

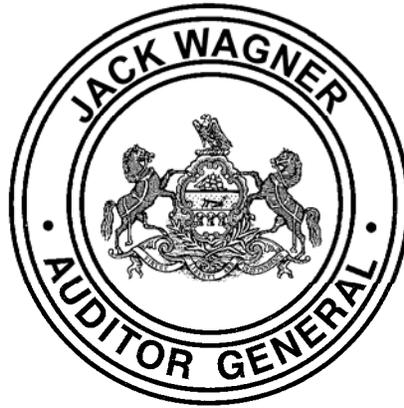
TINICUM TOWNSHIP POLICE PENSION PLAN

DELAWARE COUNTY

COMPLIANCE AUDIT REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD

JANUARY 1, 2007, TO DECEMBER 31, 2009



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BACKGROUND

On December 18, 1984, the Pennsylvania Legislature adopted the Municipal Pension Plan Funding Standard and Recovery Act (P.L. 1005, No. 205, as amended, 53 P.S. § 895.101 et seq.). The act established mandatory actuarial reporting and funding requirements and a uniform basis for the distribution of state aid to Pennsylvania's public pension plans. Section 402(j) of Act 205 specifically requires the Auditor General, as deemed necessary, to make an audit of every municipality which receives general municipal pension system State aid and of every municipal pension plan and fund in which general municipal pension system State aid is deposited.

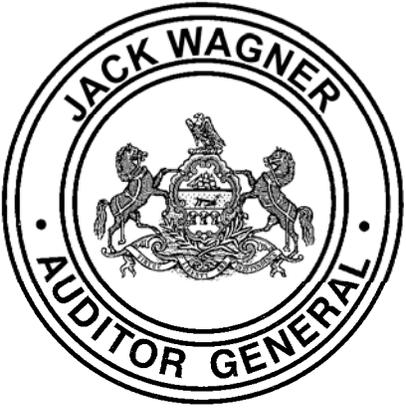
Pension plan aid is provided from a 2 percent foreign casualty insurance premium tax, a portion of the foreign fire insurance tax designated for paid firefighters and any investment income earned on the collection of these taxes. Generally, municipal pension plans established prior to December 18, 1984, are eligible for state aid. For municipal pension plans established after that date, the sponsoring municipality must fund the plan for three plan years before it becomes eligible for state aid. In accordance with Act 205, a municipality's annual state aid allocation cannot exceed its actual pension costs.

In addition to Act 205, the Tincum Township Police Pension Plan is also governed by implementing regulations adopted by the Public Employee Retirement Commission published at Title 16, Part IV of the Pennsylvania Code and applicable provisions of various other state statutes including, but not limited to, the following:

Act 147 - Special Ad Hoc Municipal Police and Firefighter Postretirement Adjustment Act, Act of December 14, 1988 (P.L. 1192, No. 147), as amended, 53 P.S. § 896.101 et seq.

Act 600 - Police Pension Fund Act, Act of May 29, 1956 (P.L. 1804, No. 600), as amended, 53 P.S. § 761 et seq.

The Tincum Township Police Pension Plan is a single-employer defined benefit pension plan locally controlled by the provisions of Ordinance No. 2004-775, adopted pursuant to Act 600. The plan is also affected by the provisions of collective bargaining agreements between the township and its police officers.



Board of Township Commissioners
Tinicum Township
Delaware County
Essington, PA 19029

We have conducted a compliance audit of the Tinicum Township Police Pension Plan for the period January 1, 2007, to December 31, 2009. The audit was conducted pursuant to authority derived from Section 402(j) of Act 205 and in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* applicable to performance audits issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform our audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our finding and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our finding and conclusions based on our audit objectives.

The objectives of the audit were:

1. To determine if municipal officials took appropriate corrective action to address the finding contained in our prior audit report; and
2. To determine if the pension plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies.

Our audit was limited to the areas related to the objectives identified above. Tinicum Township contracted with an independent certified public accounting firm for annual audits of the Tinicum Township Police Pension Plan's financial statements which are available at the township's offices. Those financial statements were not audited by us and, accordingly, we express no opinion or other form of assurance on them.

Township officials are responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that the Tincum Township Police Pension Plan is administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies. In conducting our audit, we obtained an understanding of the township's internal controls as they relate to the township's compliance with those requirements and that we considered to be significant within the context of our audit objectives, and assessed whether those significant controls were properly designed and implemented. Additionally, we tested transactions, assessed official actions, performed analytical procedures and interviewed selected officials to the extent necessary to satisfy the audit objectives.

The results of our tests indicated that, in all significant respects, the Tincum Township Police Pension Plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies, except as noted in the following finding further discussed later in this report:

Finding – Noncompliance With Prior Audit Recommendation – Pension
Benefits Not Authorized By Act 600

The accompanying supplementary information is presented for purposes of additional analysis. We did not audit the information and, accordingly, express no form of assurance on it.

The contents of this report were discussed with officials of Tincum Township and, where appropriate, their responses have been included in the report.

June 23, 2010

JACK WAGNER
Auditor General

TINICUM TOWNSHIP POLICE PENSION PLAN
STATUS OF PRIOR FINDING

Noncompliance With Prior Audit Recommendation

Tinicum Township has not complied with the prior audit recommendation concerning the following as further discussed in the Finding and Recommendation section of this report:

- Pension Benefits Not Authorized By Act 600

TINICUM TOWNSHIP POLICE PENSION PLAN
FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION

Finding – Noncompliance With Prior Audit Recommendation – Pension Benefits Not
Authorized By Act 600

Condition: As disclosed in the prior audit report, plan officials provided pension benefits in excess of those authorized by Act 600. Plan officials had included accumulated unused sick leave and vacation leave that was not earned during the pension computation period in the determination of the final average monthly salary used to recalculate monthly pension benefits for three police officers who retired during prior audit periods. During the current audit period, the township increased the pension benefits of the same three police officers to include special duty pay which is specifically excluded as part of the definition of “average monthly earnings” by the plan’s governing document. In addition, a police officer who retired on January 31, 2010, had his pension benefit determined on a final average salary which included severance pay.

Section 4.2(a) of the plan’s governing document, Ordinance No. 2004-775, states, in part:

The monthly retirement pension benefit for a policeman retiring under Section 4 shall be determined as: 50% of the average monthly salary which he was paid during his last 36 months of service

Furthermore, Ordinance No. 554 of 1981 defines salary as follows:

Average monthly earnings shall mean those earnings reported to the Internal Revenue Service, except Special Duty Pay as described in Section 3.

Criteria: Section 5(c) of Act 600 states, in part:

Monthly pension or retirement benefits other than length of service increments shall be computed at one-half the monthly average salary of such member during not more than the last sixty nor less than the last thirty-six months of employment.

Although Act 600 does not define “salary,” the department has concluded, based on a line of court opinions, that the term does not encompass lump-sum payments for leave that was not earned during the pension computation period.

Cause: Plan officials determined the three retirees’ pension benefits in accordance with arbitration rulings which were issued in 2005 and 2009. In addition, plan officials failed to establish adequate internal control procedures to ensure the pension benefit for the police officer who retired in 2010 was in accordance with Act 600 provisions.

TINICUM TOWNSHIP POLICE PENSION PLAN
FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION

Finding – (Continued)

Effect: The plan is paying pension benefits to four retirees in excess of those authorized by Act 600.

Providing unauthorized pension benefits increases the plan's pension costs and reduces the amount of funds available for investment purposes or for the payment of authorized benefits or administrative expenses. Since the township received state aid based on unit value during the current audit period, it did not receive allocations attributable to the excess pension benefits provided. However, the increased costs to the pension plan as a result of the excess pension benefits could result in the receipt of excess state aid in the future and increase the municipal contributions necessary to fund the plan in accordance with Act 205 funding standards.

Recommendation: We again recommend that the township amend the plan's governing document to be in compliance with Act 600 at its earliest opportunity to do so. We also recommend that all pension benefits be paid in accordance with Act 600 provisions. To the extent that the township has already obligated itself to pay benefits to existing retirees in excess of those authorized by Act 600, the excess benefits must be reflected in the Act 205 actuarial valuation reports for the plan and funded in accordance with Act 205 funding standards. Furthermore, the unauthorized portion of such benefits will be deemed ineligible for funding with state pension aid. In such case, the plan's actuary may be required to determine the impact, if any, of the excess benefits on the plan's future state aid allocations and submit this information to the department.

Management's Response: Municipal officials indicated that they were required to include all lump-sums pursuant to arbitration awards.

Auditor's Conclusion: The department acknowledges that the township recalculated the pension benefits of the referenced retirees in accordance with arbitration rulings. However, the township failed to appeal the arbitration rulings. Therefore, based on the criteria cited above, the finding remains as stated.

TINICUM TOWNSHIP POLICE PENSION PLAN
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
 (UNAUDITED)

SCHEDULE OF FUNDING PROGRESS

Historical trend information about the plan is presented herewith as supplementary information. It is intended to help users assess the plan's funding status on a going-concern basis, assess progress made in accumulating assets to pay benefits when due, and make comparisons with other state and local government retirement systems.

The actuarial information is required by Act 205 biennially, except for distressed pension plans, for which annual reporting was required through January 1, 2003. The historical information, beginning as of January 1, 2005, is as follows:

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Actuarial Valuation Date	Actuarial Value of Assets (a)	Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) - Entry Age (b)	Unfunded (Assets in Excess of) Actuarial Accrued Liability (b) - (a)	Funded Ratio (a)/(b)	Covered Payroll (c)	Unfunded (Assets in Excess of) Actuarial Accrued Liability as a % of Payroll [(b-a)/(c)]
01-01-05	\$ 3,276,403	\$ 3,574,623	\$ 298,220	91.7%	\$ 834,833	35.7%
01-01-07	3,533,803	4,444,094	910,291	79.5%	1,059,358	85.9%
01-01-09	4,008,506	4,897,376	888,870	81.9%	1,268,778	70.1%

Note: The market value of the plan's assets at 01-01-09 has been adjusted to reflect the smoothing of gains and/or losses at 130% of market value. This method will lower contributions in years of less than expected returns and increase contributions in years of greater than expected returns. The net effect over long periods of time is to have less variance in contribution levels from year to year.

TINICUM TOWNSHIP POLICE PENSION PLAN
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
(UNAUDITED)

The comparability of trend information is affected by changes in actuarial assumptions, benefit provisions, actuarial funding methods, accounting policies, and other changes. Those changes usually affect trends in contribution requirements and in ratios that use the actuarial accrued liability as a factor.

Analysis of the dollar amount of the actuarial value of assets, actuarial accrued liability, and unfunded (assets in excess of) actuarial accrued liability in isolation can be misleading. Expressing the actuarial value of assets as a percentage of the actuarial accrued liability (Column 4) provides one indication of the plan's funding status on a going-concern basis. Analysis of this percentage, over time, indicates whether the system is becoming financially stronger or weaker. Generally, the greater this percentage, the stronger the plan.

Trends in unfunded (assets in excess of) actuarial accrued liability and annual covered payroll are both affected by inflation. Expressing the unfunded (assets in excess of) actuarial accrued liability as a percentage of annual covered payroll (Column 6) approximately adjusts for the effects of inflation and aids analysis of the plan's progress made in accumulating sufficient assets to pay benefits when due. Generally, where there is an unfunded actuarial accrued liability, the smaller this percentage, the stronger the plan. However, when assets are in excess of the actuarial accrued liability, the higher the bracketed percentage, the stronger the plan.

TINICUM TOWNSHIP POLICE PENSION PLAN
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
 (UNAUDITED)

SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS FROM EMPLOYER
 AND OTHER CONTRIBUTING ENTITIES

Year Ended December 31	Annual Required Contribution	Percentage Contributed
2004	\$ 80,711	117.2%
2005	113,973	100.0%
2006	111,678	114.5%
2007	117,731	100.0%
2008	201,933	100.0%
2009	214,258	100.0%

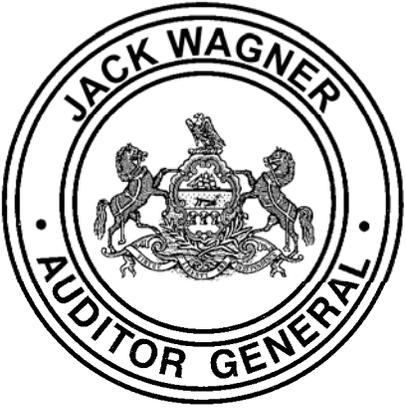
TINICUM TOWNSHIP POLICE PENSION PLAN
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
 NOTES TO SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULES
 (UNAUDITED)

The information presented in the required supplementary schedules was determined as part of the actuarial valuation at the date indicated. Additional information as of the latest actuarial valuation date follows:

Actuarial valuation date	January 1, 2009
Actuarial cost method	Entry age normal
Amortization method	Level dollar
Remaining amortization period	11 years
Asset valuation method	Plan assets are valued using the method described in Section 210(a) of Act 205, as amended, subject to a ceiling of 130% of the market value of assets.

Actuarial assumptions:

Investment rate of return *	8.0%
Projected salary increases *	5.0%
* Includes inflation at	Not disclosed
Cost-of-living adjustments	None assumed



TINICUM TOWNSHIP POLICE PENSION PLAN
REPORT DISTRIBUTION LIST

This report was initially distributed to the following:

The Honorable Edward G. Rendell
Governor
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Tinicum Township Police Pension Plan
Delaware County
629 Governor Printz Boulevard
Essington, PA 19029

Mr. Thomas J. Gianchristoforo, Jr. President, Board of Township Commissioners

Mr. David Schreiber Township Manager

Ms. Marian Medendorp Assistant Township Secretary

This report is a matter of public record. Copies of this report may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General, Office of Communications, Room 318 Finance Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120. If you have any questions regarding this report or any other matter, you may contact the Department of the Auditor General by accessing our website at www.auditorgen.state.pa.us.