

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, Dec. 21, 2023

3:30 p.m.

Vancouver City Hall

Aspen Conference Room

415 W. 6th Street

Vancouver, WA 98660

Board Members Present:

Ty Stober, Chair; Anthony Glenn, Treasurer; Natasha Ramras, CFO/Board Secretary; August Lehto, Police Retiree; Kit Abernathy, Police Retiree; Jeffrey Dong, Police Retiree

Board Members Absent:

Anne McEnergy-Ogle, Mayor

Staff Present: Nena Cook, Deputy City Attorney; Caylee Tashiro, Human Resources; Iasmina Giurgiev, Human Resources; Kelsey Sanfilippo, Human Resources.

Guests:

None

Item 1: Call to Order

The December 21, 2023, meeting of the Police Pension Board was called to order at 3:41 p.m. by Chair Ty Stober in Aspen Conference Room at Vancouver City Hall and via Microsoft Teams. Mayor McEnergy-Ogle was absent. August Lehto entered at 3:46 p.m.

Item 2: Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Dong, seconded by Ramras, and approved unanimously to adopt the minutes from November 16, 2023, as written.

Item 3: Communications

None

Item 4: Budget Report

Members

Anne McEnergy-Ogle

Chair

Erik Paulsen, Mayor Pro Tempore
Anthony Glenn, City Treasurer
Natasha Ramras, CFO Board Secretary
August Lehto, Police Retiree
Kit Abernathy, Police Retiree
Jeffrey Dong, Police Retiree

Human Resources Department

P.O. Box 1995
Vancouver, WA 98668
360-487-8403
TTY: 711
cityofvancouver.us

To request accommodation or other formats, please contact:

Caylee Tashiro | 360-487-8403 | TTY: 711 | Caylee.Tashiro@cityofvancouver.us

Glenn reported that total expenditures through November 2023 were 60% of budget. Total revenues through November 2023 were 104% of budget. The budget report is on track and no adjustments are needed from the Accounting department.

Item 5: Request for Hearing Aids – Claimant A

Attached for board review is a request for hearing aids for Claimant A. Section V.S of the Board’s Rules and Regulations requires:

“Hearing Aids prescribed by physician and pre-approved by board. Charges are limited to those necessary to achieve functional correction. When seeking pre-approval, members must submit to the third-party administrator quotes from at least two providers. The member must also have a current hearing test, exam and referral from a physician. Hearing aids must have a three-year warranty.”

Claimant A is seeking preapproval to use an out-of-network provider for Hearing Aids. Claimant A’s current hearing aids have malfunctioned and are outside of the three-year warranty which expired on September 15, 2023. Claimant A returned his current hearing aids to Advanced Hearing Aid for an evaluation, and they provided him with an older model unit while the Board makes its decision. Claimant A provided a hearing test and two recommendations from Battle Ground Hearing, which is a TruHearing provider. However, due to his hearing requirements he would like to choose Advanced Hearing Aid’s recommendation. Claimant A has provided two hearing tests, two Hearing Instrument Specialist evaluations, and three quotes for hearing aids that are adequate for his hearing loss. All three hearing aids have a three-year warranty.

Advanced Hearing Aids

- Oticon Real 1: \$6,400

Battle Ground Hearing Aids

- TruHearing 6 Premium Lithium RIC: \$1,898
- Unitron Moxi V9-R: \$5,950

Action Requested

Consider the request from Claimant A for hearing aids.

Motion by Abernathy to table this request until more information can be provided on the inadequacy of TruHearing hearing aids for the Claimant’s specific hearing loss. Seconded by Ramras and approved unanimously.

Item 6: Request for Long Term Care – Claimant B

Attached is an invoice from Prestige Care for a change in the type of room Claimant B resides. Previously Claimant B was approved for long term care at the April 18, 2019, meeting. The approval included Prestige Care at a daily cost of \$285 per day or monthly cost of \$8,835.

According to the Prestige Care, Claimant B was moved to a private room on November 2, 2023, at a daily rate of \$588 or monthly cost of \$17,460. He was moved to a private room because he is prone to infection due to his feeding tube. They would like to minimize exposure when this is needing changed. The office manager believes that he will be in a private room for a prolonged period as she does not see the feeding tube going away. Prestige Care did not notify Claimant B’s wife or son prior to him being moved into the private room. We were informed of his change when they provided the invoice on December 1, 2023.

The Pension Board Rule for long term care limits payment to the average daily rate of a semi-private room for Nursing Home Care services. The current average daily cost for a semi-private room in Washington State is \$334/day or about \$10,020/month.

Action Requested

Consider Claimant B's request for increased cost of medically necessary long-term care at Prestige Care.

Motion by Ramras to approve the cost of long-term care up to the maximum current cost of a semi-private room. Seconded by Abernathy and approved unanimously.

Item 7: Expenses

Expenses for November 2023 totaled \$42,999.34.

Motion by Glenn, seconded by Ramras, and approved unanimously to accept the expenses as presented.

Adjourned:

This meeting adjourned at 4:02 p.m.