

# City of Clearwater

*Main Library - Council Chambers  
100 N. Osceola Avenue  
Clearwater, FL 33755*



## Meeting Minutes

**Monday, August 12, 2024**

**1:00 PM**

**Main Library - Council Chambers**

**Pension Trustees**

**Roll Call**

**Present** 5 - Chair Bruce Rector, Trustee Ryan Cotton, Trustee Michael Mannino, Trustee David Allbritton, and Trustee Lina Teixeira

**Also Present** – Jennifer Poirier – City Manager, Michael Delk – Assistant City Manager, David Margolis - City Attorney, Rosemarie Call – City Clerk, Nicole Sprague – Deputy City Clerk, and Tiffany Makras – Human Resources Director

*To provide continuity for research, items are listed in agenda order although not necessarily discussed in that order.*

**Unapproved**

**1. Call to Order – Chair Rector**

*The meeting was called to order at 2:31 p.m.*

**2. Approval of Minutes**

2.1 Approve the minutes of the June 17, 2024 Pension Trustees meeting as submitted in written summation by the City Clerk.

**Trustee Cotton moved to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2024 Pension Trustees meeting as submitted in written summation by the City Clerk. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.**

**3. Citizens to be Heard Regarding Items Not on the Agenda – None.**

**4. New Business Items**

4.1 Determine Trustees' expected rate of return for pension plan investments for the current year, each of the next several years, and for the long term thereafter, in accordance with Florida Statutes 112.661(9).

Florida Statutes 112.661(9) requires an annual determination of expected rates of return by filed with the Florida Department of Management Services, with the plan's sponsor, and with the consulting actuary.

Staff is recommending the current plan investment rate of return assumptions of 6.5%, net of investment-related fees, as the expected annual rate of return for the current year; 6.5% for the next year; and 6.5% for all years thereafter.

**Trustee Teixeira moved to determine Trustees' expected rate of return for pension plan investments for the current year, each of the next several years, and for the long term thereafter, in accordance with Florida Statutes 112.661(9). The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.**

**4.2 Approve the new hires for acceptance into the Pension Plan as listed.**

<b>Name/ Job Classification/Department</b>	<b>Pension Eligibility Date</b>
Isabella Arroyo, Human Resources Technician, Human Resources	04/20/2024
Adam Aramino, Survey Assistant I, Public Works	04/22/2024
Darius Hunsicker, Parks Service Technician I, Parks & Recreation	04/22/2024
Christopher Mcfadden, Parks Service Technician I, Parks & Recreation	04/22/2024
Andrew Nolan-Rivera, Parks Service Technician I, Parks & Recreation	04/22/2024
Codey Nygren, Parks Service Technician I, Parks & Recreation	04/22/2024
Loretta Waterworth, Accounting Tech I, Public Utilities	04/22/2024
Miguel Pena, Parks Service Technician I, Parks & Recreation	04/22/2024
Brian Balloon, Solid Waste Equipment Oper, Solid Waste & Recycling	04/22/2024
Kaleb Peterson, Library Assistant I, Library	05/04/2024
Jessica Pryor, Customer Service Rep I, Gas System	05/04/2024
Jacob Speranza, Skilled Tradesworker I, Marine & Aviation	05/04/2024
Jaice Currie, Network Analyst I, Information Technology	05/06/2024
Hadley Johnson, Police Telecommunicator I, Police Department	05/06/2024
Christopher Vera, Police Telecommunicator I, Police Department	05/06/2024
Devin Furlow, Gas Technician I, Gas System	05/06/2024
Adam Borgman, Public Info Coordinator I, Public Communications	05/06/2024
Derrek Rose, Fire Inspector II, Fire Department	05/06/2024
Nicholas Reeves, Parks Service Supervisor I, Parks & Recreation	05/06/2024
Ryan Thomas, Wastewater Coll Tech I, Public Utilities	05/06/2024
Shawn Rodriguez, Streets & Sidewalks Tech I, Public Works	05/06/2024
Samuel Brown, Solid Waste Worker I, Solid Waste & Recycling	05/18/2024
Rico Green, Parks Service Technician I, Parks & Recreation	05/18/2024
Trevor Shultz, Gas Technician I, Gas System	05/20/2024
William Bechtel, Systems Programmer I, Information Technology	05/20/2024
Noah Mayberry, Development Review Tech I, Planning & Dev.	05/20/2024
Lester Rivera, Fleet Mechanic, General Supp Services	05/20/2024
Travis Jones, Building & Maint Supv, General Supp Services	05/20/2024
Michael Camarillo, Parks Service Technician I, Parks & Recreation	05/20/2024
James Young, Traffic Sign & Marking Tech I, Public Works	05/20/2024

Monica Lueking, Neighborhoods Coordinator, City Manager	05/20/2024
Jesse Bennett, Stormwater Technician I, Public Works	05/20/2024
Dasril Panko, Wstwtr Trtmnt Plant Oper C, Public Utilities	06/03/2024
Donovan Stewart, Stormwater Technician I, Public Works	06/03/2024
Rossmery Diaz, Human Resources Analyst I, Human Resources	06/03/2024
Terry Barber, Fire Marshal, Fire Department	06/03/2024
Marcus Prescott, Traffic Sign & Marking Tech I, Public Works	06/03/2024
Brandon Hellmann, Solid Waste Equip. Oper, Solid Waste & Recyc.	06/03/2024
Verqueze Mitchell, Water Distr Oper Trainee, Public Utilities	06/03/2024
Leanne Bell, Public Info Coordinator I, Public Communications	06/03/2024
Samantha Myers, Engineering Specialist I, Public Utilities	06/17/2024
Shahrzad Takaloo, Planner Iii, Planning & Development	06/17/2024
Elizabeth Brewer, Librarian I, Library	06/17/2024
Keegan Saraceno, Utilities Mechanic, Public Utilities	06/17/2024
Chyna Miller-Robinson, Recreation Leader I, Parks & Recreation	06/17/2024

**Trustee Allbritton moved to approve the new hires for acceptance into the Pension Plan as listed. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.**

- 4.3** Approve the following request of Carl Conyers, Police Department, Gerard Grace, Parks and Recreation Department, Timothy Kurtz, Public Works Department, Robert Lazzaro Jr, Police Department, James “Jim” McCulley, Gas Department, and Barry Slack, Public Utilities Department for a regular pension as provided by Sections 2.416 and 2.424 of the Employees’ Pension Plan.

Carl Conyers, Police Officer, Police Department, was employed by the City on May 31, 1994, and his pension service credit is effective on that date. His pension will be effective June 1, 2024. Based on an average salary of approximately \$99,902.55 over the past five years, the formula for computing regular pensions and Mr. Conyers’ selection of the Joint and Survivor Annuity, this pension benefit will be approximately \$82,419.60 annually.

Gerard Grace, Parks Service Tech II, Parks and Recreation Department was employed by the City on November 3, 2003, and his pension service credit is effective on that date. His pension will be effective June 1, 2024. Based on an average salary of approximately \$47,071.51 over the past five years, the formula for computing regular pensions and Mr. Grace’s selection of the 100% Joint and Survivor Annuity, this pension benefit will be approximately \$22,970.64 annually.

Timothy Kurtz, Construction Division Manager, Public Works Department, was employed by the City on March 22, 1998, and his pension service credit is

effective on October 1, 1998. His pension will be effective December 1, 2024. Based on an average salary of approximately \$105,861.34 over the past five years, the formula for computing regular pensions and Mr. Kurtz's selection of the 100% Joint & Survivor Annuity, this pension benefit will be approximately \$64,167.24 annually.

Robert Lazzaro Jr, Police Officer, Police Department, was employed by the City on September 9, 2002, and his pension service credit is effective on that date. His pension will be effective June 1, 2024. Based on an average salary of approximately \$94,009.04 over the past five years, the formula for computing regular pensions and Mr. Lazzaro's selection of the 100% Joint and Survivor Annuity, this pension benefit will be approximately \$54,641.40 annually.

James "Jim" McCulley, Gas Sales Division Manager, Gas Department, was employed by the City on July 11, 1988, and his pension service credit is effective on May 13, 1989. His pension will be effective May 1, 2024. Based on an average salary of approximately \$98,291.32 over the past five years, the formula for computing regular pensions and Mr. McCulley's selection of the 50% Joint and Survivor Annuity, this pension benefit will be approximately \$87,799.80 annually.

Barry Slack, Utilities Mechanic, Public Utilities Department, was employed by the City on June 1, 2004, and his pension service credit is effective on that date. His pension will be effective July 1, 2024. Based on an average salary of approximately \$42,150.08 over the past five years, the formula for computing regular pensions and Mr. Slack's selection of the Single Life Annuity, this pension benefit will be approximately \$23,192.28 annually.

Section 2.416 provides for normal retirement eligibility for non-hazardous duty employees hired prior to the effective date of this reinstatement (January 1, 2013), a member shall be eligible for retirement following the earlier of the date on which a participant has reached the age of 55 years and completed 20 years of credited service; the date on which a participant has reached age 65 years and completed ten years of credited service; or the date on which a member has completed 30 years of service regardless of age. For non-hazardous duty employees hired on or after the effective date of this restatement, a member shall be eligible for retirement following the earlier of the date on which a participant has reached the age of 60 years and completed 25 years of credited service; or the date on which a participant has reached the age of 65 years and completed ten years of credited service. Mr. Grace, Mr. Kurtz, Mr. McCulley, and Mr. Slack have met the non-hazardous duty criteria.

Section 2.416 provides for normal retirement eligibility for hazardous duty employees, a member shall be eligible for retirement following the earlier of the date on which the participant has completed 20 years of credited service regardless of age, or the date on which the participant has reached 55 years and completed ten years of credited service. Mr. Conyers and Mr. Lazzaro Jr have met the hazardous duty criteria.

**Trustee Mannino moved to approve the following request of Carl Conyers, Police Department, Gerard Grace, Parks and Recreation Department, Timothy Kurtz, Public Works Department, Robert Lazzaro Jr, Police Department, James “Jim” McCulley, Gas Department, and Barry Slack, Public Utilities Department for a regular pension as provided by Sections 2.416 and 2.424 of the Employees’ Pension Plan. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.**

**4.4 Approve changes to the PAC Manual, Section IV: Eligibility for Disability Pension, regarding the Firefighter Cancer Presumption Law.**

PAC approved changes to the PAC Manual in section IV: Eligibility for Disability Pension

Firefighter cancer benefit: pursuant to Florida Statute § 112.1816(3)-(4), if a firefighter is found by the PAC to be permanently and totally disabled due to a diagnosis of cancer, or circumstances that arise out of the treatment of cancer, then the PAC must also find that said disability arose in the line of duty.

**Trustee Cotton moved to approve changes to the PAC Manual, Section IV: Eligibility for Disability Pension, regarding the Firefighter Cancer Presumption Law. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.**

**5. Adjourn**

*The meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m.*

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Chair  
Employees’ Pension Plan Trustees

Attest

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City Clerk