

## **MINUTES OF MEETING June 21, 2023**

The regular monthly meeting of the Northampton Retirement Board was called to order by acting-Chairperson Charlene Nardi at 1:32 p.m.

Members present were Karen Lafleche, Charlene Nardi and Thomas Sullivan. Joyce Karpinski and Tammy Suprenant were absent. Also present were Retirement Administrator David Shipka and Associate Retirement Specialist Elsie Vazquez.

The meeting was held remotely via Zoom teleconference pursuant to the Open Meeting Law provisions in Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023.

### **Visitors**

None

### **New Business**

The Board reviewed the July 2023 Newsletter prepared by the Administrator. After a brief discussion, on a motion made by Mr. Sullivan and seconded by Ms. Lafleche, the Board voted unanimously by roll call (3-0) to approve the July 2023 Newsletter for distribution (Lafleche: Yes, Nardi: Yes, Sullivan: Yes).

### **Regular Business**

The Board received applications for the following new members:

Virginia Perez (Smith Voke)  
Benjamin Drake (Health Dept)

On a motion made by Ms. Lafleche and seconded by Mr. Sullivan, the Board voted unanimously by roll call (3-0) to accept the aforementioned new member(s) (Lafleche: Yes, Nardi: Yes, Sullivan: Yes).

The Board received superannuation retirement application(s) for the following members:

Anne Ryan (School)  
Luann Caputo (Police)  
Joseph Bazan (Custodians)  
Kathleen Connor (Recreation)  
Richard Stone (DPW)

On a motion made by Mr. Sullivan and seconded by Ms. Lafleche, the Board voted unanimously by roll call (3-0) to accept the aforementioned superannuation retirement application(s) (Lafleche: Yes, Nardi: Yes, Sullivan: Yes).

The Board reviewed retirement allowances for the following retirees:  
Mark Curtin (Fire Rescue)

On a motion made by Mr. Sullivan and seconded by Ms. Lafleche, the Board voted unanimously by roll call (3-0) to approve the aforementioned retirement allowance(s) (Lafleche: Yes, Nardi: Yes, Sullivan: Yes).

The Board reviewed the following deceased members/retirees/survivors:  
Eleanor Frenier (Survivor of Edward Frenier)  
Edward Ryan, Jr. (Fire)

On a motion made by Ms. Lafleche and seconded by Mr. Sullivan, the Board voted unanimously by roll call (3-0) to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on May 25, 2023 (Lafleche: Yes, Nardi: Yes, Sullivan: Yes).

On a motion made by Mr. Sullivan and seconded by Ms. Lafleche, the Board voted unanimously by roll call (3-0) to approve the minutes of the special Executive Session meeting held on May 4, 2023 (There was no discussion) (Lafleche: Yes, Nardi: Yes, Sullivan: Yes).

On a motion made by Ms. Lafleche and seconded by Mr. Sullivan, the Board voted unanimously by roll call (3-0) to approve the minutes of the special Executive Session meeting held on June 1, 2023 (There was no discussion) (Lafleche: Yes, Nardi: Yes, Sullivan: Yes).

The Board reviewed and approved the following warrants:  
Pension payroll warrant totaling \$1,106,713.60  
Accounts payable warrant totaling \$223,740.40  
Board and staff payroll warrant totaling \$15,571.97

On a motion made by Mr. Sullivan and seconded by Ms. Lafleche, the Board voted unanimously by roll call (3-0) to approve the aforementioned warrants (Lafleche: Yes, Nardi: Yes, Sullivan: Yes).

The Board reviewed the following financial report(s) prepared by the Administrator:  
April Cashbooks

The Board reviewed the following financial statement(s):  
The de Burlo Group Statement for May

The Board reviewed the following wire transfers for the current month:  
\$3,573.96 from PRIM to M&T Bank (distribution)  
\$975,000 from M&T Bank to Florence Bank

The Board reviewed the Treasurer's report on the Florence Bank account for May:

Bank statement: \$300,496.80  
Outstanding disbursements/unrecorded receipts: \$172,094.62  
Adjusted bank balance: \$128,402.18  
Outstanding receipts: \$29,790.04  
Trial Balance end of month balance: \$158,192.22

The Board reviewed the following make-up/buyback requests:

Elizabeth Peterson	Current member of the Northampton Retirement System requesting to purchase service from February 1996 to December 1999, for employment prior to membership amounting to 4 months of creditable service for a cost of \$839.70 plus future interest.
--------------------	---

On a motion made by Mr. Sullivan and seconded by Ms. Lafleche, the Board voted unanimously by roll call (3-0) to approve the aforementioned request (Lafleche: Yes, Nardi: Yes, Sullivan:Yes).

The Board reviewed the following correspondence:

PERAC #13	2022 Salary Verification Request
PERAC #14	Tobacco Company List

James Quirk	Patrick Garvey vs. NRB DALA Decision (Denied)
-------------	---

The Administrator updated the Board on the appeal filed by Patrick Garvey. Mr. Garvey had sought to retire on March 21, 2021, four days after he filed his Application for Superannuation Retirement. In accordance with Chapter 32, Section 10(3), on March 30, 2021 the Board denied his request to retire less than 15 days after his filing date because he had been an inactive member for more than 60 days at the time of his filing. Mr. Garvey filed an appeal with the Division of Administrative Law Appeals (DALA) on April 21, 2021. On April 21, 2023, DALA affirmed the Board's decision and denied Mr. Garvey's appeal.

### **Old Business**

None

### **Other Business**

None

### **Adjournment**

On a motion made by Ms. Lafleche and seconded by Mr. Sullivan, the Board voted unanimously (3-0) by roll call to adjourn the meeting at 1:55 p.m. (Lafleche: Yes, Nardi: Yes, Sullivan:Yes).

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 27, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Respectfully Submitted,

---

Retirement Administrator

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY THE NORTHAMPTON RETIREMENT BOARD ON JULY 27, 2023.**

**APPROVED:**

\_\_\_\_\_ **ABSENT** \_\_\_\_\_ **Joyce Karpinski, Chairperson**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Karen Lafleche**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Charlene Nardi**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Thomas Sullivan**

\_\_\_\_\_ **ABSENT** \_\_\_\_\_ **Tammy Suprenant**