

Western Springs Police Pension Board Meeting Minutes
August 4, 2021

Present:

Mark Doyle, President
David Dayhoff, Representative for Retirees
Adrian Breems, Secretary
Aaron Riley, Asst. Secretary

Others Present:

John Kelly, Ottosen DiNolfo Hasenbalg & Castaldo, Ltd.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Items of Discussion:

2. Citizen Comments

No citizens chose to comment or attend the meeting.

3. Prospective Attorney Presentation

John Kelly began his prospective attorney presentation. After introducing himself, he explained his unique qualifications.

Mr. Kelly began his career as a police officer and served in the police force for 10 years before obtaining his law degree. Mr. Kelly explained that Ottosen DiNolfo Hasenbalg & Castaldo, Ltd. focuses its practice almost entirely on units of local government, and he personally focuses specifically on police and fire, including 25+ 911 centers. Mr. Kelley also has extensive knowledge in advising police pension funds, and currently works with 12 police pension funds. Mr. Kelly also explained that he prides himself on staying current with case law and statutory / rule changes pertaining to pension funds.

Mr. Kelly outlined his firm's process in addressing a disability claim from beginning to end. He emphasized his firm's flexibility as it pertains to choosing medical professionals, as well as mentioning that his firm has its own vast medical resources as well. He explained that COVID has had an impact on disability proceedings and disability claims are currently experiencing longer processing times—his firm, however, would be diligent in moving each claim forward as quickly as possible. Mr. Kelly also noted that his firm has template disability applications and administrative rules available for the Western Springs police pension fund to adopt, if they so choose.

Mr. Kelly explained that his firm would require a retainer if they would be attending quarterly meetings and completing ongoing work. If they were acting as a special counsel, that would be billed at an hourly rate [\$225/hour].

Mark Doyle informed Mr. Kelly that the board would be selecting a law firm shortly and informing both candidates of their decision.

Mr. Kelly then excused himself from the meeting.

The board then began their deliberation. David Dayhoff expressed his admiration for both law firms, but felt more comfortable proceeding with Puchalski Goodloe LLC. Adrian Breems agreed with this assessment, and cited his preference for a smaller firm as opposed to a larger firm whose attention may be more divided. Mark Doyle reiterated that Puchalski Goodloe LLC's primary focus was police and fire pension funds, which was desirable.

After continued discussion, the board voted to move forward with Puchalski Goodloe LLC in the management of the pension fund's upcoming disability claim. David Dayhoff motioned to appoint Puchalski Goodloe LLC. Mark Doyle seconded the motion and all were in favor. A unanimous roll call vote followed, and the motion carried.

4. New Business

There was no new business at this time.

5. Old Business

There was no old business at this time.

6. Adjournment

Mark Doyle motioned to adjourn the meeting. David Dayhoff seconded the motion, and all were in favor. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Emily Holewczynski
Recorder of Minutes

Accepted by:

Adrian Breems

Date

Secretary of the Board

Mark Doyle
Board President

Date