Triglia, further clarified that the union contract stated that the requirement for post-1999 HPU sworn officers was 25 years of service and for post-2012 HPU sworn officers was 25 years of service and age 55.

The Plan Administrator stated that the firefighter's contract and the Municipal Code allowed a choice between an actuarial equivalent factor reduction and a 2% reduction for early retirement. Ms. Parker added that previously this wording was assumed to apply to the Police as well however, the Municipal Code only included the actuarial equivalent language for the Police and the Police contract did not address the early retirement reduction.

Mr. Triglia noted that the Police would address the early retirement issue with the City for further clarification or modification and he stated that the actuarial equivalent was not beneficial or enticing to those leaving early. Ms. Parker added that the actuarial equivalent factors would be used until such clarification and that benefits would be retroactively adjusted if needed.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously adopted to use the actuarial equivalent early retirement factors as presented and to use these factors for the Police who retired early until the Municipal Code was clarified or modified.

XI. Other Business

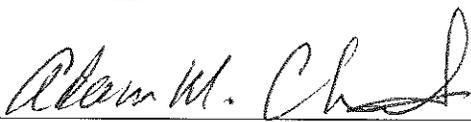
Chairman Stevens introduced the item. Secretary Cloud introduced the new Assistant Plan Administrator, Rebecca Crowley, who is an actuary with 15 years of experience. Secretary Cloud stated that Ms. Crowley wanted to maintain her actuarial credentials by joining an actuarial association that required annual dues of \$400.

Secretary Cloud asked Ms. Crowley to say a few words. Ms. Crowley stated that she had been in the consulting field at Watson Wyatt (now Towers Watson) for 5 years and was most recently at Aon Hewitt for 10 years. Ms. Crowley added that she was a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries and an Enrolled Actuary.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously adopted to pay the annual actuarial organization dues of \$400 from the MERF.

There being no further business, Chairman Stevens adjourned the Pension Administration portion of the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

Attest:



Adam M. Cloud, Secretary