

February 24, 1978 Meeting
Room 83, S.O.B. - 10:00 A.M.

MINUTES

Sen. Stokowski opened the meeting.

PRESENT: Senators Stokowski, Strand, Ogdahl, Collin Peterson, Renneke
Representatives Patton, Reding, Biersdorf, Moe, Beauchamp

HF 2025 (Spanish); SF 1796 (Perpich) - Chisholm Fire & Police, Fund Revision
Section 1 provides that when the obligations of either the Chisholm Police Relief Association or the Chisholm Firefighter's Relief Association are fully paid, any remaining moneys shall revert back to the city. Section 2 provides that the bylaws of the respective relief associations shall be amended to require that the treasurer of the respective relief associations be bonded (\$100,000) or alternatively that all checks from the relief associations be co-signed by the city clerk-treasurer.

Rep. Patton moved that the bill be recommended to pass. Passed

HF 2155 (Reding); SF 1991 (Nelson) - Austin Firefighters Relief Assn.
Validation of Administrative Expenses

Bill provides that certain amounts expended by the Austin Firefighters Relief Association for lost wages of firefighters who attended out of town meetings on behalf of the relief association for calendar years 1975-1977 shall be validated as allowable administrative expenses and the relief association shall be entitled to receive fire state aid for those years. The current state aid for Austin had been held up.

Rep. Patton moved that the bill be recommended to pass. Passed

HF 2279 (Ellingson); SF 2042 (Luther) - Brooklyn Center Police -
PERA Police & Fire Consolidation (J. Mandeville went over memo)

John Mandeville went over the memo.

Bill was amended to totally consolidate the Brooklyn Center Policemen's Pension Fund into the PERA Police & Fire Fund as of March 26, 1978.

Sen. Strand moved the "strike everything" amendment. Passed

The Brooklyn Center City Manager stated that he has letters supporting the bill; also the city council supports the bill.

Rep. Patton moved that the bill as amended be recommended to pass. Passed

HF 2224 (Prahl); SF 2142 (Lessard) - Nashwauk Police Relief Association
Service Pension and Survivor Benefit Increases (L. Martin went over memo)
Bill provides for an increase in the service pensions for active and retired police officers of an additional \$3 per month per year of service up to 20 years, and an additional \$8 per month per year of service between 20 and 25 years of service; also an increase in the surviving spouse benefit from \$60 \$124 per month.

Rep. Beauchamp moved to accept the staff amendment. Motion carried

Sen. Collin Peterson moved that the bill as amended be recommended to pass. Passed

HF 2330 (Corbid); SF 2224 (Hanson) - Thief River Falls Police Relief Assn.
Consolidation into PERA-P&F (L. Martin went over memo)

Bill provides that all active members of the Thief River Falls Police Relief Association shall be transferred to the PERA-P&F. Every present member of the relief association shall be given an opportunity to obtain service credit in PERA-P&F for service credited by the relief association.

Staff amendment requested by the City of Thief River Falls provides that the decision to purchase prior service must be made by 1/1/80; also provides that the amount of at least \$52,788 must be transferred to the trust fund established for benefit recipients. It also provides that the present relief association member who is vested for a benefit from the relief association shall, upon retirement, receive a service pension at least as large as the pension he has currently.

Rep. Patton moved to accept the amendment. Motion carried.

Rep. Patton moved that the bill as amended be recommended to pass. Passed.

HF 1403 (Voss); SF 685 (Merriam) Non Profit Firefighting Corporations: Increase in Service Pension Maximums (L. Martin went over memo)

A revisor's amendment turns SF 685, HF 1403 into a local bill for the Spring Lake Park Volunteer Firefighters Relief Association. It authorizes the relief association, a non-profit firefighting corporation, to increase benefits to a firefighter retiring at the age of at least 50 and with at least 20 years of service above the general statutory maximum of \$80 per month (plus \$4 per month for each year in excess of 20 years) up to \$120 (plus \$6 per month for each year in excess of 20 years).

Rep. Beauchamp moved to strike everything after the enacting clause. Passed

Rep. Beauchamp moved that the bill as amended be recommended to pass. Passed

HF 1900 (Jude); SF 1799 (Pillsbury) - Mound Volunteer Firefighters Relief Assn. Monthly Benefit Increase (L. Martin went over the memo)

Bill provides that the Mound Volunteer Firefighters Relief Assn. shall pay to both retiring and retired firefighters who have attained the age of 50 and have credit for 20 years of service a service pension of \$145 per month, increased from \$120 per month. The increase for retired members may be paid retroactively to 1/1/78.

The staff technical amendments were submitted.

The Mayor of Mound stated that the bill has been approved and is part of the 1978 budget.

Rep. Beauchamp moved that the amendments be accepted. Passed.

Sen. Collin Peterson moved that the bill as amended be recommended to pass. Passed.

HF 2278 (Ellingson); SF 2043 (Luther) Brooklyn Center Volunteer Firefighter's Relief Association: Monthly Service Pension Increase

L. Martin went over the memo.

Bill would authorize the bylaws of the relief association to be amended to provide benefits within a minimum-maximum range.

Staff amendment replaces all references to the term "firemen's" with the term "firefighter's".

Rep. Patton moved to change the maximum pension reference in the bill from \$250 per month to \$150 per month. Passed.

Rep. Beauchamp moved that the bill as amended be recommended to pass. Passed.

HF 2219 (Kempe); SF 2133 (Knutson) Eagan Volunteer Firefighter's Relief Association: Monthly Service Pension Increase

Bill authorizes a monthly service pension in the amount not to exceed \$200 per month to a volunteer firefighter with 20 years of service and age 50, with a maximum monthly service pension of \$300 to a volunteer firefighter with 30 years of service; also provides that a volunteer firefighter can elect a lump sum benefit in lieu of a monthly pension not to exceed \$1500.

Rep. Beauchamp moved to accept staff amendments to the bill. Motion carried.

Monthly service pension changed to \$160 per month with 20 years of service, maximum changed to \$240 per month; also lump sum in lieu of monthly pension not to exceed \$1200.

The reference to "firemen" was changed to "firefighters" throughout the bill.

Sen. Renneke moved that the bill as amended be recommended to pass. Passed.

HF 2282 (Heinitz); SF 2167 (Staples) Plymouth Volunteer Firefighters Relief Association: Monthly Service Pension Increase

The bill provides that the Plymouth Volunteer Firefighters Relief Association may exceed the limits contained in Minnesota Statutes, Section 69.06 and pay a service pension of \$8.50 per month for year of service, with a maximum of \$255 per month. Also, it provides that the relief association may pay a surviving spouse benefit not to exceed \$127.50 per month.

Staff clarifying amendments were recommended to pass.

Sen. Strand moved to accept the amendments. Motion carried.

Rep. Beauchamp moved that the bill as amended be recommended to pass. Passed.

HF 1783 (Samuelson); SF 1793 (Borden) - Brainerd Fire Chief: Purchase of Prior Service in PERA-P&F

The bill provides that the present fire chief of Brainerd shall be entitled to make a purchase of prior service in the Public Employees Police and Fire Fund for the period of employment as a firefighter with the St. Paul Fire Department.

The staff amendments and the Samuelson amendments to require the fire chief to make the payments for the buyback were accepted by the commission.

Rep. Patton moved that the bill as amended be recommended to pass. Passed.

HF 1760 (Adams); SF 1716 (Humphrey) - Crystal Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Association: Monthly Service Pension Increase

Bill increases the monthly service pensions and retirement benefits paid by the association. Service pension is increased from \$5.50 per month to \$10.50 per month for each year of service at 50 years of age and 20 years of service; maximum service pension at 30 years increased from \$165 per month to \$315 per month; also a provision for a lump sum in lieu of a monthly service pension in the amount of \$600 per year.

Staff amendments to change "firemen" to "firefighters" were accepted.

Rep. Patton moved the bill as amended be recommended to pass. Passed.

HF 908 (McCollar); SF 782 (Knaak) - White Bear Lake Volunteer Firefighter's Relief Association: Monthly Benefit Increase

The bill provides that the association has the authority to pay a monthly service pension up to \$300 per month at age 50 and 20 years of service;

A strike everything after the enacting clause was approved.

The bill as amended was recommended to pass. Passed.

HF 2332 (Patton); SF 2226 (Strand) - Allowable Administrative Expense

The bill defines what constitutes an authorized or allowable administrative expense for a local police, salaried firefighter or volunteer firefighter.

Sen. Strand moved the bill as amended be recommended to pass. Passed.

(Bill also includes one year of buyback for a firefighter (St. Cloud)).

HF 2228 (Nelsen); SF 2107 (Borden) PERA Deceased Member

Bill authorized an annuity for a surviving spouse of a certain deceased former member of the PERA.

HF 2228; SF 2107 - Rep. Patton moved that the bill be recommended to pass. Passed

Leo Reding, Secretary

E. Diebel
Steno