

**CITY OF ATLANTA POLICE OFFICERS’  
DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION ADMINISTRATIVE  
COMMITTEE MEETING**

January 23, 2020

City Council Chambers – City Hall

12:00 P.M. – 1:00 P.M.

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

**LOUIS AMIS**

**YOULANDA CARR**

**RICK ‘BUD’ LIGHT**

**WILLIAM BILL BOYD**

**KEN ALLEN**

**HR Department Designee, City of Atlanta**

**Finance Department Designee, City of Atlanta**

**Police, City of Atlanta**

**Police, City of Atlanta**

**Police, City of Atlanta**

**OTHERS PRESENT**

As acknowledged on the City of Atlanta Defined Benefit Administrative Committee Meeting Sign-In Sheet for January 23, 2020.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Rick ‘Bud’ Light called the meeting to order at 12:11 p.m. in City Council Chambers City Hall in Atlanta, Georgia. Mr. Light indicated that a quorum was present for the meeting.

**II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

*A motion was made by Mr. Boyd to accept the agenda as presented. This motion was seconded by Mr. Allen and the motion carried unanimously.*

**III. MINUTES**

The Committee Members reviewed the Minutes of the January 23, 2020 Police Officers’ Defined Benefit Administrative Committee Meeting, which were distributed in advance and reviewed by Counsel.

*With no changes or modifications a motion was made by Mr. Boyd to approve the Minutes as presented and the motion was seconded by Mr. Allen. The motion carried unanimously and the Minutes were approved.*

**IV. ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGERS’ REPORT**

**Pension Applications**

The Service Pension Applications on the attached spreadsheet were presented to the Committee for approval.

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*A motion was made by Mr. Boyd and seconded by Mr. Allen to approve service pension application No. 1-14 as listed on the attached spreadsheet dated January 23, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.*

Mr. Light addressed the Committee and noted that Pension Applicant #1 had received an increase in pay from his base salary of \$72,000 to \$76,000 due to a special assignment that had ended before the retirement date. As such this compensation should have been reverted back to the regular salary however it was not done. Mr. Light noted that this same instance could be seen in other units as well. Mr. Light continued to express his concern that this functional response was not being done consistently for special assignments and Final Average Pay is being overstated.

The Committee entertained the idea that Plan Changes may be in order to ensure that the correct compensation is being utilized for pension calculations by the City of Atlanta. In addition, it was agreed that Mr. Boyd and Mr. Allen would seek direction and support from the Chair of Public Safety to present this issue to the City Council as warranted.

***Disability Applications***

There were no disability applications for review.

***Beneficiary Applications***

There were no disability applications for review.

***Lump Sum Applications***

Ms. Harris reported that Lump Sums paid for this period totaled \$40,613.31.

***Financial Statement***

Ms. Harris reviewed with the Committee the cash financials for the month ending November 30, 2019 which were accepted as informational.

- ***Comparative Balance Sheet*** shows assets at \$1,088,948,852 for the month compared to a year ago of \$927,431,126.
- ***Income Statement*** shows income and expense for the month. Total income for the month at \$116,793,711. Total expenses for the month at \$2,185,887. Net income for the month is a surplus of \$109,282,317.

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- Similar to the comments made during the Firefighters' Committee Meeting, Ms. Harris noted a review would be conducted for the Gray & Co entry and follow up for this would be given at the next meeting since this was a terminated manager.
- *Comparative Income Statement* shows a rolling twelve-month calendar of expenses and income for the period December 2018 through November 2019.
- *Investment Market/Cost Comparison* shows a market value for this month as \$1,186,059,573 and the prior month was \$1,153,270,736. The cost value for this month is \$1,085,904,727 and the prior month was \$972,695,070.

***Invoices for Approval***

Ms. Harris reviewed with the Committee the disbursements for January 2020. Ms. Harris reported the check numbers for the period were 502503 through 502521. The total disbursement amount is \$569,677.35. Following a complete review of the disbursements, a *motion was made by Mr. Boyd and seconded by Mr. Allen to approve the January disbursements. This motion carried unanimously.*

**V. ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Mr. Emerson reviewed with the Committee information he received from Zenith with regard to the Custodial Parent of record for the minor beneficiary payments in question. Mr. Emerson acknowledged that in the matter of the Dawson siblings, it was determined that Johnathan and Geoffrey did not share the same Custodial Parent. With this being said, Mr. Emerson also noted that Johnathan had been underpaid pension benefits and Geoffrey had been overpaid pension benefits. In the matter of Geoffrey Dawson, Mr. Emerson advised the Committee that he would be drafting a demand letter requesting Jeffrey Dawson provide information to validate his student status during the period of overpayment as acknowledged. With this being said, Mr. Emerson also noted that according to the calculation performed by Chuck Carr, Johnathan Dawson was due \$87,586.52 in underpaid benefits.

The Committee requested that Zenith make a lump sum payment due to underpayments and that Mr. Emerson have a letter drafted to provide the Custodial Parent and/or Jeffrey Dawson details on the payment due.

With no further questions or discussion, the Attorneys' Report was concluded and accepted as informational.

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**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

**Pension Overpayments**

This matter was discussed during the Attorney's Report.

**Ratified Pension Calculations**

Mr. Light addressed the Committee with regard to the outstanding ratified pension calculations for Mr. Pickard and Mr. Hobbs. Mr. Light informed the Committee that the revised calculations provided by Zenith should be used as the final ratified pensions. As noted, Mr. Light indicated that Tour of Duty pay was removed for Mr. Pickard and a Vacation Payout was removed for Mr. Hobbs as this compensation should not have been included in the Final Average Earnings as previously discussed. In accordance with the Plan definition this compensation would be considered 'Special Unusual and Non Recurring Payments'. Mr. Allen expressed his concern that a similar review should be done for retrospective benefit calculations in which similar circumstances may have existed. Mr. Emerson noted that there was a formal appeal procedure that any retiree would be afforded due to any change in benefit payments. The Committee requested Mr. Christie review and confirm the statute of limitations for any retrospective changes as discussed.

Following this discussion, *a motion was made by Mr. Allen to approve the ratified pension benefit based on the revised calculation in the amount of \$5,107.50 per month removing the Tour of Duty Pay for Mr. Pickard. This motion was seconded by Mr. Boyd and the motion passed with unanimous decision.*

In addition, *a motion was made by Mr. Allen to approve the ratified pension benefit based on the revised calculation in the amount of \$7,871.95 removing the Vacation Payout for Mr. Hobbs. This motion was seconded by Mr. Boyd and the motion passed with unanimous decision.*

The Committee requested Zenith perform a calculation of the return of contributions applicable to the compensation that was removed in the revised calculations inclusive of interest. Ms. Harris noted that she would request assistance from Mr. Chuck Carr as customary. The Committee also requested a formal letter be drafted for both retirees to account for the benefit change and lump sum return of contributions as discussed.

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**Proof of Existence – Death Audit**

Ms. Harris provided the Committee a list of retirees over the age 80 and a list of providers under the age of 79 who had not yet responded to the Proof of Existence Letters. Ms. Harris noted that there were 162 retirees under age 79 and 9 retirees over age 80 that were captured by this report. The Committee agreed to take steps to provide an additional level of response from their constituents to assist in the efforts for Zenith to receive responses. The Committee also requested that the report provided be sent to them in an email to assist with this request. Mr. Allen noted that there was a Reserve List of deployed Police Officers that he wanted to review in accordance with this process. Mr. Allen requested Ms. Harris provide them with this report in an email to assist with this request.

The Committee requested that Counsel produce a letter for those individuals that have not yet responded in order to assist with the formal next step responses. The Committee requested that they be allowed to review the letters before Zenith performed another mailer. As well, it was agreed upon that Zenith would produce these letters and have the mailed using regular USPS and Certified Mail.

Following this discussion, *a motion was made by Mr. Amis to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase mailer from Zenith contingent on a formal review of the document by the Committee. This motion was seconded by Mr. Boyd and the motion passed with unanimous decision.*

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no New Business to discuss.

**VIII. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE**

There were no comments from the audience.

**IX. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

In concert with the Firefighters’ Committee as discussed the Police Officers’ Committee agreed to also hold the next meeting on February 20, 2020 at 12:00pm immediately following the Firefighters’ Committee meeting.

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**X. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to be brought before the Committee at this time, a *motion was made by Mr. Amis and seconded by Mr. Allen to call for adjournment at 1:06pm. This motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.*

*Respectfully Submitted,*

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Chairman, Rick 'Bud' Light

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Vice Chairman, Bill Boyd

These Minutes were adopted on \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.