

MEMORANDUM PORTLAND WATER DISTRICT

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Carrie Walker

DATE: November 8, 2022

RE: Public Hearing and Workshop – Monday, November 14, 2022

There will be a Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees to conduct a Public Hearing on a proposed water rate increase, followed by a Workshop Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Portland Water District on Monday, November 14, 2022. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Nixon Training Center at the general offices of the District, 225 Douglass Street, Portland, Maine. The Public Hearing will be followed by a Workshop of the Board of Trustees. The Special Meeting and Workshop will be preceded by meetings of the following Board committees:

| <u>Committee</u> | Room / Location | <u>Time</u> |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Pension | General Manager's Conference Room | 5:15 p.m. |
| Administration & Finance | Monie Room | 5:30 p.m. |
| Operations | Nixon Training Center | 5:30 p.m. |
| Planning | EOC 2 nd Floor | 5:30 p.m. |

SPECIAL MEETING

Public Hearing to receive public input on the proposed average 5.6% increase in water rates effective January 1, 2023.

AGENDA – WORKSHOP

- 1. <u>2023-2027 Capital Improvement</u> Chris Crovo, Director of Asset Management and Planning, will present the proposed CIP. *Please bring your budget books or iPads to the meeting*.
- 2. Other Business
- 3. Adjourn



MEMORANDUM PORTLAND WATER DISTRICT

TO: Pension Committee / Board of Trustees

FROM: Mary Demers, Director of Employee Services

DATE: November 4, 2022

RE: <u>Pension Committee Meeting – November 14, 2022</u>

A meeting of the Pension Committee of the Portland Water District Board of Trustees is scheduled for Monday, November 14, 2022 in the General Manager's Conference Room at 225 Douglass Street, Portland, Maine. The start time is 5:15 p.m. or upon arrival of all committee members.

AGENDA

1. Approval of Pension Distributions

Staff will present a request to approve benefits for two retirees.



MEMORANDUM PORTLAND WATER DISTRICT

TO: Administration and Finance Committee / Board of Trustees

FROM: David Kane, Director of Administration

Mary Demers, Director of Employee Services

DATE: November 4, 2022

RE: <u>Administration and Finance Committee Meeting – November 14, 2022</u>

A meeting of the Administration and Finance Committee of the Portland Water District Board of Trustees will be held on Monday, November 14, 2022 at 5:30 p.m., in the Monie Conference Room of the District, 225 Douglass Street, Portland, Maine.

AGENDA

1. 2023 Pensioners' COLA Adjustment

The Committee will discuss whether a cost of living adjustment should be made to existing pensioners' monthly benefit. (See attached memo)

2. <u>2023 Budget</u>

The administrative departments will present their respective budgets (see 2023 Proposed Comprehensive Annual Budget Report – Operating Expenses, pages 229 through 252).



ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE / AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Agenda Item:

Date of Meeting: November 14, 2022

Subject: <u>2023 Pension Adjustment</u>

Presented By: David Kane, Director of Administrative Services

RECOMMENDATION

The following proposed language is presented for Board of Trustee approval:

<u>ORDERED</u>, an adjustment of 4.31% in pension benefits is authorized for eligible retirees and annuitants, effective January 1, 2023, in accordance with Article X of the District's pension plans.

BACKGROUND

Since 1989, the Board of Trustees has authority to grant an annual adjustment in pension benefits equal to one-half of the previous year's consumer price index (CPI) increase up to a maximum of 5%. The adjustment is not automatic; it is subject to the Board's approval each year. The table below indicates increases given since 2009:

| 1989 - 2008: | 50% of CPI |
|--------------|---|
| 2009: | Eligible for 2.41%, no increase granted |
| 2010: | CPI negative, no increase granted |
| 2011: | Eligible for 1.14%, no increase granted |
| 2012: | 50% of CPI, 1.61% |
| 2013: | 50% of CPI, 1.20% |
| 2014: | 50% of CPI, 0.72% |
| 2015: | 50% of CPI, 0.82% |
| 2016: | CPI negative, no increase granted |
| 2017 | 50% of CPI, 0.36% |
| 2018 | 50% of CPI, 1.03% |
| 2019 | 50% of CPI, 1.29% |
| 2020 | 50% of CPI, 0.82% |
| 2021 | 50% of CPI, 0.67% |
| 2022 | 50% of CPI, 2.10% |
| 2023 | 50% of CPI 4.31% |

The CPI average for 2022 (November 2021 to October 2022) increased 8.62% over the 2021 average. Therefore, pension benefits for eligible retirees and beneficiaries could increase 4.310%. The impact of providing the adjustment would be approximately \$6,410 per month, and would bring the pension payments total to approximately \$155,155, per month for 136 pensioners and beneficiaries. Retirees eligible for an increase are pensioners receiving a pension as of January 1, 2023.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The increase is discretionary and no increase is necessary. The Board could grant any increase up to 4.31%, which is 50% of the consumer price index.

FISCAL REVIEW / FUNDING

The last actuary study was done as of May 1, 2022. At the time, the District's unfunded pension liability was \$2,545,799.

The proposed COLA adjustment would require an additional cash payment of \$76,930 (\$6,410*12 months) a year. The proposed change increases the pension liability by an estimated \$425,000.

LEGAL REVIEW

Corporate Counsel reviewed the proposed motion and approved it as to form.

CONCLUSION(S)

Staff recommends that the Committee approve forwarding this order to the Board for their consideration.

ATTACHMENT(S)

None



MEMORANDUM PORTLAND WATER DISTRICT

TO: Operations Committee / Board of Trustees

FROM: Scott Firmin, Director of Wastewater Services

James Wallace, Director of Water Services

DATE: November 4, 2022

RE: Operations Committee Meeting – November 14, 2022

A meeting of the Operations Committee of the Portland Water District Board of Trustees will be held on Monday, November 14, 2022 beginning at 5:30 p.m., in the Douglass Street EOC of the District, 225 Douglass Street, Portland, Maine.

AGENDA

1. 2023 Budget

The operational departments will present their respective budgets (see 2023 Proposed Comprehensive Budget Report, Departmental Expenses, Water Services starting on page 158, and Wastewater Services starting on page 177).



MEMORANDUM PORTLAND WATER DISTRICT

TO: Planning Committee / Board of Trustees

FROM: Christopher Crovo, P.E., Director of Asset Management and Planning

DATE: November 4, 2022

RE: Planning Committee Meeting – November 14, 2022

A meeting of the Planning Committee of the Portland Water District Board of Trustees will be held on Monday, November 14, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at the Nixon Training Center, Portland Water District, 225 Douglass Street, Portland.

AGENDA

1. 2023 Budget Review

The Asset Management and Planning Departments (Environmental and Engineering Services) will present their respective budgets. See 2023 Comprehensive Budget Report – Operating Expenses, pages 194 – 228.