

**CITY OF KALAMAZOO EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
PENSION BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Meeting of Wednesday, March 13, 2024**

MINUTES

Jim Ritsema called a meeting of the Pension Board of Trustees to order at 8:01am on Wednesday, March 13, 2024, in the second-floor community room of City Hall.

Members Present: Chair Jim Ritsema, Michelle Emig and Charles Mason

Members Absent: Randy Eberts and Chris Praedel

Charles Mason motioned, and Michelle Emig supported to excuse Randy Eberts and Chris Praedel. The motion passed by voice vote.

Ayes: Jim Ritsema, Charles Mason, and Michelle Emig

Nays: None

Also Present: Steve Vicenzi, Director Management Services/CFO; Melissa Fuller, Deputy Director of Management Services; Christina Charles, Management Services Coordinator; Lisa Brown, Benefits & Retirement Services Manager

Approval of Minutes

Charles Mason motioned, and Michelle Emig supported to approve the Pension Board minutes of the regular meeting on December 6, 2023, and the special meeting held on December 20, 2023. The motion passed by voice vote:

Ayes: Jim Ritsema, Michelle Emig and Charles Mason

Nays: None

Absent: Randy Eberts and Chris Praedel

Public Comment

None

2023 Q4 Approval of Retirement Applications

Last Name	First Name	Group	Date	Type	Benefit \$	Method	FAC	Yrs	PRA
Collins-Smith	Venessa	NBU	9/1/2021	Deferred		Deferred	\$66,125.23	6.75	no
Link	Joshua	AFSCME	11/19/2021	Deferred		Deferred	\$63,915.51	9	no
Vosburg	Kyle	KPSA	1/16/2023	Deferred		Deferred	\$95,824.66	11.167	no
Huber	Matthew	KPSA-NBU	7/10/2023	DROP	\$6,936.74	Joint & 100% Surv pop-up	\$132,137.29	25	yes
DenHarder	Thomas	KPSA	8/7/2023	DROP	\$5,654.36	Straight Life	\$107,845.16	32.67	yes
Latham	Gary	KPSOA	9/22/2023	Regular	\$4,972.68	Joint & 100% Survivor	\$94,441.74	25	yes
Gordon	Sean	KPSA	10/12/2023	Regular	\$6,702.44	Straight Life	\$116,818.06	25.5	yes
Hetz	Mark	AFSCME	12/1/2023	Regular	\$2,210.32	Joint & 100% Surv pop-up	\$67,831.87	22.25	yes
Allen	Michael	AFSCME	12/30/2023	Early	\$895.41	Joint & 50% Surv pop-up	\$55,004.55	11.25	yes

Charles Mason motioned, and Michelle Emig supported to approve the retirement applications. The motion passed by voice vote:

Ayes: Jim Ritsema, Michelle Emig and Charles Mason

Nays: None

Absent: Randy Eberts and Chris Praedel

2023 Q4 Approval of Refund Applications

Last Name	First Name	Amount	Group	Date	Method	Service time	Termination Date
Brinkert	Erik	\$3,274.57	AFSCME	10/20/23	Distribution	5 years 5 months	07/09/23
Steinke	Timothy	\$4,745.92	NBU	10/20/23	Distribution	1 year 10 months	10/06/21
De Jesus	Cynthia	\$3,482.34	NBU	11/20/23	Distribution	4 years 11 months	09/29/23
Everett	Nicholas	\$1,553.39	AFSCME	11/20/23	Distribution	2 years 11 months	12/04/20
Jackson	Keith	\$290.06	AFSCME	11/20/23	Distribution	1 year	06/29/23
Ulery	Joseph	\$14,896.76	NBU	11/20/23	Distribution	4 years 7 months	09/08/23
Potts	Lashon	\$124.71	AFSCME	12/19/23	Distribution	3 months	10/16/23
Salas	Joshua	\$159.65	KPSOA	12/19/23	Distribution	24 days	06/10/21
Kanaan	Kelly	\$5,018.68	NBU	12/19/23	Distribution	2 years	10/02/23

Michelle Emig motioned, and Charles Mason supported to approve the refund applications. The motion was passed by voice vote:

Ayes: Jim Ritsema, Michelle Emig and Charles Mason
 Nays: None
 Absent: Randy Eberts and Chris Praedel

2023 Q4 Approval of Military Buy-Back Applications

1. Brandon Bromley-Root

Charles Mason motioned, and Michelle Emig supported to approve the military buy back application.

Ayes: Jim Ritsema, Michelle Emig and Charles Mason
 Nays: None
 Absent: Randy Eberts and Chris Praedel

2023 Q4 Approval of Prior Service Buy-Back Application

None this quarter

2023 Q4 Approval of Duty Disability Retirement Application

None this quarter

2023 Q4 Changes Due to Death (Information only)

Last Name	First Name	Date of Birth	Date of Hire	Date of Retirement	Benefit Option	Date of Death	Retiree Benefit	Beneficiary Benefit	Beneficiary Name	Beneficiary Date of Birth
Green	James R	6/30/1932	2/13/1978	2/1/1995	Straight Life	10/08/23	\$610.31			
King	Barbara	11/14/1930	5/3/1954	8/23/1994	Straight Life	10/20/23	\$2,499.15			
Thomas	Jacquelyn	10/7/1949		6/30/2002	Straight Life	06/22/23	\$873.21			
Prewitt	Billy	3/5/1936	6/1/1970	2/2/1996	100% J & S	11/21/23	\$877.69			
Sirrine	Lloyd	3/31/1942	1/19/1971	2/1/1996	100% J&S	12/19/23	\$870.30	\$870.30	Linda Sirrine	10/1/1941
Valkema	Carol	12/4/1953	9/24/1973	12/19/2008	Straight Life	12/26/23	\$2,651.07			

2023 Q4 New Hires (Information only)

Last Name	First Name	Emp #	DOH	Hourly Wage	Annual Wage	Group
PARTELLO	JESSICA	15407	03/06/2023		\$76,000.00	NBU
BELL	KHANDEL	14990	08/21/2023	\$17.82	\$37,208.16	KMEA
ANDERSON	MARK	16043	10/02/2023	\$19.36	\$40,423.68	AFSCME
SIMMONS	DONALD	16185	10/02/2023		\$64,000.00	NBU
HARPE	JOSHUA	16186	10/16/2023	\$20.41	\$42,616.08	AFSCME
JEFFRIES	ALEXANDER	16188	10/16/2023	\$19.36	\$40,423.68	AFSCME
MILOWE	PHILLIP	16187	10/16/2023	\$19.36	\$40,423.68	AFSCME
COMBS	MELISSA	16191	10/30/2023		\$77,520.00	NBU
PELKEY	JONATHAN	16190	10/30/2023	\$21.09	\$44,035.92	KMEA
LAFAYETTE	DEMETRA	16200	11/21/2023		\$78,000.00	NBU
ALVAREZ	JASON	16193	11/27/2023	\$29.35	\$65,388.96	KPSOA
GRAY	ANTHONY	16171	11/27/2023	\$19.36	\$40,423.68	AFSCME
NIERENBERGER	LOGAN	16192	11/27/2023	\$26.86	\$58,662.24	KPSOA
COLLINS	DAKOTA	16201	12/11/2023	\$19.36	\$40,423.68	AFSCME
SHENKER	YAEL	16202	12/11/2023		\$64,000.00	NBU
VILLARREAL	JOSHUA	16204	12/11/2023	\$20.15	\$42,073.20	KMEA
GABRIELSE	KYLE	16198	12/27/2023	\$29.35	\$64,100.40	KPSOA
MERRITT	JOHN	16203	12/11/2023	\$19.36	\$40,423.68	AFSCME

First Quarter Investment Activity Period Ending December 31, 2023

The market value of portfolio assets increased from \$823.4 million to \$892.9 million during the fourth quarter of 2023, an increase of \$69.5 million or 8.44%. During the quarter there were contributions of \$29.71 million, and withdrawals of \$32.64 million. Interest income and dividends for the quarter amounted to \$8.71 million.

The portfolio weighted average return for the quarter, net of manager fees, was 9.71% and the 1-year net return was 15.60%.

Equities comprised 70.4% of the City portfolio at the end of the quarter. The equity portion of the City portfolio returned 11.09% for the quarter and 20.79% over the last year.

Fixed income comprised 24.8% of the City portfolio at the end of the quarter. Total fixed income returned 6.70% for the quarter and 5.58% over the last year.

At the end of the quarter, real estate investments were 4.8% of the portfolio. Total real estate returned 4.15% for the quarter and -4.41% over the last year.

The portfolio target allocation is 70% equities, 25% fixed income, and 5% real estate.

The inflation-adjusted, or real return, for the quarter was 10.05% as the US BLS All Urban inflation rate for the quarter was -0.34%. With a year-on-year inflation rate of 3.35% the one-year real return was 12.25%. Since October 1982, the return on the portfolio, net of manager fees, has been 10.48% nominal and 7.67% real with a since-inception inflation rate of 2.81%.

Upcoming Meetings:

Wednesday, June 5, 2024, at 8:00am, City Hall 3rd Floor conference room

Wednesday, September 4, 2024, at 8:00am, City Hall 3rd Floor conference room

Wednesday, December 11, 2024, at 8:00am, City Hall 3rd Floor conference room

Wednesday, March 5, 2025, at 8:00am, City Hall 3rd Floor conference room

Chair Jim Ritsema adjourned the meeting at 8:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Vicenzi, Secretary