



Pension Board
Regular Meeting
~ Minutes ~

1650 Huron St.
Knoxville, TN 37917
www.cokpension.org

Thursday, January 11, 2024

9:00 a.m.

Pension Board Conference Room

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kincannon called to order the January 11, 2024 meeting of the City of Knoxville Pension Board at 9:01 a.m. in the Pension Board Conference Room.

2. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	
Mayor Kincannon	Mayor	Present	
Linda Gay Blanc	Mayoral Appointment	Absent	
Boyce Evans	Finance Director	Present	
Lynne Fugate	City Council Representative	Present	
Bryan Gilbert	General Government Representative	Present	
James Kennedy	Police Representative	Present	
Jacob Mason	Fire Representative	Present	
Alex Neubert	General Government Representative	Present	
Dennis Owen	Mayoral Appointment	Present	
Kathy Aslinger	Legal Counsel	Present	
Kristi Paczkowski	Executive Director	Present	

Others present: None

3. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FOR December 14, 2023.

Motion: Mr. Owen made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2023 meeting. Mr. Gilbert seconded the motion. The motion passed 7 – 0.

Ms. Aslinger and Ms. Fugate arrived at 9:03 a.m.

4. APPROVAL OF REVISED AGENDA – Exhibit 1

Motion: Mr. Evans made a motion to accept the Revised Agenda. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMENTS:

- Election of 2024 Officers (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary)

Motion: Ms. Fugate made a motion to retain Mayor Kincannon as Chair of the Board. Mr. Mason seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

Motion: Ms. Fugate made a motion to retain Mr. Neubert as Vice-Chair of the Board. Mr. Mason seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

Motion: Ms. Fugate made a motion to retain Mr. Evans as Secretary of the Board. Mr. Mason seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

- Elect Investment Committee Members

Motion: Mayor Kincannon made a motion to nominate Ms. Blanc and Ms. Fugate as members of the Investment Committee. Mr. Evans seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

- Elect Personnel Committee Members

Motion: Mayor Kincannon made a motion to nominate Ms. Blanc as a member of the Personnel Committee. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

Motion: Mr. Neubert made a motion to nominate Mr. Gilbert as a member of the Personnel Committee. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

6. CONTRACTS: None

7. ENROLLMENTS

The following employees have filed applications to become members of the Plan HG or HU pension system:

Jacob Balzer – HG	Jillian Love – HG
Tyler Caviness – HG	Brett Murray – HG
Melissa Edsell – HG	Jeremy Ruth – HG
Taylor Eggers – HG	Carissa Simpson – HG
Mason Foster – HG	Amy Waggoner – HG

Motion: Mr. Evans made a motion to approve these applications for enrollment in Plan HG or HU of the pension system. Mr. Mason seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

8. WITHDRAWALS

The following employees have filed applications to withdraw employee pension contributions plus interest and the supplemental retirement account as applicable to each participant's respective plan.

Clifford Boyle – HG	Evan Hoffman – HG
William Gaff – HU	Heather Whitehead – HG
Tirzah Given – HG	Brett Wilkie – HG

Motion: Mr. Owen made a motion to approve these applications for withdrawal of employee contributions. Ms. Fugate seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

9. APPLICATION FOR DEFERRED RETIREMENT: PLAN C CHARTER SECTION 1390.16

Kelly V. Anders, Police Dept – Uniformed	Option A – 4
53 years of age	50% without reinstatement
Total credited service: 6.24612 years	
(last employed March 2005)	
<u>\$353.65</u> pension effective January 1, 2024	

Motion: Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve this application for Deferred Retirement. Mr. Neubert seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

Stephen W. Burchfield, Police Dept – Uniformed	No Option
52 years of age	
Total credited service: 22.41941 years	
(last employed May 2021)	
<u>\$2,317.72</u> pension effective January 1, 2024	

Motion: Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve this application for Deferred Retirement. Mr. Neubert seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

Kenneth B. Bush, Police Dept – Uniformed
50 years of age
Total credited service: 21.31849 years
(last employed March 2020)
\$2,398.51 pension effective January 1, 2024

Option B – 12
15 Year Certain & Life

Motion: Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve this application for Deferred Retirement. Mr. Neubert seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

Gina D. Pierce, Police Dept – Uniformed
51 years of age
Total credited service: 17.46872 years
(last employed May 2016)
\$1,506.99 pension effective January 1, 2024

Option A – 9
100% with reinstatement

Motion: Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve this application for Deferred Retirement. Mr. Neubert seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

**10. APPLICATION FOR NORMAL RETIREMENT: PLAN C
CHARTER SECTION 1390.6**

John R. Kiely, Police Dept. – Uniformed
52 years of age
Total Credited Service: 25.06849 years
\$5,101.29 pension effective January 1, 2024

Option A – 8
75% with reinstatement

Motion: Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve this application for Normal Retirement. Mr. Mason seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

**11. APPLICATION FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE DELAYED RETIREMENT OPTION
PROGRAM (DROP): PURSUANT TO CHARTER SECTION 1390.22 – PLAN C.
The following employees have chosen a Delayed Retirement Option and will receive
a one-time payment of the accumulated monthly benefits on termination of
employment with the City of Knoxville.**

Terry P. Beeler, Fire Dept. – Uniformed
65 years of age
Total Credited Service: 27.63539 years
\$4,538.84 pension effective January 1, 2024
DROP complete December 31, 2025

Option A – 4
50% without reinstatement

Motion: Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve this application for DROP Retirement. Mr. Mason seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

Shane G. Berrier, Fire Dept. – Uniformed
59 years of age
Total Credited Service: 34.27078 years
\$4,807.26 pension effective January 1, 2024
DROP complete December 31, 2025

Option A – 5
75% without reinstatement

Motion: Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve this application for DROP Retirement. Mr. Mason seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

Dana M. Crocker, Police Dept. – Uniformed
51 years of age
Total Credited Service: 25.06849 years
\$3,924.26 pension effective January 1, 2024
DROP complete December 31, 2025

Option C – Cash Refund

Motion: Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve this application for DROP Retirement. Mr. Mason seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

Patrick S. Langley, Fire Dept. – Uniformed
55 years of age
Total Credited Service: 30.18584 years
\$5,075.40 pension effective January 1, 2024
DROP complete December 31, 2025

No Option

Motion: Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve this application for DROP Retirement. Mr. Mason seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

Phillip J. Major, Police Dept. – Uniformed
51 years of age
Total Credited Service: 31.59977 years
\$4,596.76 pension effective January 1, 2024
DROP complete December 31, 2025

Option A – 8
75% with reinstatement

Motion: Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve this application for DROP Retirement. Mr. Mason seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

Michael J. Miles, Fire Dept. – Uniformed
55 years of age
Total Credited Service: 25.35525 years
\$3,668.14 pension effective January 1, 2024
DROP complete December 31, 2025

No Option

Motion: Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve this application for DROP Retirement. Mr. Mason seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

Donald M. Partin Jr, Fire Dept. – Uniformed
59 years of age
Total Credited Service: 37.37328 years
\$5,228.40 pension effective January 1, 2024
DROP complete December 31, 2025

Option A – 4
50% without reinstatement

Motion: Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve this application for DROP Retirement. Mr. Mason seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

Gregory D. Perrin, Fire Dept. – Uniformed
61 years of age
Total Credited Service: 25.35525 years
\$4,224.44 pension effective January 1, 2024
DROP complete December 31, 2025

Option A – 4
50% without reinstatement

Motion: Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve this application for DROP Retirement. Mr. Mason seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

Timothy W. Williams, Fire Dept. – Uniformed
54 years of age
Total Credited Service: 25.43037 years
\$3,826.08 pension effective January 1, 2024
DROP complete December 31, 2025

Option A – 8
75% with reinstatement

Motion: Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve this application for DROP Retirement. Mr. Mason seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

12. APPROVAL OF INVOICES FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES:

	Amount
The Northern Trust Company – (Q4 Custody & Benefit Payment Fees)	39,259
USI Consulting Group – November actuarial services	8,583
Kennerly Montgomery & Finley – December Legal Fees	<u>5,310</u>
	53,152

Ms. Paczkowski, Executive Director, has reviewed the bills and certifies that they are consistent with services provided and are within the budgeted figures of the system's financial plan.

Motion: Mr. Evans made a motion to pay the invoices as presented. Mr. Owen seconded the motion. The motion passed 8 – 0.

13. INVESTMENT MATTERS: None

14. OTHER: None

15. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

16. ATTORNEY COMMENTS:

- State Law regarding PTSD and Firefighters

Ms. Aslinger summarized for the Board the "James 'Dustin' Samples Act," which was effective January 1, 2024. This new law creates a presumption that an injury was incurred in the line of duty if a firefighter is diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder ("PTSD") as a result of responding to one or more incidents with at least one of the following factors:


- (1) Directly witnessing the death of a minor, or treating the injury of a minor, who subsequently died before or upon arrival at a hospital emergency department;
- (2) Directly witnessing an individual whose death involved a serious bodily injury of nature that shocks the conscience;
- (3) Responding to an event where there was a victim with a serious bodily injury that shocks the conscience; or
- (4) Responding to an event where a responder, co-worker of a responder, or family member of a responder sustained a serious bodily injury or died.

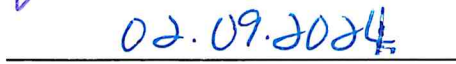
Under this presumption, the injury is compensable under the Worker's Compensation Law unless it is shown by a preponderance of the evidence that the PTSD was caused by non-service related factors or non-service related exposure.

The presumption applies to a firefighter who is diagnosed with PTSD within one year of the firefighter's final date of employment with the fire department. However, a mental condition resulting solely from disciplinary action, work evaluation, job transfer, layoff, demotion, termination, or similar action taken in good faith by the employer is not considered an injury sustained in the line of duty.

17. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Mayor Kincannon at 9:32 a.m.


Chair


Date

NOTICE: The next Pension Board Meeting is on Thursday, February 8th, 2024