

**CITY OF LAUDERHILL FIREFIGHTERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM
FIRE PENSION MEETING**

June 14, 2016

I. Call to order

Sean Henderson called to order the regular meeting of the CITY OF LAUDERHILL FIREFIGHTERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM at 4:35PM on May 10, 2016 at Lauderhill Fire Headquarters, 2nd Floor Conference Room, 1980 NW 56 Avenue, Lauderhill, Fl. 33313.

II. Roll call

The Plan Administrator conducted a roll call. The following persons were present:

Sean Henderson, Chairman
Michael Taussig, Vice Chairman
Karen Pottinger, Secretary
Ryan Gabner, Trustee
John Leicht, Trustee
Brent Chudachek, Rice Pugatch Robinson Storfer & Cohen, PLLC

III. Approval of minutes from meeting dated April 12, 2016 and May 10, 2016

The minutes were reviewed by the trustees.

Motion to approve April 12, 2016 and May 10, 2016 minutes by Karen Pottinger, seconded by Ryan Gabner. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. New business

1. Approve DROP withdrawal and retirement for Michael Heeren

Motion to approve DROP withdrawal and retirement for Michael Heeren by Ryan Gabner, seconded by Michael Taussig. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Approve Warrant #257 in the amount of \$15,679.45

Motion to approve warrant 257 in the amount of \$15,679.45 by Ryan Gabner, seconded by John Leicht. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Attorney's report given by Brent Chudachek

- Karen Rantanen Disability

Copies of the Deposition given by Dr. Simon were handed to the Trustees for review and in preparation of the July 12th hearing. There was a deposition with Dr. Worth on June 1st. Shortly after Dr. Worth's deposition James Spears sent a letter to Stu Kaufman stating that at that time,

“Dr. Worth did not have any records the Board sent him and only had his narrative report and Physician’s report. Also, he testified that he does not believe he was given all the pertinent records relating to Ms. Rantanen’s knee injuries, particularly those relating to the 2002 work-related knee injury and surgery. In light of that, he could not give a final opinion on the issue of whether Mr. Rantanen’s disability relating to her knee is service-connected. I believe some or all of these records are available. I would like to confirm exactly what records were and were not sent to Dr. Worth. If the Board is not going to accept the opinions in Dr. Worth’s narrative physician’s report, I believe that it is only fair that we ensure that he has the opportunity to review all relevant records so he can conduct a complete, fair and accurate IME. Please provide me with a copy of what was sent to Dr. Worth. I can then make a determination as to what needs to be done in order to ensure Ms. Rantanen receives a fair hearing on her claim.”

Brent Chudachek informed the Board that based upon his review of the documents, correspondence, emails and materials at his disposal that it appeared to him that Dr. Worth was previously provided all the pertinent documents prior to the deposition. In any event, the Administrator sent them to Stu Kaufman and James Spears again at their request for Dr. Worth’s second deposition. James Spears and Stu Kaufman were instructed to make sure the documents get to Dr. Worth in preparation for his second deposition.

Dr. Kollmer’s deposition is scheduled for June 28th. Dr. Worth has his second deposition scheduled for June 29th.

- **Zachary Ninger**

Mr. Chudachek advised the Board that he sent a letter to Michael Burke summarizing and outlining the timeline of events for Mr. Ninger’s injury. It was the same letter he sent to James Spears and the Doctors who performed IME’s for Mr. Ninger. He also said that the Administrator was directed to send Mr. Burke all of the Ninger records for Mr. Burke to review. He hasn’t heard from James Spears regarding the Ninger disability, however, it may be possible he is working on Rantanen first and then Ninger. He will keep the board informed as he hears anything.

- **Richard Price**

John Leicht asked the attorney what the process is for bring a disability retiree back in for annual examination. The attorney read from the Ordinance. It is not specific to the exact process for reexamination regarding the number of doctors to perform the reexamination but it does outline when it can be done, which is annually. After some discussion a motion was made.

Motion to begin the process for reexamination of Richard Price by John Leicht, seconded by Ryan Gabner. Motion passed unanimously.

After more discussion, the Board directed the attorney and administrator to work on a policy and procedure for reexaminations. They want to have the same process as the disability process regarding the Medical board when they determine a board of doctors for reexamination. The

Board requested that three doctors and a reviewing doctor be the “reexamination” as stated under Sec. 2-44(h).

Motion to have the attorney write a policy for reexamination of a disability retiree, seconded by Ryan Gabner. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Summary Plan Description**

The Administrator made the board and attorney aware that it is time to update and distribute the Summary Plan Description to the membership. The Board directed the Administrator and the attorney to collaborate on the SPD and prepare it for October 2016 distribution.

VI. Plan Administrator’s report

New membership packages for Daniel Ferris and Simon Millar were given to the Administrator prior to the meeting and she would like to get board approval for them.

Motion by Michael Taussig to approve new membership packages for Daniel Ferris and Simon Millar, seconded by Ryan Gabner. Motion passed unanimously.

This concluded the Administrator’s report.

VII. Old Business

VIII. Communications

John Leicht stated he will be resigning from the board after they concluded the Karen Rantanen disability Hearing. He asked if he could recommend someone for his position. He said he doesn’t know the timing due to the current ongoing trustee election. He does recommend Michael Taussig for the 5th trustee appointed by the other 4. His reason is that he and Michael Taussig have been on the board for many years. The experience and historical knowledge is valuable to those who have been on the board for less years. He also recommended staggering the elected firefighters two year terms. They discussed it a long time ago and wondered why it was never done. The Administrator explained that they cannot stagger the terms without having one of the elected trustees resign after serving a portion of their term and a new election can be conducted. This will create a new term and it will be staggered from the other firefighter elected two-year term. After some discussion, the board is still interested in doing this so that there is always one elected trustee with experience when an election occurs.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:20PM.