



**CITY OF STAMFORD**  
**OFFICE OF LEGAL AFFAIRS**  
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**DRAFT MINUTES**

Classified Employees Retirement Fund Quarterly Meeting held remotely on Thursday, November 17, 2022 via a Zoom meeting

Those in attendance were:

Mary Lou Rinaldi, Acting Chair, Trustee	David Yanik, Controller	David R. Javaheri, Morgan Stanley
Mayor Caroline Simmons	Alfred Cava, Director – Human Resources	Joseph J. Matthews, Morgan Stanley
Steven Bonaparte, Trustee	James Lavin, Retirement Benefits Specialist Human Resources	Lindsay Pereguda, Morgan Stanley
Eric Newman, Trustee	Rick Petersen, Retiree Association	Anabel Arquello, Northern Trust
Joyce Sun, Trustee	Kimberly Hawreluk, Human Resources Processing Technician	Patti Koulouris, Northern Trust

With a quorum present, Chair, Mary Lou Rinaldi called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

**I. Minutes:**

A motion to approve the October 13, 2022 CERF Board meeting Minutes was made by Eric Newman and seconded by Steven Bonaparte. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

**II. Public Participation:**

Rick Petersen of the Retiree Association requested an update on the COLA research. In addition, Mr. Petersen wanted to know the percentage of funds invested in ESG firms.

Alfred Cava, Director of Human Resources stated that the data gathering process with Milliman is still in process, but he would continue to provide updates to the Trustees as they become available. David R. Javaheri of Morgan Stanley mentioned that the current fund investment policy mandate does not complete ESG screens on managers. Mr. Javaheri mentioned that the Board can update the current investment policy to include this report, but it would change the entire focus and trajectory of the portfolio. Mr. Petersen made the suggestion to keep the current fund investment policy based on the information provided by Morgan Stanley.

### **III. New Business:**

#### **A. Review June 30, 2022 Financials (UPDATED Draft Version) – David Yanik, Controller**

David Yanik provided the Trustees with a brief update regarding the liabilities section on the unaudited version of the Classified Employees Retirement Fund Financials.

#### **B. Administrative Report – Anabel Arguello, Northern Trust**

Anabel Arguello reviewed the Administrative Report for the month dated October 31, 2022, which included financials for the Fund, such as opening balance, contributions, distributions, fees and expenses. The Fund had a gain for the month, but is experiencing an overall loss for the fiscal year.

Ms. Arguello informed the Board that the Fund had a significant amount of money in the cash account to cover pension payments for several months. In addition, Northern Trust informed Trustees that the Fund has an ETF account, which currently holds approximately 1.2 million in cash.

At this time, Ms. Arguello suggested the Board vote on a standing instruction to transfer the dividends from the ETF account to the cash account. A motion was made by Mary Lou Rinaldi to approve the recommendations as presented by Northern Trust. Steven Bonaparte seconded the motion. Hearing no objections or abstentions, the motion was approved unanimously.

#### **C. Morgan Stanley Consulting Group:**

David R. Javaheri, Managing Director and Senior Institutional Consultant introduced his team from Morgan Stanley. In attendance was Joseph J. Matthews, First Vice President and Lindsay Pereguda.

Mr. Javaheri highlighted items on the Agenda, including the Fiduciary Schedule for FY 2023, Fund Performance and Market Perspectives. The Performance Report was reviewed, which included a summary of the total Fund as of October 31, 2022. The report provided detail on Asset Allocations by Manager, Annualized Performance, and a summary for both the Gain/Loss and Overweight/Underweight performance of the Fund.

Vice President, Joseph J. Matthews, provided a Capital Market update with information on wealth management perspectives, current indicators and reviewed market expectations. Mr. Matthews provided information on current market forecasts and noted the catalysts for price increases, the status of the labor market, current unemployment percentages, and the effects of market timing on performance.

At this time, Morgan Stanley had no suggestions for the Trustees to consider.

**D. Vested Pensions:** NONE

#### **E. Return of Contributions:**

i. Robert Daros \$9,391.88

Eric Newman made a motion to approve the return of contributions for Robert Daros. Steven Bonaparte seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

ii. Laurie DiPreta \$5,020.04

Eric Newman made a motion to approve the return of contributions for Laurie DiPreta. Steven Bonaparte seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**F. Retirements:**

i. Cynthia Boisfeuillet \$4,028.03

Steven Bonaparte made a motion to approve the retirement request for Cynthia Boisfeuillet. Eric Newman seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

ii. Michael Marciano \$2,923.04

Steven Bonaparte made a motion to approve the retirement request for Michael Marciano. Eric Newman seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**G. Disability Retirements:** NONE

**H. Buy Back:** NONE

**I. Bills:** NONE

**J. Milliman Pension Administration Fees – Alfred Cava, Director, Human Resources**

Director Cava provided the Trustees with information from Milliman regarding the increase in Pension Administration fees for 2023, which was based on the 8.7% increase in third Quarter CPI-W from 2021 to 2022. According to the notice, the monthly fees will increase to \$3,675 plus \$3.94 per participant effective January 1, 2023.

**K. Review Classified Employees’ Retirement Fund Meeting Dates for 2023**

Alfred Cava, Director of Human Resources presented to the Trustees the proposed CERF Meeting Dates for 2023. After a discussion, the meeting dates were agreed upon with the exception of the April Meeting, which was changed to April 20, 2023.

Mary Lou Rinaldi made a motion to approve the CERF Meeting dates for 2023 along with the edit discussed, which was seconded by Eric Newman. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

With no further business, Steven Bonaparte made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded Eric Newman. Mary Lou Rinaldi adjourned the meeting at 10:03 a.m.

The next Meeting of the Trustees for the Classified Employees Retirement Fund will be a Regular Meeting scheduled for Thursday, December 8, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.