
Commission Meeting

of

STATE HOUSE COMMISSION

LOCATION: Remote Meeting via Teams

DATE: February 28, 2022
9:00 a.m.

MEMBERS OF COMMISSION PRESENT:

Justin Braz, Chair
Senator Bob Smith
Senator Steven V. Oroho
Assemblyman Paul D. Moriarty
Assemblyman John DiMaio
Lynn Azarchi
Aaron Binder



ALSO PRESENT:

Robert J. Shaughnessy Jr.
Commission Secretary

Gary A. Kotler, Esq.
Commission Counsel

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MR. SHAUGHNESSY (Commission Secretary): Good morning.
Welcome to the State House Commission meeting of February
28, 2022.

I'll first provide the Open Public Meetings Act notice.

Notice of this meeting was given by way of notice, filed with the
Secretary of State, delivered to the State House press corps, and posted in
the offices of the State House Commission, as well as on the State House
Commission's website.

This meeting is being conducted remotely via Teams, as per the
public notice.

Please, I would like to ask any State House Commission member,
or member of the public, to identify themselves before they vote or speak.
Also, when not speaking, please put your device on mute or audio off so there
is little or no interference with the progress of this meeting.

Roll call.

Deputy Chief of Staff for Legislative Affairs Braz.

JUSTIN BRAZ (Chair): Here.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Deputy State Treasurer Binder.

MR. BINDER: Here.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Acting Director, Office of Management
and Budget, Ms. Azarchi.

MS. AZARCHI: Here.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Senator Smith. (no response)

Senator Oroho.

SENATOR OROHO: Here.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Assemblyman Moriarty.

ASSEMBLYMAN MORIARTY: Here.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Assemblyman DiMaio.

ASSEMBLYMAN DiMAIO: Present.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: At the outset, I'd like to welcome to the Commission Deputy State Treasurer Aaron Binder and Senator Oroho. We appreciate your participation today and at future meetings.

Mr. Chair, we have a quorum.

We have a concise agenda today, and we should be able to move through it very quickly.

The first item of business is Old Business. No. 1, approval of the November 29, 2021, State House Commission meeting minutes.

May I have a motion to approve those minutes, please?

MR. BRAZ: So moved.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Second?

ASSEMBLYMAN DiMAIO: Second.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: All in favor? (affirmative responses)

Any opposed? (no response)

Any abstentions?

MR. BINDER: I abstain, because I wasn't--

SENATOR OROHO: I'll need to abstain.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Thank you; and thank you, again.

Now we're moving on to--

MR. BRAZ: Mr. Shaughnessy, I'm not sure if you heard, but Senator Oroho abstained as well.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Yes; I appreciate that, Chair.

Thank you, Senator; understood.

SENATOR OROHO: Thanks, Chair.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: The next item is New Business; Department of Transportation request.

This is No. 2 on the agenda -- approval of an Outdoor Advertising Waiver, No. 77110, Route 600, Woodbridge Township, Middlesex County.

The DOT, on behalf of Woodbridge Township, requests a waiver from outdoor advertising regulations to allow the issuance of a multi-message outdoor advertising permit for an off-premise sign. The sign would be installed along New Jersey Route 600, at milepost 90.63, on property owned by the Township of Woodbridge, from another point of highway widening in the southbound direction. In the northbound direction, the sign is located within an intersection.

A waiver is required because the location of the sign did not meet the following DOT regulatory requirement: N.J.A.C. 16:41C-8.1(d)(2), which provides that no sign shall be located within 500 feet of an interchange, where it would be within 500 feet of the beginning or ending of pavement widening, within 500 feet of the point of gore, or any point between these features where the pavement is widened.

DOT intends to grant the waiver for the two-sided sign -- subject to the approval of the State House Commission -- and has determined that the sign has demonstrated: a public benefit; a need for the sign; assurance of highway safety; and a lack of conflict with Federal regulations, and the 1971 Federal agreement for granting of a waiver for multi-message signs.

The sign will be installed, function, and be maintained at no cost to the public. In addition, the sign will be subject to conditions, as per the public agenda.

That's the matter that is in front of the Commission for consideration.

Do any members of the Commission have any questions or concerns about this?

MR. BRAZ: Mr. Shaughnessy, just a point of personal privilege from the Chair.

I just wanted to recognize the Mayor of Woodbridge, a former State Treasurer, Mayor John McCormac.

Mayor, thank you for being with us today.

MAYOR JOHN E. MCCORMAC: Thank you very much for having me.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Thank you, Chair; and thank you, Mayor.

Are there any comments -- Mayor, or anyone else -- on this item?

SENATOR OROHO: Mr. Chair?

MR. BRAZ: Go ahead, Senator.

SENATOR OROHO: If I leave, may I make a quick comment that I'm in favor?

Yes, I'm in favor. And welcome to the Mayor and former Treasurer. It's good to hear from you.

But I also -- I'm in favor; I'm going to vote in favor of it. And I certainly see-- I know that we had to have a waiver from the Department of Transportation -- I see that -- with respect to any safety issues. They're going to re-look at it after a year. But hopefully the municipality and the ordinance -- I would say, Public Safety announcements would be acceptable; any kind of revenue raised, hopefully, from the town. Except I would say -- because

we're granting a waiver, that maybe the town consider not having any kind of political ads or anything like that. Because we're granting a waiver and it should be for public purposes.

So if the town would just consider that, that's my only comment. And I will vote in favor.

MAYOR McCORMAC: I guess I have to put away the *Re-Elect Oroho* signs we were going to put up there. (laughter)

SENATOR OROHO: Thank you, Mayor; that's okay.

MAYOR McCORMAC: Good to hear from you, Senator.

SENATOR OROHO: Good to hear from you, too.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Okay; is that a motion, Senator Oroho?

SENATOR OROHO: Yes, that's in for a motion.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Thank you.

SENATOR OROHO: Except for -- just a consideration by the town itself. That doesn't have to be part of the motion, but I'll move to move the waiver.

MAYOR McCORMAC: We will adhere to that, Senator; I can assure you.

SENATOR OROHO: Okay.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Okay. We have a motion; is there a second on the--

MR. BRAZ: Second.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Second; thank you very much.

I'll call the roll now; we have a motion and second.

Deputy Chief of Staff Braz.

MR. BRAZ: Yes.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Deputy State Treasurer Binder.

MR. BINDER: Yes.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Director Azarchi.

MS. AZARCHI: Yes.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Senator Smith. (no response)
Senator Oroho.

SENATOR OROHO: Yes.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Assemblyman Moriarty.

ASSEMBLYMAN MORIARTY: Yes.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Assemblyman DiMaio.

ASSEMBLYMAN DiMAIO: Yes.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: That matter is approved. Thank you
very much.

MAYOR McCORMAC: Thank you all.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Okay, thank you, Mayor. Take care

MR. BRAZ: Thank you.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: We're next on to what is the final
portion of the agenda, actually. It's the Division of Pension and Benefits'
requests.

Before we consider this, I need a motion to adjourn as the State
House Commission and to sit as the Judicial Retirement System Board of
Trustees.

May I have a motion for that, please?

MR. BRAZ: So moved.

ASSEMBLYMAN MORIARTY: Second.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Motion and second.

All in favor? (affirmative responses)

Any opposed? (no response)

Any abstentions? (no response)

Okay, we're now sitting as the Judicial Retirement System Board of Trustees.

There are three matters for consideration. The first is approval of the minutes of the meeting held on November 29, 2021.

May I have a motion for that?

MR. BRAZ: Moved.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Second?

ASSEMBLYMAN MORIARTY: Second.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: All in favor? (affirmative responses)

Any opposed? (no response)

Any abstentions?

MR. BINDER: Abstain.

SENATOR OROHO: Abstain.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Okay; again, thank you very much, gentlemen.

We are now moving on to the second item, which is confirmation of death claims, retirements, survivor benefits, and terminations, with regard to this pension system.

And I, just briefly, have to introduce the State House Commission Counsel, who is here- and just has to make a brief statement before we consider this matter, No. 2 on the agenda.

MR. KOTLER (Commission Counsel): Good morning, everyone.

Before we proceed with the confirmation of benefits, I just wanted to point out that there is an application for a disability retirement, as of December 2021, for Judge Carlia Holt.

If the members approve it, it will be a provisional approval, as to Judge Holt only, as the Judge has appealed the commencement date of her disability, which, of course, would then affect the amount of her pension.

So as part of the analysis to be performed upcoming, I understand that there also may be an honorable service review, all of which will be presented to the members at our next JRS meeting, for consideration of her appeal.

So I just wanted to let you know that there is an appeal outstanding that was not ready to be presented today. So the Judge's application will come back, but it's appropriate, if you are so inclined, to approve her retirement.

So thank you.

MR. BRAZ: Thank you, Mr. Kotler.

I would just like to note that Senator Smith has just joined the meeting.

Senator, thank you for joining us.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you.

MR. BRAZ: Just for your awareness, we are sitting right now as the Judicial Retirement System. We have finished our business as the State House Commission.

SENATOR SMITH: All right. And (indiscernible) unnecessary, I'd prefer to also be marked in the affirmative for the earlier business. Would that be possible?

MR. BRAZ: I defer to Mr. Shaughnessy.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Yes, it would be possible.

SENATOR SMITH: Good.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: We have a quorum, and that's fine.

Thank you; and thank you for joining, Senator Smith.

We are on No. 2; and thank you, Counsel, for that clarification on No. 2.

With that being said, do I have a motion on No. 2 -- the confirmation of death claims, retirements, survivor benefits, and terminations?

MR. BRAZ: So moved.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Thank you; and second?

SENATOR OROHO: Second.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Thank you, Senator.

I will call the roll now on that.

Deputy Chief of Staff Braz.

MR. BRAZ: Yes.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Deputy State Treasurer Binder.

MR. BINDER: Yes.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Director Azarchi.

MS. AZARCHI: Yes.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Yes.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Senator Oroho.

SENATOR OROHO: Yes.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Assemblyman Moriarty.

ASSEMBLYMAN MORIARTY: Yes.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Assemblyman DiMaio.

ASSEMBLYMAN DiMAIO: Yes.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: No. 2 is approved.

We are on to the final matter, which is the receipt of the financial statements for July 2021. They have been distributed to the members.

Were there any questions or comments about that? (no response)

Hearing none, may I have a motion to receive the financial statements for July 2021?

MR. BRAZ: Moved.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Second?

SENATOR SMITH: Second.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Thank you; motion and second.

I'll call the roll.

Deputy Chief of Staff Braz.

MR. BRAZ: Yes.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Deputy State Treasurer Binder.

MR. BINDER: Yes,

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Director Azarchi.

MS. AZARCHI: Yes.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Yes.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Senator Oroho.

SENATOR OROHO: Yes.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Assemblyman Moriarty.

ASSEMBLYMAN MORIARTY: Yes.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Assemblyman DiMaio.

ASSEMBLYMAN DiMAIO: Yes.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Okay, thank you. That concludes that agenda.

I just need a motion to adjourn as the Judicial Retirement System, and sit as, again -- re-convene as the State House Commission.

Motion?

MR. BRAZ: So moved.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Second?

ASSEMBLYMAN MORIARTY: Second.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: All in favor? (affirmative responses)

Any opposed? (no response)

Any abstentions? (no response)

We are now sitting as the State House Commission.

And finally, I just need a motion to adjourn, if there's no other business that anyone has.

Chair?

MR. BRAZ: None here.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Okay; any other business from the members? (no response)

Any members of the public wish to be heard? (no response)

Hearing none, may I have a motion to adjourn this meeting, please?

MR. BRAZ: So moved.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Thank you; second?

ASSEMBLYMAN MORIARTY: Second.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: All in favor? (affirmative responses)

MR. BRAZ: This is a record, Mr. Shaughnessy. Well done.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Well, thank you, Chair.

We stand adjourned.

Take care, everyone. I appreciate it.

ALL: Thank you.

(MEETING CONCLUDED)