

REIMER DOBROVOLNY & LABARDI PC

A PUBLIC SAFETY LAW FIRM



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October 26, 2022

Honorable Rich Hofeld, Village President
Village of Homewood
2020 Chestnut Road
Homewood, Illinois 60430

By Certified Return Receipt Mail

Re: Homewood Police Pension Fund-Annual Tax Levy Requirements

Dear Mayor Hofeld:

Please be advised that the undersigned is legal counsel for the Homewood Police Pension Fund. At today's Pension Board meeting, the Pension Board Trustees discussed the annual tax levy/municipal contribution requirements for the Pension Fund for the upcoming tax year. As you are aware, the Pension Board either relies on an actuarial valuation performed by the Illinois Department of Insurance or an independent actuary employed by the Pension Board.

In this case, the Pension Board relied upon the actuarial valuation performed by Lauterbach & Amen. Their recommended levy for the upcoming tax year, in order to satisfy the annual requirements of the Homewood Police Pension Fund, as required by §5/3-125 of the Pension Code, is \$2,607,500. A copy of the Lauterbach & Amen report is enclosed for your review.

Accordingly, pursuant to §5/3-125 of the Pension Code, the Homewood Police Pension Board is requesting the Village of Homewood levy or contribute that amount for the upcoming tax year in order to satisfy the annual requirements of the Homewood Police Pension Fund. In the event that the Village will not be levying or contributing this amount, please advise me.

Also enclosed, please find a copy of the Pension Fund's "municipal compliance report". A copy of the current investment policy is available upon request although I note the Fund has transferred its assets to the Police Officers' Pension Investment Fund in accordance with the recent pension consolidation legislation.

Finally, the Pension Board wishes to draw your attention to §3-125.1 of the Pension Code and §4402.30 of the Illinois Administrative Code defining salary for pension purposes. Both those authorities refer to pensionable salary as being determined at least in part as that established by the municipality's appropriations ordinance. A similar conclusion was recently reached by the First District Appellate Court in *City of Chicago Ridge v. Chicago Ridge Firefighters' Pension Bd. of Trustees*, 2016 IL App (1st) 152089. In light of these authorities, the Pension Board requests the City ensure the appropriate salaries attached to rank for officers covered by Article 3 of the Pension Code are properly reflected in a municipal appropriations ordinance.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation and assistance in this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned should you have any questions concerning this matter.

Very truly yours,



Brian J. LaBardi

cc: Mr. Greg Knoll, President
Homewood Police Pension Board

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October 20, 2022

Honorable Rich Hofeld, Village President
Village of Homewood
2020 Chestnut Road
Homewood, Illinois 60430

By Certified Return Receipt Mail

Re: Homewood Firefighters' Pension Fund – Annual Tax Levy/Municipal Compliance Report

Dear Village President Hofeld:

As you are aware, the undersigned is legal counsel for the Homewood Firefighters' Pension Fund. At the October 19, 2022, quarterly Pension Board meeting, the Pension Board Trustees discussed the annual tax levy requirements for the Pension Fund for the upcoming tax year. As you are aware, the Pension Board either relies on an actuarial valuation performed by the Illinois Department of Insurance, or an independent actuary employed by the Village.

In this case, the Pension Board has relied upon the actuarial valuation performed by Lauterbach & Amen, an actuary employed by the Pension Board. According to this valuation, the recommended amount necessary in order to satisfy the annual requirements of §5/4-118 of the Illinois Pension Code, for the upcoming fiscal year is \$913,724.00. A copy of the Lauterbach & Amen Actuarial Valuation Report is enclosed for your review.

Accordingly, pursuant to §5/4-118 and §5/4-134 of the Illinois Pension Code, the Homewood Firefighters' Pension Board is requesting the Village of Homewood levy the above amount for the up-coming tax year to satisfy the annual requirements of the Homewood Firefighters' Pension Fund. In the event that the Village will not be levying this amount, please advise me.

As required by Public Act 95-950, enclosed please find a copy of the Pension Board's "Municipal Compliance Report". A copy of the Board's current Investment Policy is available upon request.

Finally, the Pension Board wishes to draw your attention to §4-118.1 of the Pension Code and §4402.30 of the Illinois Administrative Code defining salary for pension purposes. Both those authorities refer to pensionable salary as being determined at least in part as that established by the municipality's appropriations ordinance. A similar conclusion was recently reached by the First District Appellate Court in *Village of Chicago Ridge v. Chicago Ridge Firefighters' Pension Bd. of Trustees*, 2016 IL App (1st) 152089. In light of these authorities, the Pension Board requests the Village ensure the appropriate salaries attached to rank for officers covered by Article 4 of the Pension Code are properly reflected in a municipal appropriations ordinance.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation and assistance in this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned should you have any questions concerning this matter.

Very truly yours,



Vincent C. Mancini

Enclosure

cc: Greg Knoll, President
Homewood Firefighters' Pension Board