

AMESBURY RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING
Thursday, February 26, 2026 @ 1:30 PM
City Hall – George McNeill Meeting Room
1 Market Street, Amesbury Massachusetts

RECEIVED
By City Clerk at 12:08 pm, Feb 20, 2026

Board Members: Donna Cornoni; Craig Bailey; Kevin Caira; Marisa Batista; David Van Dam
Retirement Administrator: Laura D. Angus

Meeting Agenda:

New Member Enrollments

City of Amesbury/Amesbury Housing Authority: Christina Boucher, Resident Service Coordinator.

Buybacks/Redeposits

Nicholas Gilmore, payroll/financial analyst, is requesting a buyback of prior non-membership service as an employee of the City of Amesbury from 08/08/2025 to 12/26/2025. The total amount of creditable service is 2 months (0.1667). The total amount of the buyback is \$924.41.

Transfer

The Board received a Transfer-In from the Massachusetts Teachers' Retirement System for Roy L. Gabrielson. The total amount of creditable service from 09/01/202021– 06/30/2024 is 3 years (3.0000). The total amount of the transfer is \$19,669.76.

The Board received a Transfer-In from the State Retirement System for Charlene V. DiCarlo. The total amount of creditable service from 03/10/2024 – 05/09/2024 is 2 months (0.1667). The total amount of the transfer is \$1,034.14.

Refunds

The Board received an Application for Withdrawal of Accumulated Total Deductions from David Fowler, former skilled maintenance laborer for the City of Amesbury Highway Department. He has 3 years and 8 months (3.6667) of creditable service. The amount of the refund will be \$17,431.35. Federal tax withheld will be \$3,486.27. He will receive \$13,945.08. Mr. Fowler did not request a rollover.

A partial refund is being issued to Cassandra Wright, Youth Services Assistant with the Amesbury Public Library for retirement deductions erroneously taken from a tuition reimbursement payment. The refund amount was a total of \$113.23, less federal taxes in the amount of \$22.65. Total refund to member \$90.58.

Retirements

The Board received information regarding the death of David Picard, retired member of the Amesbury Fire Department who passed on February 8, 2026. David took an Option A at the time of retirement and will receive his final check on February 27, 2026.

Items to be reviewed and approved:

- February 2026 Payroll Warrant.
- February 2026 Cash Disbursements Warrant.
- February 2026 Vendor Payment Warrant.
- January 2026 PRIT Report.
- January 2026 MM Bank Reconciliation.
- January 2026 Checking Account Reconciliation.
- January 29, 2026 Minutes.
- YTD Trial Balance.

PERAC Memorandums to review:

- PERAC #9.....January 28, 2026Buyback and Make-Up repayment Worksheets
- PERAC #10.....February 4, 2026.....Actuarial Data

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Correspondence:

Email received January 20, 2026 from Kelly McCracken, Administrator of Dukes County Contributory Retirement System regarding plans for an Administrator's /Director's conference on Martha's Vineyard from April 26th – 28th, 2026. Follow up email received on January 28, 2026 and January 31, 2026.

Correspondence received January 23, 2026 from Retires State, County and Municipal Employees Association of Massachusetts (Mass Retirees) which contained the Massachusetts Legislators Directory for 2025-2026.

Email received January 23, 2026 from Craig Bailey, Chief of Police, inviting everyone to a retirement party for Lieutenant Kevin Mulrenin on Thursday, February, 2026 at 12:00.

Email received January 23, 2026 from Robert Serino, Fire Chief/EMD regarding EOC activation for the upcoming winter storm.

Email received January 23, 2026 from Robert Serino, Fire Chief/EMD regarding his vacation and that Deputy Chief Mather will assume command during his vacation.

Email received January 27, 2026 from Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission (PERAC) regarding a webinar on Veterans' Buybacks given by Assistant Deputy Director Patrick Charles on Thursday, January 29, 2026 at 1:00 PM. Any Board member who attends will automatically receive three educational credits. A reminder email was received on January 28, 2026.

Email received January 28, 2026 from Pamela Tobey, Chief of Staff regarding the FY2027 Budget Directive.

Two emails received January 29, 2026 from Stephen Hare, Information Technology Director regarding internet issues during the move and ITs activity during the move.

Emails received January 29, 2026 from Stephen Hare, Information Technology Director regarding a security alert to protect your tax refund from identity theft.

Email and attachment received January 30, 2026 from William Keefe, Executive Director of PERAC containing the Special COLA Commission final report.

Email received February 2, 2026 from Stephen Hare, Information Technology Director regarding the VPN and remote access.

The Board received a letter through PROSPER from PERAC dated January 30, 2026 regarding Section 3(8)(c) of Chapter 32 of the General Laws. Amesbury Retirement System shall reimburse the Massachusetts Teachers' Retirement System \$13,637.86 a year toward the retirement allowance of Catherine Mamakos, who retired June 30, 2023.

Email received February 4, 2026 from Michelle Sweeney, Public Works Manager regarding a sendoff for Lisa DeMeo.

Email received February 4, 2026 from Marisa Batista, Chief Financial Officer regarding YTD Expense reports.

Email received February 5, 2026 from William Donohue, Communications Director regarding boards and commissions.

Email received February 6, 2026 from Mayor Kassandra Gove regarding matters related to City Hall.

Email received February 9, 2026 from PERAC regarding the mailing of postcards to disability retirees informing them of the upcoming 91A Form mailing and the option to complete the form online.

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Email received February 10, 2026 from Marisa Batista, Chief Financial Officer, asking Michael Sacco to complete the legal letter for the city's FY25 audit. Email response Holly Authier, Legal Assistant from Sacco & Collins, P.C. received on February 12, 2026.

Email received February 10, 2026 from Chris Wallace, Managing Partner of Bay State Pension Solutions, Inc. regarding advanced features of the Bay State Pension Administration system.

Email received February 12, 2026 from Mayor Cassandra Gove regarding find photo for the move photo project.

Email received February 12, 2026 from Pamela Tobey, Chief of Staff giving a legislative update for the City Council meeting on February 10, 2026.

Email received February 12, 2026 from Tricia Igo of Mass Retirees regarding the 22nd Edition of the "Board Book."

Email received February 17, 2026 PERAC containing a link to Issue #70 of PERAC Pension News, now available on the website.

Email received February 18, 2026 from Victoria Feger, Executive Assistant to the Mayor regarding the Mayor's scheduled out office from March 2nd – 6th, 2026.

Email received February 18, 2026 from PERAC regarding the webinar on Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at 1:00 PM on preparing the annual statement.

Email received February 19, 2026 from Tricia Igo of Mass Retirees regarding Boards that are increasing their COLA bases in July and containing an updated list of COLA bases for all Boards.

Email received February 20, 2026 from PERAC regarding the upcoming webinar for Preparing the Annual Statement on Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at 1:00 PM and to register for the New Administrator Training on March 3, 2026 from 8:30 – 2:00 at the Four Points by Sheraton in Norwood. Any Board member who attends either the webinar or the training will receive three educational credits.

The Board received 4 emails dated January 30, February 6, 13, and 20, 2026 from the Mass Retirees regarding the FY27 State Budget, GIC Public Information Sessions, COLA Commission, State and Teachers' Pension Funding Schedule, GIC's Annual Information Sessions, NCPERS Annual Legislative Conference, Social Security Fairness Act, and implementation thereof, FY 26 GIC Plan design approval, and the 2025-26 Legislative Session in Massachusetts, GIC plan design for FY27, Postponement of GIC plan design vote, efforts to improve the COLA for State and Teachers' retirees, PRIT's historic run, systems near full funding and local COLA improvements.

Old Business

PTG is currently testing the Self-Service Portal for the Amesbury Retirement System.

PERAC will be here to audit the Amesbury Retirement System on February 18-19 and 23-26, March 2-4 and March 16-19. Additional dates will be set if necessary.

New Business

Update 3(8)(c) Billings: All bills were mailed to the applicable Retirement Boards on February 3, 2026.

Final Election Results – Donna Cornoni was reelected, and Kevin Cairra was elected to the Board for the terms of 01/30/2026 – 01/29/2029.

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Reminder to Board Members (if they haven't already) to check their Educational Credits on PROSPER to remain in compliance.

Possible transfer from PRIT for April disbursements.

Administrator's vacation March 5th and 6, March 9th – 11th.

Next Board Meeting

Thursday, March 26, 2026.

Discussion of topics not reasonably anticipated by the chair 48 hours before the meeting.