

Suffield Retirement Commission
Nov. 12, 2015 – Town Hall – 5 p.m.

Members present: Eric Remington, Christine Davidson, Chris Childs, Ryan Burrell.
Edward McAnaney, Kate Rietburg, Melissa Mack
Absent: Ralph Takala, Dan Sheriden

Michael Lepore and Claire McDonald, Wells Fargo Advisors
Tim Ryor, Hooker and Holcombe, Melissa Mack, Bill Hoff, BoE Business Manager

Chairman Eric Remington called the meeting to order at 5:06 p

Minutes: Mr. McAnaney moved to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2015 meeting;
The motion was seconded by Ms. Davidson The minutes were approved by unanimous
vote.

The Commission agreed to move the agenda item: discussion of plan participation issue
regarding Board of Education employees to the top of the Agenda. Mr. Hoff reported
that there is some uncertainty as to the pension eligibility of academic support employees.
These employees have been historically non benefit positions but they recently joined the
union. Are they eligible for the pension even though the pension plan is closed to new
entrants?

Mr. McAnaney stated that the Town's position is that they are not eligible for the
pension plan and the issue is currently being litigated. Mr. Remington stated have we not
negotiated this out? There is a requirement that new hires join the 457 plan.; employees
make a contribution as does the Town. Mr. Remington stated that the issue is one for the
administration to handle and not the retirement commission. He asked that the BoE and
Administration (HR and First Selectman) coordinate a response and recommendation to
resolve this issue. He requested that if there was any action to be taken by the Retirement
Commission that a recommendation be presented by the administration at the
commission's meeting. Mr. Remington thanked Mr. Hoffman for coming.

Pension – Review of portfolio performance – 3Q15 Mr. Lepore and Ms. Claire
McDonald, Wells Fargo Advisors were present. Mr. Lepore stated that there was no
place to hide during the 3rd quarter. All the equity assets posted fairly high negative
returns. The market rallied in October, but I think we will see ongoing volatility.

Ms. Rietburg asked questions regarding the bond portfolio and reports; Mr. Lepore stated
that her answers were in the original asset allocation study and he would be happy to
furnish Ms. Rietburg with the original report. Ms. Rietburg stated that she did not believe
she has enough information to answer her questions. Mr. Lepore indicated that there are
other reports available. Mr. Lepore stated we will be updating a new asset allocations,
what the target is. Ms. Rieburg would like this report going back ten years. Mr. Lepore
stated we will probably have this information for the February meeting.

Ms. McDonald then reviewed the Investment Performance Analysis as ending Sept. 30, 2015 (see page 14 and 15). We are in relatively good shape. Our fund was down 1.8 %; it could have been worse. She reviewed each account in our Pension Plan. The Market Value of our portfolio is \$26,676,514. Each of our allocations is approximately on target, within our target policy. Wells Fargo does not have a recommendation to rebalance at this time.

Mr. Lepore also noted that the OPEB trust did not need rebalancing at this time, and will report to the Board of Finance at a December meeting.

Hooker & Holcome ; Mr. Timothy A Ryor presented to the Commission, the Review of the July 1, 2015 Actuarial Valuation Report and 2009-2015 Experience Study and Related Recommendations. The report is dated November, 2015. Mr. Ryor reviewed the report in detail; noting the 2009-2015 Experience Review, (page 4). He is not recommending a change in asset smoothing method since the market and actuarial values have converged with the 2015 valuation (see graph on page 7). He did note in detail, page 8, Impact of Assumption/Method Recommendations. He then commented on the 2016-2017 Actuarially Determined Employer Contribution (ADEC) Alternatives. The town's long term investment return assumption is 7.5 % and there was some discussion as to whether it would be prudent to lower the assumption to 7.25% Discussion followed. It was decided that more information was needed and Mr. Ryor was asked to provide further analysis.

Mr. Childs moved to approve Hooker and Holcombes suggested changes to actuarial methods except the rate of return and amortization time period, which will be addressed at the next meeting. Ms. Rietburg seconded. The motion was unanimous.

There was no further action taken. Mr. Remington noted that the Commission would hold a special meeting of the Retirement Commission Dec. 14. He has suggested agenda items, review of the asset allocation, to determine to our rate of return assumptions are necessary and the follow up regarding the issue with BOE employees.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Bobbie C. Kling, Secretary to the Retirement Commission

RT. Minutes.Nov.12.2015

