

MEETING OF THE RETIREMENT PLAN COMMITTEE
February 13, 2017

A meeting of the Retirement Plan Committee for the Frederick County Employees Retirement Plan (the “Plan”) was held on Tuesday, February 13, 2018, at 1:00 p.m. in the Winchester Room on the 2nd Floor of Winchester Hall. Present in person were the following members of the Committee.

1. Human Resources Director: Wayne Howard
2. Finance Director: Lori Depies
3. Retiree Representative: Michael Marschner
4. FOP Representative: Michael Easterday
5. IAFF Representative: John Neary
6. Member at Large: Diane Fox
7. Member at Large: Michael Mills

Also present at the meeting at the invitation of the Committee were Colin England and Kris Seets with Bolton Partners; and Mary Claire Chesshire with Whiteford, Taylor and Preston. Susan Keller, Diane Hoffman, Shanna Gibbons, and Catherine DiGennaro with Frederick County Government. In the audience were Diane Penn, Michael Gastley, Rick Brace and Ron Hart. Mr. Marschner acted as Chairperson. Shanna Gibbons was Secretary of the Meeting.

The Chair opened the meeting. Meeting Minutes from January 9, 2018, were reviewed. Upon a motion duly made by Lori Depies and seconded Michael Easterday, this motion was unanimously passed.

Colin England and Kris Seets distributed and presented the Frederick County Employees Retirement Plan – Proposed COLA Changes dated February 13, 2018. The possibility of a one-time ad hoc increase and/or automatic, permanent increase to the COLA were presented. The cost impact on the Plan and the possibility of eligibility on a gradient scale were also contemplated.

The Chairman opened the floor to the Audience to make comments.

Upon a motion duly made by John Neary and seconded by Michael Easterday, it was:

RESOLVED: To recommend that the Frederick County Employees Retirement Plan be amended to provide:

1. A 5% ad hoc Cost of Living Adjustment, in addition to the 1% annual Cost of Living Adjustment, payable to any retiree otherwise eligible to receive the 1% Cost of Living Adjustment; and
2. That every three years and in conjunction with the annual valuation of the Plan, the Retirement Plan Committee evaluate additional ad hoc Cost of Living Adjustments taking into consideration the then current Actuarially Determined

Contribution rate, the inflation rates, and the then current funding level of the Plan. This motion was unanimously passed.

Upon further discussion regarding this proposal to the County Executive to amend the Frederick County Employees Retirement Plan, it was agreed to include:

1. Dissolution of the Defined Contribution 401(a);
2. Elimination of the interest accrual for terminated employees; and
3. Inclusion of a one-time ad hoc COLA.

Further discussion among the Committee regarding this proposal will take place prior to submission to the County Executive.

Mary Claire Chesshire distributed a copy of House Bill 971 and information on how, if passed, it would impact the Frederick County Employees Retirement Plan. This Bill will be brought up for a hearing on March 6, 2018.

The next monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2018.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Shanna Gibbons
Recording Secretary