

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
MORTON GROVE FIREFIGHTERS' PENSION FUND  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
6250 LINCOLN AVENUE, TRAINING ROOM  
JANUARY 25, 2010**

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 3:10 pm by President Gary Melbye.

2. Roll Call

The following members were present:

Retired Firefighter Gary Melbye

James Quinn

Paul Minx

Lt. Paramedic Scott Exo

Lt. Paramedic Dan Sowa

*(Lt. Exo and Lt. Sowa were both on duty this day and were called out several times for calls during the meeting.)*

No members were absent.

The following individuals were present at the meeting:

Carolyn Clifford, Attorney for the Pension Board

Tom Friel, Fire Chief

Susan Lattanzi, Administrative Assistant to the Pension Board

3. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of November 17, 2009, regular meeting were presented by Gary Melbye. There being no changes or alterations, Gary Melbye made a motion to accept the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Paul Minx and unanimously approved via voice vote.

4. Meeting Topics

- a. Discussion of New Hearing in Darren Williams Case. It was noted this case has been going on several years. The case eventually wound up in the First District Appellate Court for review and was remanded back to the Pension Board to be reheard. The Appellate Court did not determine whether to grant a non-duty or a line-of-duty disability but rather for the Board to have a “new” hearing. The Board’s discussion centered around whether a new hearing meant the case needed to start at the very beginning, and whether the Board would have to again consider whether to allow the Village to intervene in the case. Ms. Clifford stated she believed the court’s remand required the Board start with a review of a new petition to intervene from the Village. She was already in contact with the Village’s attorney who indicated that the Village will once again ask to be allowed to intervene. Mr. Radja, the defendant’s attorney, will

object. It is therefore prudent to establish a schedule for the petition to intervene. It was suggested the Village's petition be submitted by February 1 and a response by Williams/Radja by February 8, with a reply from the Village by February 15. That would mean copies of the briefs would be available for the next quarterly meeting of the Board. A preliminary hearing to hear oral arguments on the petitions could then be done on that date, February 16. It would then be anticipated general oral arguments in support of the Village's and defendant's positions (the Preliminary Hearing) would be heard at a subsequent meeting. It is anticipated Ms. Liston's comments will be redacted from the previous evidence. All documentation will be sent to the Board once again once input is received from Mr. Radja and possibly Ms. Leka, if the Village is allowed to intervene. The actual hearing will hopefully be short and no additional witnesses or evidence will be entered, unless the parties object to allowing the previously entered exhibits and transcripts into evidence. Ms. Clifford stated she is hopeful the Village, if allowed to intervene, and Mr. Radja can agree on a number of issues before the hearing begins so this can be done as painlessly as possible and in the most cost efficient manner. The Board felt this process could be fair and done in a methodical manner.

- b. Discussion of Disability Hearing for Rimas Maurukas. On November 19, 2009, Mr. Maurukas submitted his paperwork for a duty related disability pension. According to his application, Mr. Maurukas received an on the job injury in February 2009 wherein he injured his shoulder. Ms. Clifford stated record requests have been sent out to treating physicians, and subpoenas sent out to the Village, IRMA, and his outside job. Word was just received by the Village that he will be having his second surgery on February 18. The Board anticipates selecting the IME physicians at the February 16, meeting.
- c. Request for Proposals Discussion. The Board was in consensus they were all displeased with Northern Trust's performance, specifically with its lack of communication and responsiveness to the Board. They discussed letting Becker Burke go and either hiring a new consultant who might help with the selection of a new manager for the Fund, or not using a consultant at all. After an extensive discussion it was decided to keep Becker Burke on until a new manager is chosen whether it be Northern Trust or someone else. An RFP has been prepared, will be finalized, and sent out as soon as possible.
- d. Discussion on Consulting Services. With the RFP discussion, a conversation ensued about the consulting services. It was decided to retain Becker Burke for the time being. No final decision was made on whether to continue with a consultant at this time.

5. New Business. Ms. Clifford stated in an upcoming meeting the Board will need to discuss a FOIA policy, as well as appoint a FOIA officer and OMA trainee.

The next regular meeting of the Board will be held at 3:00 pm on February 16, 2010.

6. Public Comments. No one was present from the outside and consequently there were no public comments.
7. Closed Session. No Closed Session was needed.
8. Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the Board, Gary Melbye moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:12 pm. The motion was seconded by James Quinn which was unanimously approved via voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Exo, Secretary  
Morton Grove Firefighters' Pension Fund

Minutes prepared by Susan Lattanzi

*These minutes were approved by the Board at a meeting held on February 16, 2010.*