

PENSION COMMISSION
Via Tele-Conference
Friday, June 25, 2021
9:00 a.m.

AGENDA

PENSION ADMINISTRATION

I. Review of Minutes of the Meeting of May 28, 2021

II. Survivor Benefits

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FUND</u>
Farmer, Lena	MERF
Scandura, Eileen	MERF
Sullivan, Elizabeth	MERF

III. Regular Retirements

<u>NAME</u>	<u>UNION</u>	<u>QUALIFICATION</u>	<u>YEARS</u>	<u>AGE</u>
Carter, Shelly	LOC760	Service	21	51
Myers, Kurt	LOC78	Service	8	66
Rossler, Nancy	LOC82	Service	10	65
Wynter-Brown, Joyce	LOC1018F	Service	26	61

IV. Terminated Vested – Request to Vest Benefits

<u>NAME</u>	<u>UNION</u>	<u>QUALIFICATION</u>	<u>YEARS</u>	<u>AGE</u>
Rodriguez-Davila, Luis	HMEA	Vested Retirement	8	67

V. Qualified Domestic Relations Orders

Hector L. Casablanca v. Anolan Casablanca	MERF
Hillary Sigersmith v. Lance Sigersmith	MERF

**Pension Commission
Pension Administration Agenda
June 25, 2021**

- VI. Separations from Pension Payroll**
- VII. Requests for Refunds of Contributions**
- VIII. Request to Close Break-in-Service**
- IX. Other Business**

PENSION DATA

II. Survivor Benefits

Farmer, Lena, survivor of the late Robert D. Farmer, member of the Municipal Employees' Retirement Fund (MERF) who died July 7, 2020 (Survivor benefits under the MERF; Employee #S980462)

Effective Date:	August 1, 2020	
Annual Allowance		\$6,318.36
Monthly Allowance		526.53

Scandura, Eileen, survivor of the late Robert Scandura, member of the Municipal Employees' Retirement Fund (MERF) who died December 10, 2020 (Survivor benefits under the MERF; Employee #S980461)

Effective Date:	January 1, 2021	
Annual Allowance		\$28,181.88
Monthly Allowance		2,348.49

Sullivan, Elizabeth, survivor of the late Grady Sullivan, member of the Municipal Employees' Retirement Fund (MERF) who died May 4, 2021 (Survivor benefits under the MERF; Employee #S980463)

Effective Date:	June 1, 2021	
Annual Allowance		\$24,836.88
Monthly Allowance		2,069.74

III. Regular Retirements

AMOUNT

Carter, Shelly

Employee # 943905 / 991326

Union: LOC760

	Years	Months	Days
Term of Service (including Sick Exchange)	21	0	0
Sick Exchange:	0	0	0
Grounds:	Service		
Effective Date:	April 25, 2021		
Ending Annual Salary:			\$105,011.92
Final Rate of Pay:			112,435.83
Annual Pension Allowed: 58.8%			66,112.32
Monthly Payment:			5,509.36

AMOUNT

Myers, Kurt

Employee # 901953 / 991329

Union: LOC78

	Years	Months	Days
Term of Service (including Sick Exchange)	8	0	0
Sick Exchange:	0	0	0
Grounds:	Service		
Effective Date:	March 19, 2021		
Ending Annual Salary:			\$93,675.48
Average Salary: Highest 3 out of last 5 years			92,204.33
Annual Pension Allowed: 20%			18,440.88
Monthly Payment:			1,536.74

III. Regular Retirements (Contd.)

		<u>AMOUNT</u>		
<u>Rossler, Nancy</u>				
Employee # 682 / 991327				
Union: LOC82				
		Years	Months	Days
Term of Service (including Sick Exchange)		10	0	0
Sick Exchange:		0	0	0
Grounds:	Service			
Effective Date:	March 6, 2021			
Ending Annual Salary:				\$45,116.00
Average Salary:	Highest 3 out of last 5 years			47,025.76
Annual Pension Allowed:	25%			11,756.40
Monthly Payment:				979.70

		<u>AMOUNT</u>		
<u>Wynter-Brown, Joyce</u>				
Employee # 908710 / 991330				
Union: LOC1018F				
		Years	Months	Days
Term of Service (including Sick Exchange)		26	0	0
Sick Exchange:		0	0	0
Grounds:	Service			
Effective Date:	May 15, 2021			
Ending Annual Salary:				\$39,028.00
Average Salary:	Highest 5 out of last 10 years			38,283.58
Annual Pension Allowed:	52%			19,907.52
Monthly Payment:				1,658.96

IV. Terminated Vested – Request to Vest Benefits

AMOUNT

Rodriguez-Davila, Luis

Employee # 943757

Union: HMEA

Date of Termination: January 2, 2008

Term of Service: 8 Years

Grounds: Vested Service

Normal Retirement Date: April 19, 2014 (Age 60)

Average Salary: Highest 2 out of the last 5 years \$56,168.53

Final Base Pay 56,628.00

Pension Allowed: 22% 12,357.12

Monthly Payment: 1,029.76

V. Qualified Domestic Relations Orders

Hector L. Casablanca v. Anolan Casablanca

Entered into Court Records: January 21, 2016

Contribution Assignment Date: March 18, 2021

Contributions Assigned: Shared Interest Dollar Amount
\$1,380/month

Hillary Sigersmith v. Lance Sigersmith

Entered into Court Records: March 2, 2021

Contribution Assignment Date: June 9, 2021

Contributions Assigned: Shared Interest Dollar Amount
37.5%

Comments: It is our recommendation that the Commission approve the pending QDRO with respect to the MERF with contributions assigned as indicated above.

VI. Separations from Pension Payroll

<u>EMPLOYEE NUMBER</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE OF DEATH</u>	<u>PENSION AMOUNT</u>	<u>PENSION PLAN</u>
980182	Blesso, Marie	4/27/2021	\$853.47	MERF
297941	Goodson, Pauline	11/11/2020	\$1,631.14	MERF
711217	Sullivan, Grady	5/4/2021	\$4,139.48	MERF

VII. Request for Refunds of Pension Contributions

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Baptiste, Shane	\$22,940.56
D’Incecco, Nancy	\$1,657.90
Dematteo, Ryan	\$18,884.97
Florek, Autumn	\$1,986.05
Jackson, Shauna	\$9,824.94
Martinez, Damika	\$10,975.06
Mebane, Shane	\$18,687.40
Villalba, Savannah-Nicole	\$58.99
Watson-Davidson, Chantau	\$1,428.40

None of the above members is vested, or, if vested, he or she has been informed of, and has waived, his or her rights to a vested benefit in lieu of a contribution refund. The amounts shown include interest.

VIII. Request to Close Break-in-Service

The following individual has incurred during her career with the City one or more absences from employment of 90 or more consecutive days, but her absence was equal to or less than the period of her prior service. She has requested in accordance with Section 2A-5 of the Municipal Code of the City of Hartford, that these absences be reclassified as approved leave of absence, thereby “closing” the break in service for pension purposes and allowing all of her eligible City service to be aggregated and treated as continuous service as required by the City’s pension plan provisions.

The cost shown below is the approximate annual cost of the reclassification. This cost would be spread over the working lifetime of the average City employee, or over a period of 25 years.


<u>Employee Name</u>	<u>Union Affiliation</u>	<u>Original Hire Date</u>	<u>Absence Began</u>	<u>Absence Ended</u>	<u>Approximate Annual Cost</u>
Serrano, Debora	LOC82	1/12/2004	7/1/2011	7/13/2012	2,792



CITY OF HARTFORD
PENSION ADMINISTRATION

MEMORANDUM

To: Pension Commission

From: 
Adam M. Cloud, Secretary
Carmen I. Sierra, Assistant Secretary

Date: June 17, 2021

Subject: **Review of Minutes from the Meeting of May 28, 2021**

Enclosed for your review are the minutes for the Pension Administration of the Pension Commission meeting of Friday, May 28, 2021.

PENSION COMMISSION
Via Tele-Conference
Friday, May 28, 2021
9:00 a.m.

Minutes

PENSION ADMINISTRATION

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Peter Stevens, Commission Chairman; Gene Goldman, Commissioner; Nicholas Trigila, Employee Representative; Adam M. Cloud, Secretary, and Carmen I. Sierra, Assistant Secretary

STAFF PRESENT:

Sabri Akter, Member Services Specialist; Chay Iv, Executive Assistant and Zuleyn Gonzalez, Senior Pension Assistant

STAFF EXCUSED:

Nicole Plessy-Cloud, Assistant Plan Administrator and Mary Watson, Senior Member Services Specialist

OTHERS PRESENT:

Gary B. Draghi, Chief Investment Officer; P. Wayne Moore, Deputy Chief Investment Officer; Chelsea Mott, Senior Project Manager; Lisa Silvestri, General Counsel; Jennifer Hockenhull, CFO/Director of Management, Budget and Grants; Leigh Ann Ralls, Finance Director; Richard Pokorski, Benefits Manager; Maureen Colman, Executive Director, Financial Management; Kristin Finney-Cooke, NEPC; Bill Beccaro, Attorney; Matthew McCue, and Cyril Espanol, general public

Commission Chair Peter Stevens called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. following the adjournment of the OPEB Trust Committee.

I. Review of Minutes of the Meeting of April 30, 2021

Chairman Stevens introduced the item and asked for questions, comments or corrections to the Minutes of the Meeting of April 30, 2021. There were none.

A motion was made, seconded and adopted to accept the minutes of the April 30, 2021 meeting as presented.

Agenda Items II through VII Discussion

The Pension Commission discussed agenda items II through VII prior to any motions or approvals. Plan Administrator, Carmen Sierra stated that the agenda items were straightforward this month. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Gene Goldman made a comment noting that after the budget was approved by Council, the Hartford Courant reported on budgetary savings due to changes in vacation, sick pay, and retirement benefits and asked if there were changes made in the definition of benefit accruals under the MERF deferred benefit plan. Ms. Jennifer Hockenhull, CFO/Director of Management, Budget and Grants, explained that no changes were made in the definition of benefit accruals, however, noted that the City chose to pull some of the dollars due to the historical underspend relating to sick and vacation payouts at time of retirement. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made, seconded and accepted to approve items II through VII that required approval and to accept and place on file any requests not requiring approval by consent vote.

PENSION DATA

II. Survivor Benefits

The following survivor benefits were approved by consent vote:

Grogan, Loretta M., survivor of the late Francis Grogan, Jr., member of the Municipal Employees' Retirement Fund (MERF) who died April 2, 2021 (Survivor benefits under the MERF; Employee #S980458)

Effective Date:	May 1, 2021	
Annual Allowance		\$17,816.52
Monthly Allowance		1,484.71

Schmidt, Elayne, survivor of the late William H. Schmidt, member of the Municipal Employees' Retirement Fund (MERF) who died February 21, 2021 (Survivor benefits under the MERF; Employee #S980460)

Effective Date:	March 1, 2021	
Annual Allowance		\$29,135.88
Monthly Allowance		2,427.99

II. Survivor Benefits (Contd.)

Zitani, Carol A., survivor of the late Carmine M. Zitani, member of the Municipal Employees' Retirement Fund (MERF) who died April 19, 2021 (Survivor benefits under the MERF; Employee #S980459)

Effective Date:	May 1, 2021	
Annual Allowance		\$28,778.40
Monthly Allowance		2,398.20

III. Regular Retirements

The following regular retirement benefits were approved by consent vote:

				<u>AMOUNT</u>
<u>Arslan, Deborah L.</u>				
Employee # 911747 / 991324				
Union: LOC1018 A/B				
		Years	Months	Days
Term of Service (including Sick Exchange)		20	0	0
Sick Exchange:		0	0	0
Grounds:	Service			
Effective Date:	February 12, 2021			
Ending Annual Salary:				\$67,150.00
Average Salary:	Highest 3 out of last 5 years			71,135.45
Annual Pension Allowed:	50%			35,567.76
Monthly Payment:				2,963.98

IV. QDRO Alternate Payee Retirements

The following QDRO was approved conditionally by the Pension Commission for the MERF with benefits assigned as indicated subject to further changes when the final court approved documents are received in the Pension Administration Unit.

IV. QDRO Alternate Payee Retirements (Contd.)

MERF

Mooney, Lori A.

Alternate Payee of:	Mooney, William E.
Union:	HPU
Grounds:	Alternate Payee
Entered into Court Records:	March 8, 2021
QDRO Approved:	April 21, 2021
Benefit Assigned to Alternate Payee	<u>Percentage</u> 31.60%

V. Separations from Pension Payroll

The following separations from Pension Payroll were placed on file:

<u>EMPLOYEE NUMBER</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE OF DEATH</u>	<u>PENSION AMOUNT</u>	<u>PENSION PLAN</u>
980446	Abrams, Yvonne	4/19/2021	\$2,033.50	MERF
990995	Abrams, Yvonne	4/19/2021	\$1,303.78	MERF
8800	Allen, Charles E.	4/22/2021	\$1,169.42	MERF
286834	Giguere, Josephine	9/10/2020	\$2,167.92	MERF
310271	Grogan, Francis	4/2/2021	\$2,969.41	MERF
871753	Pratt, Ellen	4/5/2021	\$2,231.36	MERF
980157	Prete, Ida	12/23/2020	\$662.17	MERF
980346	Tuohy, James	4/17/2021	\$571.28	MERF
795038	Zitani, Carmine	4/19/2021	\$4,796.39	MERF
795577	Zito, Peter	4/6/2021	\$4,725.89	MERF

VI. Request for Refunds of Pension Contributions

The following refunds of pension contributions were approved by consent vote:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Apronti, Eric	\$13,432.50
Cruz, Tomas	\$5,050.05
Finucane, Randall	\$60,006.42
Hernandez, Luis	\$20,986.78
Lazauskas, Jolita	\$25,429.15
Martinez, Maritza	\$4,698.13
Rivera, Arianna	\$18,278.85
Robbins, Randolph	\$1,139.57
Salcedo, Karina	\$51,133.16
Valdovinos, Luisangel	\$14,845.30
Vizcaino, Norma	\$6,572.65

None of the above members is vested, or, if vested, he or she has been informed of, and has waived, his or her rights to a vested benefit in lieu of a contribution refund. The amounts shown include interest.

VII. Request to Close Break-in-Service

The following request to close break-in-service was approved by consent vote:

The following individual has incurred during her career with the City one or more absences from employment of 90 or more consecutive days, but her absence was equal to or less than the period of her prior service. She has requested in accordance with Section 2A-5 of the Municipal Code of the City of Hartford, that these absences be reclassified as approved leave of absence, thereby “closing” the break in service for pension purposes and allowing all of her eligible City service to be aggregated and treated as continuous service as required by the City’s pension plan provisions.

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<u>Employee Name</u>	<u>Union Affiliation</u>	<u>Original Hire Date</u>	<u>Absence Began</u>	<u>Absence Ended</u>	<u>Approximate Annual Cost</u>
Tejeda, Johanna	HMEA	6/14/1999	1/20/2003	4/25/2003	4,225

VIII. Executive Session – Disability Retirements

A motion was made, seconded and adopted to enter into Executive Session for disability retirements.

A motion was made, seconded, and adopted to exit the Executive Session for disability retirements.

A motion was made, seconded and adopted to approve disability retirements for Mr. Julian Perez.

		<u>AMOUNT</u>		
<u>Perez, Julian</u>				
Employee # 945672 / 991328				
Union: LOC760				
		Years	Months	Days
Term of Service (including Sick Exchange)		13	0	0
Sick Exchange:		0	0	0
Grounds:	Permanent and Total– <i>Service Connected</i> Disability Retirement			
Effective Date:	March 24, 2021			
Ending Annual Salary:				\$91,472.94
Average Salary:				97,504.08
Annual Pension Allowed:	100%			97,504.08
Monthly Payment:				8,125.34

IX. Other Business

There was no other business for the month of May.

There being no further business, Commissioner Goldman made a motion to adjourn the Pension Commission portion of the meeting at 9:28 a.m.

Attest:



Adam M. Cloud, Secretary



CITY OF HARTFORD
PENSION ADMINISTRATION

MEMORANDUM

To: Pension Commission

From: *AMC*
Adam M. Cloud, Secretary
Carmen I. Sierra, Assistant Secretary

Date: June 17, 2021

Subject: **Other Business**