CITY OF FT. PIERCE POLICE OFFICERS' RETIREMENT TRUST FUND
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING – INITIAL DISABILITY HEARING – HELD
JUNE 20, 2019

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by John Schramm on June 20, 2019 at 11:05 AM in the Conference Room on the second floor located at the Fort Pierce City Hall, Fort Pierce, Florida.

TRUSTEES PRESENT
John Schramm
Carlos Diaz
Carlos Villanueva
Daniel Flaherty
Brian MacNaught

OTHERS PRESENT
Bonni Jensen, Klausner Kaufman Jensen & Levinson
Kyle Tintle & Scott Baur, Resource Centers
Christine Paz, City of Ft. Pierce
Ralph Keith Holmes, Ft. Pierce Police Officer

Chairman Schramm called the initial disability hearing to order, introduced Mr. Holmes to the attendees and introduced the Trustees and service providers to Mr. Holmes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No Public Comment.

INFORMAL HEARING

Opening Remarks (Ms. Jensen)
Ms. Jensen opened the meeting with an explanation of the disability process. She directed the Trustees to review the Statement of Policy Regarding the Processing of Disability Application in their meeting packet. Ms. Jensen stated that Mr. Holmes filed an application for disability with the Pension Board. She said the City of Fort Pierce had provided the relevant information for the Trustees to review. The documentation included the accident report where his injury occurred, reports from his physician, an independent medical examiner, in addition to other relevant documents. Ms. Jensen reviewed Section 13-166(c)(3)c of the ordinance which requires a medical review or a physician could be approved by the Board.

Carlos Diaz made a motion to adopt the medical report from the Independent Medical Examiner provided by the City. The Trustees would rely on the City's documentation from the physician as an independent medical review. Daniel Flaherty seconded the motion, approved by the Trustees 4-0.

Remarks from the Claimant – Ralph Keith Holmes
Mr. Holmes addressed the Board to present an update of his condition. He has a follow up appointment with his physician and he needs additional surgery. Mr. Holmes is waiting on a response from Workers Compensation on his case.

Ms. Jensen asked the Trustees if they had any questions for the Claimant or needed any additional information from him. The Trustees held a brief discussion then Carlos Diaz replied that he had read all of the documents relating to the disability of Officer Holmes and he was ready to make a motion.

Carlos Diaz made a motion to grant an inline of duty disability to Officer Holmes. His disability is total and permanent as he is unable to perform the duties of a police officer. Daniel Flaherty seconded the motion, approved by the Trustees 4-0.
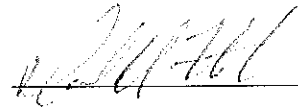
Chairman Schramm asked for clarification of the calculation procedure. He inquired about a minimum distribution of $1,000 for the pension benefits and was that the same for disability benefits? Ms. Jensen reviewed the ordinance and requested clarification from the Plan's Actuary. Ms. Tintle will speak with Pete Strong, the Plan's Actuary from Gabriel Roeder Smith & Company and report back to the Board with the explanation of the calculation for Mr. Holmes.

Ms. Tintle asked for clarification of the granted date of disability for Officer Holmes. She wanted direction for the date to establish the approved disability to see if he was entitled to any retroactive payments. A discussion ensued about the difficulty in holding a Special Meeting due to scheduling issues for months. The City of Fort Pierce held the disability hearing for Office Holmes on April 18, 2018. It was determined at that time he was disabled and could no longer perform the duties of a police officer.

Daniel Flaherty made a motion to accept the date of April 18, 2019 as the determination of total and permanent inline of duty disability to Officer Holmes. Brian MacNaught seconded the motion, approved by the Trustees 4-0.

There being no further business and the next meeting being scheduled for September 19, 2019 the meeting adjourned at 11:31 AM

Respectfully submitted,