FIRE PENSION BOARD

MINUTES

September 15, 2011

1:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Phil Milner, Chairman
Mike Handoga, Secretary
Bruno Falkenstein, Member
Mike Terry, Member
Keith Beattie, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

Pamala Prell, Deputy City Clerk

1. **Approval of Minutes of March 9, 2010, October 21, 2010, October 25, 2010, January 20, 2011, April 21, 2011 and April 21, 2011 Joint meeting.**

   Secretary Handoga made a motion to approve the minutes of March 9, 2010, October 21, 2010, October 25, 2010, January 20, 2011, April 21, 2011 and April 21, 2011 Joint Meeting, as written. The motion was seconded by Member Terry and approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

2. **Payment of Invoices**

   Chairman Milner stated that all invoices go directly to Salem Trust and the board doesn't review them. He stated that he would like to postpone this item until copies of the invoices are available for review by the board. Chairman Milner will ask the vendors to email their invoices to him and he will email them to the members.

   Chairman Milner presented the cost of living adjustments (COLA) and stated that he provided a copy to Lynn Skinner at Salem Trust.

Secretary Handoga made a motion to approve the COLA adjustments for the retired members. The motion was seconded by Member Beattie and approved by a unanimously voice vote.

3. **Reports**

Tim Nash, Bogdahn Consulting, presented the Quarterly Report ending June 30, 2011. In reviewing investments, they invested 5% in foreign bonds through Templeton in the amount of $432,659 which came from Cutwater, their existing bond manager.

Mr. Nash reminded the board that they decided to take 10% of the total fund from bonds and put it into a real estate investment fund. He recommended a private real estate manager but the problem they ran in to is a $1 million minimum investment. He felt that this is something to consider in the future because 10% of the current fund would only be $800,000.

Lynn Skinner, Salem Trust, spoke about the overpayment to a retiree and apologized to the board. Ms. Skinner advised that the funds that were overpaid ($40,268.02) were deposited back in the Firefighters' Pension account on September 8, 2011 and that the State has no reason to withhold their money.

Member Handoga made a motion to accept the letter from Salem Trust with the changes. The motion was seconded by Member Falkenstein and approved by a unanimously voice vote.

Ms. Skinner advised that Salem Trust is sending out two mailings. The first mailing is going to have all pensioners listed and have their stop dates shown. The second mailing is regarding individuals who have a change date where they are getting a payment right now and at some time in the future it is supposed to be reduced to a different amount.

Attorney Dehner, Christiansen and Dehner, presented an update on Senate Bill 1128 and advised that it had been significantly "watered down". The major change was the definition of compensation that can be used for benefit calculations. The limit of 300 hours of overtime has minimal effect on the employees at St. Pete Beach; however, the City will have to determine if the 300 hours of overtime per year will be on a calendar year or fiscal year basis.

Attorney Dehner stated the Federal Legislation previously discussed the $3,000 income tax deduction and advised that as public safety officers, the board has the option to implement the program but most boards haven't because of the potential liability.

After general discussion, it was the consensus of the board to schedule a joint training session with the other pension boards.

4. Old Business

There was none to come before the board.

5. New Business

a. City Manager's proposed changes to the current Fire Pension Plan and how it will affect future Chapter 175 funding.

Chairman Milner advised that the Union and the City Manager are in negotiations. Mr. Bonfield presented a proposal which he withdrew. The next proposal won't be offered until the end of October so there is nothing to discuss at this time. Mr. Milner pointed out that the current union contract expires September 30, 2012.

b. Foster & Foster Fee Increase.

Chairman Milner advised the board that Foster & Foster presented a new fee schedule for benefit calculations, buy back calculations will be $200 and the Annual Report will be $2,500. In accordance with the new legislation, Foster & Foster will be required to complete a Valuation Report using the 7.75 multiplier along with the Valuation Report that they prepare with the assumed interest rate. Mr. Milner stated that it will be an additional 10% for the Valuation Report, around $700 to $750 dollars, which is required once a year by the State.

The board agreed to table this item until the Special Meeting in October.

6. Board Comments

Chairman Milner reported that he attended the state conference in Tallahassee and has the conference material if anyone wants to review it.

Secretary Handoga presented a list of meeting dates for 2012.

Member Falkenstein made to approve the meeting dates as follows: January 19, 2012 at 10:30 a.m., April 19, 2012, at 1:30 p.m., July 19, 2012 at 8:30 a.m. and October 18, 2012 at 10:30 a.m. The motion was seconded by Member Beattie and approved by a unanimously voice vote.

7. Audience Comments

There were no audience comments.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business to bring before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Attest:

Rebecca C. Haynes, City Clerk

Phil Milner, Chairman

Minutes approved on: 1/19/12