Julia Pemberton, First Selectwoman
jpemberton@townofreddingct.org

phone: 203-938-2002
fax: 203-938-8816

100 Hill Road, P.O.Box 1028 • Redding, CT 06875 • www.townofreddingct.org

For immediate release.

The Town of Redding Seeks a Fair and Collaborative Resolution to claims by the Connecticut State Employees Retirement Commission (SERC).

November 14, 2024, Redding, Connecticut. The Town of Redding provides strong retirement benefits to its employees either through the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System (CMERS) or in a private defined-contribution plan, akin to a 401(k). The Town has always contributed to the CMERS system for those employees who are enrolled and has also supported robust retirement plan accounts for its employees. SERC has recently asserted the position that all Town employees should be enrolled in the State plan and claims several years of back contributions. The Town respectfully disagrees and believes that it has, at all times, acted properly. However, in the spirit of fostering a positive resolution and maintaining positive relationships with its employees and the CMERS, the Town has engaged in a constructive dialogue with SERC to reach an amicable and fair resolution. Under this proposed settlement, funds from the defined contribution plan will be rolled over into CMERS and the Town will make a cash payment to account for some of CMERS claimed losses. The amount of that payment will not exceed $2M.

Peg O'Donnell and Michael Thompson, Town of Redding Selectmen stated, "Although the Town feels that it acted properly in this matter, we are committed to finding a resolution that is fair and just for all parties involved. Our goal is to minimize disruption to our operations and to protect taxpayer interests." First Selectwoman Pemberton recused herself from the settlement discussions and from the vote.

Ward Mazzucco, Chair of the Board of Finance stated, "The proposed settlement is budgeted for, minimizes financial impact to our operations and will not result in a tax increase."

The Town was represented by Pullman & Comley, LLC. Town Counsel Steven J. Stafstrom, Jr. added, "While the Town's actions are defensible, there was risk that the Town could have faced a judgment of hundreds of thousands of dollars more at trial. This proposed settlement provides predictability and is fair and just to our employees and taxpayers "