

CITY OF FORT PIERCE RETIREMENT AND BENEFIT SYSYTEM MINUTES OF
MEETING HELD JANUARY 15, 2025

Summarized Minutes of the regular meeting of the City of Fort Pierce Retirement and Benefit System January 15, 2025, 2:00 p.m., in the Commission Chambers at City Hall

Present:

Kyle MacCarthy	Police Officer Member, Chair
Wendy Rydzewski	City of Fort Pierce General Member, Vice-Chair
Comm. Arnold Gaines	City Commission Member
Johnna Morris	Secretary/Treasurer
Keith Stephens	U.A. General Member
Barbara Mika	U.A. Board Appointed Member

Guests:

Attorney Bonni Jensen	Attorney for the Retirement Board, Advisory
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Recording:

Megan LeGrand	Executive Assistant to Director of Finance
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Absent:

Comm. Michael Broderick	City Commission Member
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ITEM NO. 1 & 2 - ROLL CALL

Mr. Kyle MacCarthy called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm, the first item on the agenda being the “Roll Call”.

ITEM NO. 3 ~ COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. MacCarthy opened for comments from the public. Seeing as there was no public, Mr. MacCarthy closed the comments.

ITEM NO. 4 ~ CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Johnna Morris and seconded by Commissioner Arnold Gaines to approve the minutes. All those in favor of the motion signified by saying aye. There was no opposition, and the motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM NO. 5 ~ REPORT FROM THE BOARD ATTORNEY

None

ITEM NO. 6 ~ PUBLIC HEARINGS ON BENEFIT APPLICATIONS

Mr. MacCarthy opened the public hearing for the request for deferred retirement from Clayton B. Crouch Jr. with 5 years and 3 months of service with the Fort Pierce

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Utilities Authority. Seeing no public, the hearing was closed and the request was opened for Board discussion. **A motion was made by Mr. Keith Stephens and seconded by Comm. Gaines to approve the request. All those in favor of the motion signified by saying aye. There was no opposition, and the motion was carried unanimously.**

Mr. MacCarthy opened the public hearing for the request for deferred retirement from Brandon Richardson with 5 years and 3 months of service with the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority. Seeing no public, the hearing was closed and the request was opened for Board discussion. **A motion was made by Comm. Gaines and seconded by Ms. Morris to approve the request. All those in favor of the motion signified by saying aye. There was no opposition, and the motion was carried unanimously.**

Mr. MacCarthy opened the public hearing for the request for deferred retirement from Ronnie Prebilsky with 7 years and 8 months of service with the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority. Seeing no public, the hearing was closed and the request was opened for Board discussion.

Ms. Morris made a note that in the workup that is attached in the agenda packet for Ronnie Prebilsky, there was an error in the hire date. The date has been corrected, and all of the other information in the workup was correct as printed. **A motion was made by Mr. Stephens and seconded by Ms. Rydzewski to approve the request. All those in favor of the motion signified by saying aye. There was no opposition, and the motion was carried unanimously.**

Mr. MacCarthy opened the public hearing for the request for retirement from Maurice Bacon with 26 years and 7 months of service with the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority entering DROP. Seeing no public, the hearing was closed and the request was opened for Board discussion. **A motion was made by Mr. Stephens and seconded by Ms. Barbara Mika to approve the request. All those in favor of the motion signified by saying aye. There was no opposition, and the motion was carried unanimously.**

Mr. MacCarthy opened the public hearing for the request for deferred retirement from Jeremiah K. Johnson with 8 years of service with the City of Fort Pierce. Seeing no public, the hearing was closed and the request was opened for Board discussion. **A motion was made by Ms. Rydzewski and seconded by Ms. Mika to approve the request. All those in favor of the motion signified by saying aye. There was no opposition, and the motion was carried unanimously.**

Mr. MacCarthy opened the public hearing for the request for retirement from Kelvin Toombs with 19 years and 2 months of service with the City of Fort Pierce entering DROP. Seeing no public, the hearing was closed and the request was opened for Board discussion. **A motion was made by Ms. Morris and seconded by Comm. Gaines to approve the request. All those in favor of the motion signified by saying aye. There was no opposition, and the motion was carried unanimously.**

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ITEM NO. 7 ~ OLD BUSINESS

None

ITEM NO. 8 ~ NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Morris gave an overview of how elected officials are not automatically enrolled in the retirement system. The request comes from the individual commissioners to the Retirement Board for approval and then will go before the Commission to bring to their attention the approval of the request.

Mr. Stephens reminds the board that if a commissioner only does 4 years and is not re-elected, they are not vested in the retirement system, meaning they are not eligible for retirement through the City.

A motion was made by Comm. Gaines and seconded by Ms. Morris to approve the request to join the retirement plan. All those in favor of the motion signified by saying aye. There was no opposition, and the motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM NO. 9 ~ CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Ms. Morris and seconded by Mr. Stephens to approve the consent agenda. All those in favor of the motion signified by saying aye. There was no opposition, and the motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM NO. 10 ~ CONSIDERATION OF ABSENCES

A motion was made by Ms. Morris and seconded by Ms. Rydzewski to excuse Commissioner Michael Broderick. All those in favor of the motion signified by saying aye. There was no opposition, and the motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM NO. 11 ~ BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Ms. Morris confirmed that they are in the process of moving forward with the Brandes deal, and the final steps are in motion.

Ms. Mika mentioned an article from the FPPTA (Florida Public Pension Trustees Association) that had a relief fund available for those affected by the storms from last year. There were applications submitted by some, and they came through helping some of the employees.

ITEM NO. 12 ~ NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be held February 20, 2025, at 2pm in the Commission Chambers at City Hall.

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ITEM NO. 13 ~ ADJOURMENT

Seeing that there were no further questions or comments. **Mr. MacCarthy** adjourned the meeting at 2:16 pm.

ATTEST:

Secretary/Treasurer

Chairperson

Note: These minutes are not verbatim, only important issues and motions are reproduced in writing for the benefit of the Fort Pierce Retirement and Benefit System members. The recording itself is the official record for the meeting. The meeting tape/cd is available.