

July 6, 2023
10:00 AM
TERS Conf Room & Zoom

The Firefighters' Relief and Pension Board for the City of Tacoma met in regular session.

John Carman, presiding as Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM.

Board Members Present on Roll Call 3 – Minimum Quorum Requirement 3:

Michael San Soucie
John Carman
Mike Steele

Board Members Absent:

Mayor Victoria Woodards
Andy Cherullo

Others Present:

Cheri Campbell, LEOFF 1 Pension Specialist
Charles Lee, Deputy City Attorney
Tim Allen, Retirement Director
Randy Plain, Alternate Board member

Mr. Steele moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of June 1, 2023, as submitted.
Seconded by Mr. San Soucie. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comments were received.

PUBLIC RECORD

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Retiree returned the long-term care reimbursement check he received from the Fire Pension Board in April.

Ms. Campbell said he now has a third insurance after Medicare and Regence and that insurance paid the bill.

The check was returned to the Finance Department.

COMMUNICATIONS

There were no Communication items.

NEW BUSINESS

Regence dental will be changing to USABLE effective September 1, 2023.

Ms. Campbell said there is no change to the LEOFF 1 dental benefit and this change should happen behind the scenes. Members will receive new Regence cards in January with an updated dental customer service phone number.

No action taken.

Retiree passed away June 23, 2023. A legal opinion was received from the Deputy City Attorney regarding the widow's pension and funeral/death benefits.

Communication placed on file.

Retiree requested that his years of service credit be reviewed by the Pension Board.

Ms. Campbell said this retiree is questioning the years of service that the City calculated when he retired in 1992. It came up in a recent conversation that she had with him that the City had calculated 25 years of service for him and has been calculating the City portion of his pension at 50% of the classification he held at the time of his retirement. He believes it should be 26 years and that is what the State Department of Retirement Systems has calculated for his service. Ms. Campbell said he was hired on January 3, 1967 and retired on December 31, 1992.

The board members and Mr. Lee discussed this retiree's hire and retire dates and RCW 41.18.040 which states "a firefighter hereafter retiring who has served as a member for more than twenty-five years, shall have his or her pension payable under this section increased by two percent of the basic salary per year for each full year of such additional service to a maximum of five additional years." While they are sympathetic to his concern, they were all in agreement that the years of service were correctly calculated based on the specific hire and retire dates.

Ms. Campbell and Mr. Lee will compose a written response to the retiree.

PENSION FUND ROLL ITEMS

| <i>Internal Fund Accounting Information</i> | | | |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Regence usage/costs</i> | <i>1 active</i> | <i>May 2023</i> | <i>\$3,032.71</i> |
| <i>Regence usage/costs</i> | <i>182 retired</i> | <i>May 2023</i> | <i>140,262.85</i> |
| <i>Transfers to HCTF</i> | | <i>May 2023</i> | <i>150,000.00</i> |
| <i>Current HCTF Balance</i> | | <i>As of 05/31/2023</i> | <i>1,817,945.12</i> |
| <i>Kaiser Permanente Medicare Advantage</i> | <i>2 retirees over 65</i> | <i>May 2023 – \$439.52 each</i> | <i>879.04</i> |
| Service pension - (taxable) | | (7) | \$6,286.19 |
| Survivor pension - (taxable) | | (14) | 16,100.91 |
| Survivor pension - (non-taxable) | | (35) | 32,288.03 |
| Disability pension - duty (non-taxable) | | (63) | 97,850.44 |
| Total Gross Pension for 119 retirees for June 2023 | | | \$152,525.57 |
| Total Miscellaneous Medical Billings | | | \$43,393.99 |
| GRAND TOTAL FOR PENSION AND BILLINGS | | | \$195,919.56 |

Mr. Steele moved to approve the pension fund roll items as submitted. Seconded by Mr. San Soucie. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

Applications for sick and/or disability benefits were received and reviewed by the Board for the following:

| | | | |
|-------------------|---|----------------------------|---------------|
| 5/1/2023 – indef. | - | Illness on scheduled shift | Job connected |
|-------------------|---|----------------------------|---------------|

Ms. Campbell said this members is off on a job-connected illness and may not be able to return to work before the end of his six-month disability leave. He understands he will have to retire at that time but did indicate that he would retire on service.

Mr. Steele moved to approve the Claims as submitted. Seconded by Mr. San Soucie. Motion carried.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no Other Business items.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Steele moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. San Soucie. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 10:20 AM.

John Carman

 John Carman, Chairperson

Attest: *Cheri Campbell*

 Cheri Campbell, Acting Secretary