

**Town of Coventry
Pension & Retirement Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 28, 2021**

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. Present were: Robert Murzyn, Ben Emanuele, David Powers, Paul Jatkowski (Zoom) and Cara Revett (Zoom at). Also present were: Amanda Backhaus, Finance Director; and Ben Lavine, 3D Asset Management.
2. **Approval of minutes:** Motion made David by to approve the minutes from February 3, 2021. Motion seconded by Ben and passed unanimously.
3. **Review of Current Holdings:** Ben Lavine started the discussion noting it is nice to see people again in-person and start to see COVID restrictions lifted. Following a strong fourth quarter in 2020, markets continue to perform well. He noted that small caps and emerging markets drove the first half of the quarter and then it shifted to US large caps for the second part of the quarter. Overall, it was a very good market for global equities. Included in tonight's handouts are the 3D summary and market commentary. Ben noted it was a very good quarter for the Town.

Ben noted the bond market had a negative return – down 3%. The 10-yr US Treasury went from 1 to 175 and has slowly started going back down. It is around 150-165.

Ben noted the market has been reacting to the positive vaccine rollout has helped overall. In Asia and South Africa, we continue to see COVID cases rise. Especially India, they have been seeing huge outbreak and variants. Ben noted it is very good news in CT and Lamont is recommending releasing restrictions even more than CDC outlines.

On page 8 of the market commentary, Ben noted that the small cap value funds had the best performance which is very helpful for Coventry's account. Value funds also performed well internationally as noted on the next page. The dollar strengthened at the end of the quarter – but overall is decreasing in value. Ben note the value dropped today as the Feds said they will not back down from emergency level accommodations and a zero rate policy, even with signs of inflationary pressures.

Ben noted there have been significant issues with bottlenecking of supplies (shipping, lack of storage) which is tied in with a huge pent up demand with COVID and global consumers – resulting a major spike in commodities. Page 14 of the market commentary highlights breakdown of commodities.

Ben noted that he thinks the market will stay strong for the unforeseeable future.

Ben asked about the rating on the fixed contract. Amanda confirmed the rate for July 1, 2021 has been assigned to be 3.6% which is a slight increase from the prior year. Ben noted that is a great rate and he had not expected an increase.

The Committee thanked Ben for his in-depth presentation of the market conditions.

Amanda reviewed the pension asset summary and allocation, noting that as of March 31 the plan was at a 32/68% split – which is a \$1.4 million dollar swing from the 40/60% set in our investment policy:

Pension Assets	3/31/2021	
	Balance	Distribution
Contract		
86988A - Fixed Town	5,621,999.04	31.96%
TD Banknorth	3,823.14	0.02%
3D Asset Management	11,975,072.19	68.07%
Due to GF	(8,060.00)	
Total	17,592,834.37	
YTD		
Beginning Balance	14,184,378.47	6/30/19
Additions:		
Employer	721,681.00	
Employee	196,443.77	
Earnings	3,653,997.69	
Distributions:		
Benefit	1,113,570.71	
Expenses	8,140.00	
Fees	41,955.85	
	17,592,834.37	

Ben did not hear anything today to suggest to the contrary of moving money and should let it ride. He thinks he would leave it – with the caveat that a special meeting be called if necessary. All other members agreed. Amanda noted to just let her know if anyone wants a special meeting.

The Committee reviewed the GL reports. No additional questions were noted.

- 4. Retirement review:** Amanda noted there were four retirements processed from January to March. She is already aware of several more that she will be processing as the school year wraps up. The following retirements were reviewed:

Retirement Approvals through 3/31/21

Name	Union	Hire Date	Leave Date	Benefit Effective	Straight Life	10 yrs Certain	50% Joint and Survivor	75% Joint and Survivor	100% Joint and Survivor	Lump Sum
2021Q1:										
Heidi Holever	Para	1/17/1995	8/7/2020	4/1/2021	\$ 769.87	\$ 721.85	\$ 728.27 /\$364.14	\$709.11 /\$531.83	\$ 690.94 /\$690.94	\$ 136,518
Carol Krysiak	Secretary	4/26/2004	3/31/2021	4/1/2021	\$ 735.39	\$ 703.00	\$ 699.36 /\$349.68	\$682.63 /\$511.97	\$ 666.68 /\$666.68	\$ 139,844
Mary Pelles	Cafeteria	8/22/2002	10/10/2014	2/1/2021	316.5	296.76	\$ 292.89 /\$146.45	\$ 282.36 /\$211.77	\$ 272.55 /\$272.55	\$ 56,124
Rubin, Wendy	Non-Union	6/16/2008	6/30/2021	7/1/2021	1129.16	1073.09	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a

- 5. Other Business:** None noted.

- 6. Executive Session:** Motion to enter into executive session at 7:54 was made by David. Motion seconded by Ben and passed unanimously.

Motion to adjourn executive session at 8:00 made by David and seconded by Ben. Passes unanimously.

- 7. Adjournment:** A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Ben at 8:00 pm. Motion seconded by Cara and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Amanda L. Backhaus, CPA
Finance Director

Note: These minutes are draft/not official until approved by the Committee at the next Committee meeting. Please see subsequent meeting for approval or changes to these minutes.