



CITY OF STAMFORD
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CERF Draft Minutes for the October 8, 2020 Meeting:

A meeting of the Trustees for the Classified Employees Retirement Fund was held remotely on Thursday, October 8, 2020 via a Zoom meeting.

Those in attendance were:

Mayor David Martin	David Yanik, Controller	Joe DePalma Jr., Wells Fargo
Eric Newman	Alfred Cava, Director – Human Resources	David R. Javaheri, Morgan Stanley
Matthew Quinones	Angelo Sestito, Assistant Director – Human Resources	Joseph J. Matthews, Morgan Stanley
Mary Lou Rinaldi	Alicia Edwards, Human Resources	Kevin M. Nichols, Morgan Stanley
Burt Rosenberg	Kimberly Hawreluk, Human Resources Processing Technician	Rick Peterson, Retiree Association
Joyce Sun		

With a Quorum present Mary Lou Rinaldi called the meeting to order at 9:46 a.m.

I. A motion to approve the September 10, 2020 CERF Board meeting Minutes was made by Mayor David Martin and seconded by Burt Rosenberg. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

II. Public Participation:

Rick Peterson, Retirement Association requested an update on the status of the transition to the State Medical Plan. Alfred Cava, Director – Human Resources stated that there have been no updates since the September 10, 2020 meeting.

III. New Business:

A. Morgan Stanley – Financial Advisor Introduction

David R. Javaheri, Managing Director and Senior Institutional Consultant with Morgan Stanley presented an overview of Morgan Stanley. In addition, Mr. Javaheri introduced his fellow team members, including: Joseph J. Matthews, First Vice President and Kevin M. Nichols, Vice President.

Mr. Matthews provided information on Morgan Stanley and the scope of services provided and available manager access and research capabilities. Next, Mr. Nichols provided an overview of observations on investment strategy as well as information pertaining to their conflict of interest policy.

Following the presentation, Chairperson, Mary Lou Rinaldi requested the current status of the contract with Morgan Stanley as the new Financial Advisor for the fund. At which time, both Mayor Martin and Alfred Cava, Director of Human Resources stated that once a signed contract was complete there would be a notice sent out to the Trustees.

B. Wells Fargo Report– Joe DePalma, Jr.

Mr. DePalma, Jr. reviewed the Administrative Report for September 2020, which showed a loss for the month, but on a fiscal year basis the report shows an overall gain. According to Mr. DePalma, the cash position and contributions should maintain the fund through February.

C. Review CERF Plan F2020 Financial Statement draft (unaudited version) – David Yanik, Controller

David Yanik, Controller reviewed the Classified Employees Retirement Fund Financial Statement draft, which showed growth year over year despite volatility in the market. Ultimately, the report indicated that there had been good returns on the plan which overall resulted in a net increase in the fund. It is important to note that the report is an unaudited, draft version.

D. Vested Pensions:

Sharon Richards	\$2,222.57	\$26,670.88
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Mayor David Martin motioned to approve the retirement of Sharon Richards. The motion was seconded by Burt Rosenberg. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

E. Return of Contributions: None

F. Retirements: None

G. Disability Retirement: None

H. Buy Back: None

Alfred Cava, Director of Human Resources reviewed the below invoices with the CERF Trustee Members for a vote:

I. Bills:

i. Fiduciary Investment Advisors (Consulting Fee - 3rd Quarter 2020)	Invoice# 0000272003	\$11,592.75
ii. Greenwich Hospital (Medical Record Review – Jerome Hinton)	Invoice# 635610	\$50.00
iii. Robinson + Cole (Legal Service Fees)	Invoice# 50319556	\$91.00

Mayor David Martin motioned to approve the bills. The motion was seconded by Burt Rosenberg. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

J. Discussion regarding other Classified Employees' Retirement Fund matters:

- i. Request actuaries conduct a review of municipal pension plans to ascertain if there are any other plans which provide disability pensions for an employee whose disability is not work related.

Agenda Item J (i) was submitted by Trustee, Burt Rosenberg for discussion. Alfred Cava, Director of Human Resources provided background information from the collective bargaining agreement provisions. The reported concern is that the current plan provides for disability pensions for non-work related disabilities. Trustee, Rosenberg would like a review of how many retirees are receiving disability pensions for non-work related disabilities and the cost of those plans. In addition, Trustee, Rosenberg made a request to Mayor Martin to ask the CCM research department for a study statewide of any collective bargaining agreements with similar provisions. At which time, Mayor David Martin requested that Alfred Cava, Director of Human Resources reach out to CCM to make that inquiry.

- ii. Request actuaries conduct a review of whether any municipal pension plans define a disability as the inability to work in the employee's current position as opposed to the ability to perform work in any job classification.

Agenda Item J (ii) was submitted by Trustee, Burt Rosenberg for discussion. Trustee, Burt Rosenberg reported that to his knowledge in at least one collective bargaining agreement a disability is coined as the inability to perform work in the employee's current job classification. Director Cava confirmed that under the current language of the union contract the disability is total and permanent and based on the employee's current job classifications. However, the employee has the option to take another position if they qualify rather than taking the disability pension. The issue then raised by Trustee, Burt Rosenberg is that the language should be total disability for all job classifications, not just the current job classification. At which time, Mayor David Martin stated that this is an issue that requires more research.

- iii. Classified Employees' Retirement Fund Election

Agenda Item J (iii) was submitted by Alfred Cava, Director of Human Resources. Director Cava stated that Trustee, Burt Rosenberg's term is expiring December 17, 2020. A draft of the letter intended to solicit nominations was sent to the Trustees to review prior to this meeting. The intent is to send out the letter soliciting nominations in October for a November election with an appointment of the Trustee in December. Director Cava reviewed the procedures of accepting the nominations and ballots, including updated biography requirements, which will include a disclosure. Lastly, the members will have (3) options to return the nominations and ballots by either e-mail, in person drop off, or mail-in during the election period.

Mayor David Martin motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Burt Rosenberg. The motion was approved by unanimous consent. Mary Lou Rinaldi adjourned the meeting at 10:38 a.m.

The next meeting of the Classified Employees Retirement Fund is scheduled for Thursday, November 19, 2020 at 9:00 am.