

MINUTES OF OLD HIRE FIRE PENSION BOARD
January 9, 2001

A meeting of the Old Hire Fire Pension Board was called to order on January 9, 2000 at 2:00 pm in City Hall Administrative Services Conference Room. Board members present were Tim Bevan, Glenn Crespin, Ron Lappi, and Claudia Hazelhurst. Also present were John Shaver, Assistant City Attorney and retirees: Bill McCurry, RT Mantlo, John Knudsen, and Jim Terry.

The minutes of the August 23, 2000 meeting were approved as submitted.

Old Business

Claudia Hazelhurst stated that she believes the Board's decision to calculate rank escalation changes on years vs months of service was premature. In discussions with FPPA, she has been assured that FPPA has legal authority to compute pensions based upon months of service and that it produces a more accurate result. Claudia is expecting documentation to this effect from FPPA and which also explains the method used for calculating pension changes. She asked the Board to set aside its August 23rd decision until this information is received and reviewed. The Board agreed to do so. In the meantime, Human Resources staff will verify that dates of hire shown in City records are consistent with those used by FPPA.

Claudia Hazelhurst and John Shaver spoke to the dilemma of filling Board seats when there are a lack of active fire members to do so. There is an interest with having retired pensioners serve on the Board. John Shaver stated that the statute refers only to active and not retired members concerning Board composition. Given the lack of direction in state statute, he advised that the current Board members could come up with a proposal and a process for filling Board seats. They would then be voted on by the Board. Tim Bevan moved that this matter be tabled for future discussion. Glenn Crespin seconded and the motion carried.

New Business

Claudia Hazelhurst reviewed the proposed 2001 pension rates with the Board. Ron Lappi moved to approve 2001 pension rates as proposed. Glen Crespin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with Claudia Hazelhurst abstaining.

Tim Bevan inquired if the Old Hire Fire Fund did, in fact, achieve full funding at the end of 2000 as plan actuaries had projected. Ron Lappi reported that final figures are not in yet but he will let the Board know at the next meeting. The only circumstance that may have prevented achieving this end was the gross drop in the financial markets at year-end.

Claudia Hazelhurst mentioned that the Old Hire Police had asked to have research done on the taxability of disability pensions. The research was completed on both police and fire and revealed that Old Hire Fire disability pensions are non-taxable and Old Hire Police disability pensions are taxable. The research findings and written instructions for their use will be sent to all disability pensioners.

Tim Bevan asked to have the next meeting tentatively set for April 10, 2001 at 9:00 am.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Martinez, Secretary