BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Division of Public Works Retirement System
Meeting Minutes
June 2, 2025

A meeting of the Board of Trustees, Public Works Retirement System was held at 10:36 a.m. on Monday, June 2, 2025 in The Mine Falls Conference Room located at 848 West Hollis Street, Nashua, NH 03062.

Trustees Present:
Dawn Enwright, Treasurer/Tax Collector, Member – arrived at 10:43 a.m.
David Fredette, Finance & Investment Professional (Chairman)
Matthew Gregg, BPW Commissioner
Terri Harris, UAW Employee Member
Daniel Hudson, Unaffiliated Employee Member
Michael O'Brien, Aldermanic Liaison (Assistant Chair)

Trustees Absent:
Matt Dube, AFSME Employee Member

Others in Attendance:
Carolyn O'Connor, Asst Director of PW Finance & Administration
Mary Woods, Administrative Assistant

Expected Visitors:

None

Minutes of the Meeting:

The minutes of the April 28, 2025 meeting were presented for review and acceptance.

MOTION BY: Alderman, Michael O'Brien moved to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2025 meeting as reviewed and presented.
SECONDED BY: Trustee, Daniel Hudson
MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously by members in attendance
DISCUSSION:

Personnel:

None

Old Business:

Trustee Fredette said that the changes to the DPW Retirement Ordinance is still in the hands of the Attorney in Manchester, John Rich to review and prepare for the IRS.

Trustee Fredette said that regarding the changes made to the Ordinance by Atty. Rich for the death benefits for a surviving spouse in certain very limited circumstances was read last Tuesday and the five Alderman endorsed it. Trustee Fredette said that it's going in front of the Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee tonight at 7:00pm. Trustee Fredette and Attorney Rich will attend the meeting. A copy of the proposed Ordinance is in the Agenda Packet. Alderman O'Brien is sponsoring the Ordinance change. There was discussion on the changes that could be made, regarding vesting, at a later date. Trustee Enwright wanted to point out the three selections for retiring employees and wants to make sure everyone understands the language in the Ordinance.

The motion was made to recommend the final passage of Ordinance 25-057 to the Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee.

MOTION BY: Alderman, Michael O'Brien moved to recommend the final passage of the Ordinance 25-057 to the Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee.
SECONDED BY: Trustee, Matty Gregg
MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously by members in attendance
DISCUSSION: Trustee Hudson thought that language should be added to say, for cases where there has been a contingent annuitant option selected, this applies. But if the contingent annuitant option has not been selected, he doesn't think that it should apply. Alderman O'Brien wanted Trustee Enwright to show some commitment to this board by coming back and possibly getting legislation started to clarify it.

Trustee Enwright spoke about the RFP for the Trustee of Trust Funds Financial Services. They have completed all of the review and they have had eight submissions of Financial Institutions in doing the services for us. Of those eight, all were reviewed and they came down to three that they called back for interviews. They had Citizens Bank, Cambridge Trust and Wilmington Trust. Unfortunately, Ms. Enwright stated that RBC had an incomplete submission so they couldn't be considered for the RFP. She thinks that this board will be happy to hear that the board is recommending Cambridge Trust for the provider of services. Trustee Enwright has their submission as well as their presentation that was provided to the board. She stated that they are a local institution, based out of Manchester, NH, and all of their investors are located in Manchester and very accessible. She mentioned that the City currently has a relationship with Cambridge Trust on some of their capital reserves and they have had very positive return with that. The pricing that they came forward with initially was a little higher than the second proposed candidate, Citizens Bank, so our Purchasing Manager, Amy Girard, went back to Cambridge Trust and asked if they could do better. Trustee Enwright said that she was happy to report that they came back with better. They are going to be providing a 15 basis points for a service fee. Just for measurement, the pension is now paying 45 basis points. We will be paying significantly less for the fees and the level of service will be at the same level as what they have been providing. They will be working with them to make sure that they are returning what the board is expecting month after month and willing to work with us and the Investment Policy.

Trustee Fredette asked if Trustee Enwright could explain a question regarding if this board would still have control of this fund to which Trustee Enwright said, yes, the funds are through the Investment Policy and it can be reported monthly after the conversion happens so that we can see month to month how the funds are doing and whether we need to recommend an adjustment to the Investment Policy. What they liked about Cambridge Trust is how engaged they were about talking about some of the shortfalls in the proposed Investment Policy and recommendations that they could make. Alderman O'Brien asked

Trustee Enwright if there is sunset terminology or is this good for six months perpetually at the price that Cambridge Trust came down to? Trustee Enwright stated that this is a three-year contract with two additional year continuations. Alderman O'Brien asked if we were frozen at five years and Trustee Enwright responded, yes. Trustee Hudson asked about the missing paperwork from RBC that made them ineligible and wanted to know if we had followed up with them? He felt that usually there is flexibility in our procurement policy and since RBC has given us good service in the past that we should have at least reached out to them. Trustee Enwright said that she did question that to the Purchasing Manager and she was informed that RBC had been contacted and that there was no follow up response from them. Trustee Hudson doesn't fully understand Chairman Fredette's question on what we are responsible for and is it by the City Charter? Trustee Enwright stated that the Ordinance in the Charter states that all funds should be managed through the City Treasurer and the City Treasurer has elected to do it through an Investment Policy which is how the pension fund has always managed their funds, through the policy. As done in the past, the board will continue to have oversight, direction and recommendations over their funds through the Investment Policy. The only difference is that you have the benefit of all of the Cities Trust Funds, Capital Reserves and Pension together to be able to assist. They will continue to look to the board for the recommendations for that Investment Policy. Trustee Enwright said that if the board wants to see the quarterly discussions of performance, the Trustee of Trust Funds Meeting is an open meeting and she recommends that anyone come. She mentioned that this board is fortunate to have Trustee Fredette on the Board of the Trustee of Trust Funds to report directly back to this board but she encourages people to attend these public meetings and ask questions.

Trustee Gregg spoke and said that he thinks the heart of the issue is that in the past this board was part of the selection process and he understands it's no longer there but he thinks the other part of this as he thinks it was unfortunate that RBC was not part of the selection process because of their tremendous returns over the past number of years and to not have them part of the selection process when they've showed a past history of delivering really well for this pension is very unfortunate. Trustee Hudson stated that he can't fathom that RBC would not have responded when they were asked to submit further paperwork that was needed. Trustee Enwright said that she can understand the uneasy feeling around RBC and the unfortunate situation but said that she did make sure they talked about RBC in terms of their pricing just to make sure and said that their pricing was significantly higher so even if everything was submitted, she doesn't believe that they would have fallen within the three final candidates. Trustee Fredette said that all three candidates managed pension funds. Trustee Gregg asked about Cambridge Trust and if they currently have a relationship with the City to which Trustee Enwright said that we do. Trustee Fredette mentioned that he does work with them on other boards and they always do a good job. Trustee Enwright said that Cambridge Trust is above benchmark in all areas and offered that the report is available for anyone to look at. Alderman O'Brien said that there seems to be some discomfort in swapping from RBC to Cambridge Trust, is it worth it or can we extenuate the deadline and allow RBC to come in as a compromise? He said that we could put a time limit on it, maybe 30 days and if they don't respond then it's moot. Trustee Enwright responded that it is important that we do the best for all of our investments and feel more comfortable following up with the Purchasing Manager to make sure she did give them a chance to come in when the process was going on and if that didn't happen, maybe we could explore having them complete their submission and possibly pulling it in as a final review.

Trustee Enwright said that they were hoping to start implementation on July 1st but she thinks that she would like to get those questions answered first and then see where we are in terms of moving forward with either considering RBC against Cambridge Trust or not. Trustee Enwright went over a little of the criteria on how the companies were chosen and one was that they were located in New England, pricing and to make sure that they had managed pension plans in our capacity or higher. Knowing what this boards concern are, she will go back to the Purchasing Manager and make sure that we did do everything we could with RBC and that the non-response was on their part and not on our lack of offer and she will report back to the board. Alderman O'Brien asked if we could table this matter until we hear back from Trustee Enwright and set it for a time certain. Trustee Fredette agreed and would like it to be done as soon as possible. Trustee Enwright will send out Cambridge Trusts information electronically unless anyone would need it as a hard copy. Alderman O'Brien would like to know if we could set a date to meet and address this. Trustee Fredette suggested we table this item until we schedule another meeting hopefully in a week.

New Business:

A. MOTION BY: Trustee, Daniel Hudson moved to approve the Distribution of Funds for the Period March 1, 2025 through March 31, 2025 in the amount of $432,788.01.
SECONDED BY: Alderman, Michael O'Brien
MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously by the members in attendance
DISCUSSION:

B. MOTION BY: Alderman, Michael O'Brien moved to approve the USI Invoice for Pension Actuarial & Consulting fees through 3/31/25 in the amount of $12,000.
SECONDED BY: Trustee, Terri Harris
MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously by the members in attendance
DISCUSSION: Trustee Gregg had a question regarding the invoice total of $12,000 and wanting to know if this is higher than normal? Trustee Hudson pointed out that during this time period the full benefit calculations exceeded the threshold of 12 per year so there were extra charges for the 5 remainder. Trustee Hudson feel that we don't see the excess during the year and at this time of year is when the excess is tabulated.

C. MOTION BY: Trustee, Dawn Enwright, moved to approve the McLean & Middleton Invoice for the legal fees of $195 for matters regarding Internal Revenue Service correction project and amendment to change Spousal Death Benefit.
SECONDED BY: Alderman, Michael O'Brien
MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously by the members in attendance
DISCUSSION:

Period for Public Comment:

None

Items by the Trustees:

There was a discussion regarding the pension portal passwords to be sent to employees. Trustee Fredette mentioned that there was discussion between Mr. Condon, from Pension Edge, and Ms. Boisvert from the Treasurer Office. They were just waiting for it to be confirmed whether the passcodes would be sent to all the DPW employees or just the DPW employees who hadn't accessed their portal. Ms. Boisvert will be back in the office soon. Trustee Enwright said that It was agreed at the last meeting that it will be sent to all the "non-users" first and then possibly to the "users" after that. Trustee Gregg mentioned that he had spoken to Director Fauteux and she just wanted to be notified when the passcodes were about to be sent so that she could notify the employees. Ms. O'Connor also noted that Director Fauteux wanted to know if there was a way of showing if maybe an employee had logged in but never logged in again. Trustee Enwright, said she will have Ms. Boisvert communicate with Mr. Condon to have him go ahead with the initial mailing and Cc Trustee Fredette when she does. Trustee Gregg also wanted to note that it was previously discussed that employees would have access to a computer so that they could log into their account and thought Director Fauteux had mentioned having resources available. Trustee Enwright said that she will have Ms. Boisvert communicate with everyone when the passcodes go out so that there can be some coordination of staff to be available to help employees log into their accounts.

Next meeting will be scheduled for Monday, June XX, 2025, at 10:30 a.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Trustee Enwright moved to adjourn at 11:47 a.m.
SECONDED BY: Commissioner Gregg
MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously by the members in attendance
DISCUSSION:

Minutes Transcribed by: Mary Woods