

# YOUNGSVILLE BOROUGH NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN

**WARREN COUNTY** 

**COMPLIANCE AUDIT REPORT** 

FOR THE PERIOD

**JANUARY 1, 2010, TO DECEMBER 31, 2012** 

### **COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA**

**EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE - AUDITOR GENERAL** 

DEPARTMENT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL





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#### EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE AUDITOR GENERAL

The Honorable Mayor and Borough Council Youngsville Borough Warren County Youngsville, PA 16371

We have conducted a compliance audit of the Youngsville Borough Non-Uniformed Pension Plan for the period January 1, 2010, to December 31, 2012. The audit was conducted pursuant to authority derived from Section 402(j) of Act 205 and in accordance with the standards applicable to performance audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our finding and conclusions based on our audit objective. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our finding and conclusions based on our audit objective.

The objective of the audit was 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 objective identified above. Our methodology addressed determinations about the following:

- · Whether state aid was properly determined and deposited in accordance with Act 205 requirements. State aid allocations that were deposited into the pension plan for the years ended December 31, 2007, to December 31, 2012, are presented on the Summary of Deposited State Aid and Employer Contributions.
- Whether employer contributions are determined and deposited in accordance with the plan's governing document and applicable laws and regulations. Employer Contributions that were deposited into the pension plan for the years ended December 31, 2007, to December 31, 2012, are presented on the Summary of Deposited State Aid and Employer Contributions.
- Whether employee contributions are required and, if so, are determined, deducted and deposited into the pension plan and are in accordance with the plan provisions and applicable laws and regulations.

- Whether benefit payments, if any, represent payments to all (and only) those entitled to receive them and are properly determined in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.
- · Whether obligations for plan benefits are accurately determined in accordance with plan provisions and based on complete and accurate participant data; and whether actuarial valuation reports are prepared and submitted to the Public Employee Retirement Commission (PERC) in accordance with state law and selected information provided on these reports is accurate, complete and in accordance with plan provisions to ensure compliance for participation in the state aid program.
- · Whether the terms of the contractual agreement with the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs are in accordance with the plan's governing document, if separately stated, and applicable laws and regulations.
- · Whether transfers were properly authorized, accurate, timely and properly recorded.

Borough officials are responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that the Youngsville Borough Non-Uniformed 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 borough's internal controls as they relate to the borough's compliance with those requirements and that we considered to be significant within the context of our audit objective, 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 provide reasonable assurance of detecting instances of noncompliance with legal and regulatory requirements or noncompliance with provisions of contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies that are significant within the context of the audit objective.

The results of our tests indicated that, in all significant respects, the Youngsville Borough Non-Uniformed 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 – Incorrect Data On Certification Form AG 385 Resulting In An Overpayment Of State Aid

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

August 12, 2013

EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE

Eugent: O-Pager

**Auditor General** 

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<u>ABBREVIATION</u>	

PSABMRT - Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs Municipal Retirement Trust

#### **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.

Annual state aid allocations are provided from a 2 percent foreign (out-of-state) casualty insurance premium tax, a portion of the foreign (out-of-state) 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 Youngsville Borough Non-Uniformed 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 177 - General Local Government Code, Act of December 19, 1996 (P.L. 1158, No. 177), as amended, 53 Pa.C.S. § 101 et seq.

The Youngsville Borough Non-Uniformed Pension Plan is a single-employer defined contribution pension plan locally controlled by the provisions of Ordinance No. 585, which adopts an adoption agreement effective November 1, 2012. Prior to the adoption of Ordinance No. 585, the pension plan was controlled by the provisions of Ordinance No. 550, which adopted a joinder agreement with PSABMRT, effective December 31, 2002. Active members are not required to contribute to the plan. The municipality is required to contribute 10 percent of each eligible participant's compensation. As of December 31, 2012, the plan had 9 active members and 1 terminated member eligible for a vested benefit in the future.

### YOUNGSVILLE BOROUGH NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION

## <u>Finding</u> – <u>Incorrect Data On Certification Form AG 385 Resulting In An Overpayment Of State</u> <u>Aid</u>

<u>Condition</u>: The borough certified one ineligible non-uniformed employee (1 unit) and overstated payroll by \$2,177 on the Certification Form AG 385 filed in 2012. The data contained on this certification form is based on prior calendar year information.

<u>Criteria</u>: Pursuant to Act 205, at Section 402(e)(2), in order to be eligible for certification, an employee must have been employed on a full-time basis for at least six consecutive months and must have been participating in a pension plan during the certification year.

<u>Cause</u>: Plan officials failed to establish adequate internal control procedures to ensure the accuracy of the data certified.

<u>Effect</u>: The data submitted on this certification form is used, in part, to calculate the state aid due to the municipality for distribution to its pension plans. Because the borough's state aid allocation was based on unit value, the incorrect certification of pension data affected the borough's state aid allocation, as identified below:

Units	Unit	State Aid	
Overstated	Value	Overpayment	
1	\$ 3,576	\$ 3,576	

<u>Recommendation</u>: We recommend that the excess state aid, in the amount of \$3,576, be returned to the Commonwealth from borough funds. A check in this amount, with interest compounded annually from date of receipt to date of repayment, at a rate earned by the pension plan, should be made payable to: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and mailed to: Department of the Auditor General, Municipal Pension & Fire Relief Programs Unit, 11 Stanwix Street, Suite 1450, Pittsburgh, PA 15222. A copy of the interest calculation must be submitted along with the check.

We also recommend that in the future, plan officials establish adequate internal control procedures to ensure compliance with the instructions that accompany Certification Form AG 385 to assist them in accurately reporting the required pension data.

Management's Response: Municipal officials agreed with the finding without exception.

# YOUNGSVILLE BOROUGH NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN SUMMARY OF DEPOSITED STATE AID AND EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS

Year Ended December 31	State Aid	Employer Contributions
2007	\$ 19,793	\$ 8,290
2008	18,477	12,486
2009	19,952	10,391
2010	21,899	10,341
2011	23,864	9,791
2012	20,730	6,484

## YOUNGSVILLE BOROUGH NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN REPORT DISTRIBUTION LIST

This report was initially distributed to the following:

The Honorable Tom Corbett Governor Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Youngsville Borough Non-Uniformed Pension Plan Warren County 40 Railroad Street Youngsville, PA 16371

The Honorable James L. Farr Mayor

Ms. Lisa M. Hagberg Borough Manager

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at <a href="www.auditorgen.state.pa.us">www.auditorgen.state.pa.us</a>. Media questions about the report can be directed to the Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General, Office of Communications, 231 Finance Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120; via email to: news@auditorgen.state.pa.us.