

**CITY OF ATLANTA FIRE FIGHTERS’  
DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION  
ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
October 15, 2021  
Webex Teleconference  
10:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.**

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Derek “Brent” Hullender	Fire, City of Atlanta
Russell Sykes	Fire, City of Atlanta
Youlanda Carr	Finance Designee, City of Atlanta
Jeffrey Norman	HR Commissioner, City of Atlanta

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Mary Shah	Strategic Benefits Advisors
Stephanie Atli	Strategic Benefits Advisors
Lori Pocock	Strategic Benefits Advisors
Chelsea Deppert	Morris, Manning & Martin
Eric Dec	Legal Department, City of Atlanta
Tyronia Smith	Legal Department, City of Atlanta
Delisha Robinson	Finance Department, City of Atlanta
Pamela Goins	Finance Department, City of Atlanta
Amanda Rouser	Pension Department, City of Atlanta

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Derek ‘Brent’ Hullender called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. via Webex telephone conference. Chairman Hullender indicated that a quorum was present for the meeting.

**II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**A motion was made by Mr. Sykes to approve the Agenda as presented and the motion was seconded by Ms. Carr. The motion carried unanimously and the Agenda was approved.**

**III. MINUTES**

The Committee Members reviewed the Minutes of the September 16, 2021 Fire Fighters’ Defined Benefit Administrative Committee Meeting, which were distributed in advance and reviewed by Counsel.

**A motion was made by Mr. Sykes to adopt the Minutes and the motion was seconded by Ms. Carr. The motion carried unanimously and the Minutes were adopted.**

#### **IV. ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGERS' REPORT**

##### Service Pension Applications

Ms. Shah presented one (1) Service Pension Application to the Committee for approval. She also noted that there was one termination on the payroll file that was received this Wednesday that will be processed for payment this month and then presented for approval next month.

**A motion was made by Mr. Sykes and seconded by Ms. Carr to approve the one (1) Service Pension Application on the attached spreadsheet for the meeting date of October 15, 2021. The motion carried unanimously and the Service Pension Application was approved.**

##### Beneficiary Pension Applications

Ms. Shah presented four (4) Beneficiary Pension Applications to the Committee for approval. Chairman Hullender stated he frequently received notifications of death and asked who at SBA should receive the information. Ms. Shah asked him to send notifications to Ms. Atli.

**A motion was made by Mr. Sykes and seconded by Ms. Carr to approve the four (4) Beneficiary Pension Applications on the attached spreadsheet for the meeting date of October 15, 2021. The motion carried unanimously and the Beneficiary Pension Applications were approved.**

##### Financial Statement

Ms. Shah presented the August 2021 unaudited financial statements prepared by SBA. Ms. Carr noted that contributions were higher in August due to three payrolls instead of two. Chairman Hullender asked if the asset transfer from LMCG to Dreihaus is in progress and Ms. Shah noted that Marquette has prepared the transfer letters for Mr. Balla to sign.

##### Invoices for Approval

Ms. Shah presented the invoices for approval and mentioned that the SBA special projects fee approval is in progress with Mr. Norman. Ms. Pocock noted that the correct amount for the NCPERS invoice is \$275.00, as shown on the signed invoice sheet.

**A motion was made by Mr. Sykes and seconded by Ms. Carr to approve the invoices in the packet for the meeting date of October 15, 2021. The motion carried unanimously and the invoices were approved.**

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

**V. ATTORNEYS' REPORT**

Ms. Deppert reported on behalf of Mr. Emerson. Ms. Deppert informed the Committee that the revised summary plan description ("SPD") for the General Plan had been submitted to that Committee for review. The next SPD to be revised will be for APS, and then the Fire SPD will follow.

Ms. Smith did not have anything to report.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

Overpayments Update

Ms. Shah reported on a group that includes SBA, Mr. Norman, Mr. Emerson, and the City Legal team. This group is working on alternative options for recouping overpayments. The current method for recouping overpayments is to reduce a retiree's corrected benefit by 25% until the overpayment is recouped. However, there is proposed legislation that could limit the amount of overpayments that can be recouped.

Chairman Hullender asked about the Committee's prior discussion to stop prorating pension payments in the month of death. Chairman Hullender asked for legal to confirm at the next meeting that this was feasible, and then he would like to see this proposed change presented to the other Committees as well.

Harold Camp Overpayment

Ms. Shah presented information on Harold Camp, a vested terminated participant who was incorrectly not allowed to commence benefits at age 55 and was told to wait until age 60; therefore he is due back payments for those 5 years and was underpaid a total of \$88,425.55. However, when SBA reviewed the calculation, it was determined that his benefit incorrectly used a 3% multiplier instead of a 2% multiplier, so he had been overpaid on his monthly benefit. He has been receiving \$2,142.35 instead of \$1,581.81. SBA presented two choices to him. The first option allowed Mr. Camp to receive the \$88,425.55 underpayment in a lump sum and have an ongoing monthly benefit of \$1,581.81. The second option was to have the underpayment amount paid over his lifetime and added to his monthly benefit. Mr. Camp returned paperwork electing the first option.

**A motion was made by Mr. Sykes and seconded by Ms. Carr to approve the payment correction for Mr. Camp. The motion carried unanimously and the payment change for Mr. Camp was approved.**

Online Calculator

Ms. Shah informed the Committee that the online calculator will be rolling out to the Fire population during the week of October 25<sup>th</sup>. Announcement emails will be sent throughout the week so that not everyone is logging on at once and overwhelming the site and the call center.

Other Issues

Chairman Hullender asked about going paperless for retirees with regard to their ACH statements. Ms. Shah noted that statements are still being sent for people that didn’t opt out and that many retirees like the comfort of receiving the monthly earnings statement. She noted there is a self-registration process at Northern Trust where retirees can log on to see their monthly statement. Chairman Hullender asked that, starting January 1, 2022, all new retirees be set up with the paperless option since the City has been paperless for the last 5 years.

Chairman Hullender also asked Ms. Rouser if she is the appropriate contact when participants get married and need to update their contribution rate. Ms. Rouser stated that those requests should go to SBA. Chairman Hullender also asked if Ms. Rouser is the correct contact when participants want to update their beneficiary designations. Ms. Rouser stated that those requests should also go to SBA. Ms. Shah added that if a participant has questions about their life insurance beneficiary, they will need to contact the City.

**VIII. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE**

There were no questions or comments from the audience.

**IX. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is schedule to be held on November 18, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.; however, there are conflicts so the meeting will be rescheduled.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to be brought before the Committee at this time, the Committee meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Derek “Brent” Hullender, Chairman

These Minutes were adopted on \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.