



CITY OF STAMFORD
OFFICE OF LEGAL AFFAIRS
HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION
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DRAFT MINUTES

Custodians' Retirement Fund Meeting was held
remotely via Microsoft TEAMS on January 8, 2026

Those in attendance:

Benjamin Barnes, Dir. of Administration	Elda Sinani, Director - OPM <i>(represents Mayor Caroline Simmons)</i>	Joe DePalma Jr., Principal Custody Solutions
James Connors, Trustee	Dr. Paula Russell, Director Human Resources	Joseph Bottoni, Stamford BOE Employees Association, SBOEEA President
Andy George, President-Board of Education, Trustee	John Guzzino, Retirement Pension & Benefit Specialist	Teresa Viscariello, Controller
Anthony Valenti, Trustee	James Lavin, Consultant, Human Resources	Leah Kagan, Director of Economic Development
Todd Williams, Trustee	Kimberly Hawreluk, H.R. & Benefits Assistant	Members of the public

Dr. Paula Russell, Director of Human Resources and Fund Secretary, called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.

I. Approval of the Minutes: Meeting Minutes of December 11, 2025

A motion to approve the Minutes was made by Todd Williams and seconded by Andy George. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

II. Public Participation: NONE

III. Old Business: NONE

IV. New Business:

A. City of Stamford – Human Resources Division

i. Election of Chairperson for Calendar Year 2026

Dr. Paula Russell, Director of Human Resources and Fund Secretary, facilitated the election of the Custodians Retirement Fund Board chairperson, with Todd Williams volunteering and being nominated by Benjamin Barnes.

A motion to elect Todd Williams as Board Chair was made by Andy George and seconded by Benjamin Barnes. The motion was approved by unanimous consent; with no opposition or abstentions, the motion passed unanimously.

