

**ARLINGTON HEIGHTS
FIREFIGHTERS' PENSION BOARD**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on May 5, 2025

Arlington Heights Fire Department Administrative Headquarters
1150 No. Arlington Heights Road – Arlington Heights IL 60004

Members in Attendance: Adam Sielig
Lance Harris
Melissa Gallagher
Pete Ahlman
Kyle Kaczanowski

Others in Attendance: Thomas Radja, Board Attorney
Melissa Cayer, Public Observer

CALL TO ORDER

Adam Sielig called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Roll was called with board members Adam Sielig, Lance Harris, Melissa Gallagher, Pete Ahlman and Kyle Kaczanowski present.

Also present were Thomas Radja, Board Attorney, and Melissa Cayer, Public Observer.

Certify Trustee Election Results

The recent election of a Trustee from the active firefighters was held and Village Clerk, Becky Hume, verified that 89 ballots were received of which 84 were in favor of FF Adam Sielig. In addition there were five write-in ballots. Adam Sielig was elected as Trustee to serve on the Firefighters Pension Board, for another three year term beginning May 1, 2025.

Motion was made and seconded (P. Ahlman/L. Harris) to certify the election results confirming Adam Sielig as Board Trustee, effective May 1, 2025.
All in favor, motion passed.

Board Nominations

Motion was made and seconded (L. Harris/K. Kaczanowski) nominating the same positions as in the previous term, that is, Adam Sielig as President and Peter Ahlman as Secretary.

All in favor, motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting of February 24, 2025 were reviewed for approval.

A motion was made and seconded (L. Harris/M. Gallagher) to approve the minutes from the Regular Board meeting on February 24, 2025.
All in favor, motion passed.

CLOSED SESSION

None

TREASURER'S REPORT

Melissa Gallagher distributed the Financial Report ending March 31, 2025, as well as the Projected Cash Flow report through the end of the 2025 year.

Projected Cash Flow

Melissa first reviewed page 1, Checking Account. The Projected Cash Flow report is a projection for each month through the end of December 31, 2025. In April, the Village Board approved a \$600,000 transfer from the Village General Fund over to the Fire Pension Fund. Chief Harris indicated this is an additional time in the past three years the Village Board has made a transfer from the surplus within the General Fund to the Fire and Police Pension Funds. The Village Board is very keen on being certain our pension funds are well supported. As a Board, we strive to indicate this to our membership. Melissa added that this helps long-term as both investment and savings.

On page 2 Cash Flow, no significant changes from the last time we met.

Quarterly Financial Report

Next Melissa discussed the quarterly balance sheet as of March 31, showing our net assets to be \$158.2 million. The YTD Actuals column through March 2025 indicates actual Revenues at \$3.5 million and Expenditures at \$2.4 million. The revenue difference came in at \$1.1 million, resulting with an ending fund balance of \$158.2 million.

Motion was made and seconded (A. Sielig/P. Ahlman) to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Roll was called.

Ayes: A. Sielig, L. Harris, M. Gallagher, P. Ahlman, K. Kaczanowski

Nays – 0;

Motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

The Check Register as of Q1, 2025 was reviewed. There were several wire transfers (WT) and checks issued, totaling \$1,712.46. Melissa asked for approval of payments made, from WT (JV 01-214) through WT (JV 03-053).

Motion was made and seconded (A. Sielig/L. Harris) to approve payments made, from WT (JV 01-214) through WT (JV 03-053) totaling \$1,712.46.

Roll was called.

Ayes: A. Sielig, L. Harris, M. Gallagher, P. Ahlman, K. Kaczanowski

Nays – 0;

Motion carried.

REPORTS

- **Illinois Firefighters Pension Investment Fund (FPIF)**

Adam Sielig reviewed the March 2025 statement from FPIF, specifically the Arlington Heights pension fund portion. The Net Asset Value at the beginning of the year was \$157,558,916, with a rate of return of -2.28%, and YTD return of 0.17%. The ending balance for the Q1, 2025 of Net Asset Value was \$153,970.581.

The Consolidated Fund report was also provided.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Death of FF Phillip Palczynski – Spousal Survivor Benefits Update**

Attorney Tom Radja indicated since the last meeting we were in the process of gathering records and we now have all the records. Tom has set up two record reviews and is waiting for a third review. The records will then be sent to three IME doctors. Once all three record reviews are completed, we will then be in a position to set up a Hearing Date.

Tom will compile all the records to include records from the three IMEs and send them to the Board members in advance of the Hearing. There are roughly between 6,000 and 7,000 pages of records.

Adam indicated that Mrs. Palczynski called him recently stating her attorney received two of the reviews and is waiting for additional. Tom will contact her attorney to make certain he's aware of the two reviews and the third being sent this week. He will keep her attorney updated.

- **Application for Duty Disability Pension FF/E Thomas Dobbins**

Attorney Radja indicated Tom Dobbins filed his application which was accepted at the last meeting. FF Dobbins had back surgery scheduled for April 14 or 15. After his post-surgical care, Tom will obtain the records. Until then, we won't know whether this surgery brings him back to full duty, there's no point of setting up doctor appointments.

Chief Harris advised that he received an email from Tom Dobbins indicating he plans to come back to work as of Wednesday of this week. Chief Harris will let Attorney Radja know if that happens, so he can proceed accordingly and get in touch with his lawyer as to whether he wants to proceed with his application.

Previously Tom Dobbins asked for a 30-day extension for leave and then further asked for a six-month leave of absence. Assuming he returns to work on Wednesday, he will be required to re-take his driver training and SCBA training to ascertain he's well enough to handle his duties. Being off for a year and half, we cannot expect him to handle duties just the same as before he left.

From the Pension Board perspective, Tom Radja explained we will continue to gather records and proceed as planned. Chief Harris also explained that he will ask Tom Dobbins for some of his medical statistics as we can't just let him come back without surgery results. Plus we need to update the work scheduling.

Once the Chief determines his intentions, he will keep Attorney Rajda informed. His intentions and the emails should be part of the pension records.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Death of Retired Fire Marshal Daniel Raupp on March 24, 2025 – Survivor Benefit**

Adam Sielig indicated that we received the death certificate of retired Fire Marshal Daniel Raupp on March 24, 2025, along with the Request for Survivor's Benefit from his spouse, Diane Raupp.

Motion was made and seconded (M. Gallagher/P. Ahlman) to approve the Application for Survivor benefit for his spouse, Diane Raupp, effective the day of retiree Daniel Raupp's death.

Roll was called.

Ayes: A. Sielig, L. Harris, M. Gallagher, P. Ahlman, K. Kaczanowski

Nays – 0;

Motion carried.

- **Death of Retired Lt. James Rushing on March 25, 2025 – Cessation of Benefits**

We received notification from the family of retiree Lt. James Rushing that he had passed away on March 25, 2025. As there is no spouse nor dependents, the pension benefit will cease as of day of death.

Motion was made and seconded (A. Sielig/L. Harris) to approve the cessation of retiree James Rushing's benefits effective the day of his death, March 25, 2025.

- **Application for Retirement Pension – Lt. Michael Nolan on April 18, 2025**

Lt. Michael Nolan submitted his Application for Retirement Pension as of April 18, 2025. The calculation sheet indicates his monthly pension benefit to be \$8,936.51.

Motion was made and seconded (A. Sielig/L. Harris) to approve the Application for Retirement Pension of Lt. Michael Nolan, effective April 18, 2025, with a calculated monthly pension benefit of \$8,936.51.

Roll was called.

Ayes: A. Sielig, L. Harris, M. Gallagher, P. Ahlman, K. Kaczanowski

Nays – 0;

Motion carried.

- **Application for Membership New Hires as of April 21, 2025 – FF Stephen Clark, FF Samuel Weinstein and FF Luke Fava**

The Board has received application for membership from three new hires as of April 21, 2025, namely Stephen Clark, Samuel Weinstein and Luke Fava. Acceptance of the membership applications are as follows:

Motion was made and seconded (A. Sielig/M. Gallagher) to accept the application of Stephen Clark.

Motion was made and seconded (A. Sielig/K. Kaczanowski) to accept the application of Samuel Weinstein.

Motion was made and seconded (A. Sielig/P. Ahlman) to accept the application of Luke Fava.

Roll was called.

Ayes: A. Sielig, L. Harris, M. Gallagher, P. Ahlman, K. Kaczanowski

Nays – 0;

Motion carried.

- **Executive Closed Sessions – Release of Minutes**

Motion was made and seconded (A. Sielig/M. Gallagher) recommending executive closed session minutes remain as confidential.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no other business to present before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 AM. Motion was made and seconded (A. Sielig/L. Harris) to adjourn the meeting.

All in favor, motion carried.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING – Scheduled for Monday, August 18, at 9:00 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Potts
Recording Secretary

Peter Ahlman
Board Secretary