

**Swampscott Retirement Board  
Meeting Minutes  
April 27, 2021**

A meeting of the Contributory Retirement Board was held via Zoom conference call on Tuesday, April 27, 2021.

Attendance – Chair, Thomas Driscoll, Jr. (joined at 8:14), Vice Chair, John Behen Jr., Kevin Breen, Robert Powell, and Amy Sarro.

Guest: Steven Armstrong

The meeting was called to order by the Vice Chairman at 8:12 am.

**Minutes**

The Board voted unanimously on a motion made by Kevin Breen and seconded by Robert Powell to approve the meeting minutes of March 23, 2021.

A roll call vote was taken Driscoll "I", Behen "I", Breen "I", Powell "I" and Sarro "I".

The Board voted unanimously on a motion made by Kevin Breen and seconded by Chair Driscoll to approve the meeting minutes of April 14, 2021.

A roll call vote was taken Driscoll "I", Behen "I", Breen "I", Powell "I" and Sarro "I".

**Acceptance of New Member Enrollments**

The Board voted unanimously on a motion made by Kevin Breen and seconded by Chair Driscoll to approve the following new member:

- Acadia Mezzofanti, SPS Tutor DOH 4/5/2021

A roll call vote was taken Driscoll "I", Behen "I", Breen "I", Powell "I" and Sarro "I".

**Retirements**

- Margarete Hogan – Tabled (completed paperwork was not received)

**Transfers/Refunds/Rollovers/Buybacks**

The Board voted unanimously on a motion made by Amy Sarro and seconded by Kevin Breen to approve the following make-up of service upon completion of proper payment to the System:

- Dina Aslan – SPS ESP – purchase of 4 months

A roll call vote was taken Driscoll "I", Behen "I", Breen "I", Powell "I" and Sarro "I".

**Expenses/Financials:**

The Board voted unanimously on a motion made by Kevin Breen and seconded by Amy to approve the following:

- A/P Warrant                    4/2021                            \$22,393.50.

A roll call vote was taken Driscoll "I", Behen "I", Breen "I", Powell "I" and Sarro "I".

The Board voted unanimously on a motion made by Robert Powell and seconded by Chair Driscoll to approve the following:

- Payroll Warrant            4/30/2021                    \$572,676.54.

A roll call vote was taken Driscoll "I", Behen "I", Breen "I", Powell "I" and Sarro "I".

The Board reviewed January and February 2021 Financials.

**Administrative Reports Put on File:**

- #13: Annual Statement of Earned Income Filing (91A)
- #14: Mandatory Retirement Board Training
- #15: Implementation of Paid Family Medical Leave

**Deaths**

- None

**Old Business**

*COLA Article*

The Board continued its discussion on preparations for Town meeting to present the COLA Article. Chair Driscoll and Robert Powell met with the FinCom on April 14<sup>th</sup>. Both stated they felt support from the FinCom as well as the Town Administrator to move the COLA base to 14k. The Board asked the Administrator to reach out to Lisa VanDermark at Segal Consultants and ask that she provide information relative to lowering the discount rate to 7.125 and moving the COLA base to 14K. Member Powell also asked to have Ms. Vandermark provide information relative to moving the discount rate to 7.0 and moving the schedule out one (1) year.

**New Business**

*Section 9 Accidental Death Benefit Application – S. Armstrong - Spouse of Deceased Retiree James Armstrong*

(Notes provide by Chair Driscoll)

Shelia Armstrong request for Section MGL Ch 32, sec. 9 benefits as surviving spouse/beneficiary of the late James Armstrong, SFD retired. Stephen Armstrong appeared for the applicant.

There was general discussion reviewing the process with Stephen Armstrong as to process and basis for any decision the board will make as well as options for appeal. It was determined that a death certificate was not supplied. Mr. Armstrong stated he would deliver one immediately.

Board voted to continue the matter until May 2021 meeting to allow the board additional time to review the file and medical records.

Motion was made by Behen and seconded by Breen. Behen, Breen, Driscoll, Sarro and Powell voted in the affirmative.

Note: Swampscott Retirement System Administrator Nancy Lord is the daughter of James Armstrong. Ms. Lord removed herself from the meeting room during discussion of the matter.

**Adjournment**


The Board voted unanimously on a motion made by Kevin Breen and seconded by Chair Driscoll to adjourn the meeting at 9:45am.


A roll call vote was taken Driscoll "I", Behen "I", Breen "I", Powell "I" and Sarro "I".

Respectfully submitted,


Nancy A. Lord  
Retirement Administrator

  
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Thomas H. Driscoll, Jr., Esq.      Chair, Appointed

  
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John F. Behen, Jr.      Vice-Chair, Elected Member

  
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Kevin F. Breen      Elected Member

  
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Robert J. Powell, III      Appointed Member

  
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Amy L. Sarro      Ex-Officio