

# COMPLIANCE AUDIT

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## City of Easton Aggregated Pension Trust Fund Northampton County, Pennsylvania For the Period January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2018

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November 2019



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Department of the Auditor General

Eugene A. DePasquale • Auditor General



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AUDITOR GENERAL

The Honorable Mayor and City Council  
City of Easton  
Northampton County  
Easton, PA 18042

We have conducted a compliance audit of the City of Easton Aggregated Pension Trust Fund for the period January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2018. We also evaluated compliance with some requirements subsequent to that period when possible. 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 our audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings 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 findings contained in our prior audit report; and
2. To determine if the pension trust fund 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. To determine if municipal officials took appropriate corrective action to address the findings contained in our prior audit report, we inquired of plan officials and evaluated supporting documentation provided by officials evidencing that the suggested corrective action has been appropriately taken. To determine whether the pension trust fund was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies, our methodology included the following:

- We determined whether state aid was properly determined and deposited in accordance with Act 205 requirements by verifying the annual deposit date of state aid and determining whether deposits were made within 30 days of receipt for all years within the period under audit.

- We determined whether annual employer contributions were calculated and deposited in accordance with the respective plans' governing documents and applicable laws and regulations by examining the municipality's calculation of the plans' annual financial requirements and minimum municipal obligations (MMOs) and comparing these calculated amounts to amounts actually budgeted and deposited into the pension plans as evidenced by supporting documentation.
- We determined whether annual employee contributions were calculated, deducted, and deposited into the respective pension plans in accordance with the plans' governing documents and applicable laws and regulations by testing total members' contributions on an annual basis using the rates obtained from the plans' governing documents in effect for all years within the period under audit and examining documents evidencing the deposit of these employee contributions into the pension plans.
- We determined whether retirement benefits calculated for the three police and five firemen's pension plan members and the lone non-uniformed pension plan member who retired during the current audit period, and through the completion of our fieldwork procedures, represent payments to all (and only) those entitled to receive them and were properly determined and disbursed in accordance with the plans' governing documents, applicable laws and regulations by recalculating the amount of the monthly pension benefit due to the retired individuals and comparing these amounts to supporting documentation evidencing amounts determined and actually paid to the recipients.
- We determined whether the January 1, 2017 actuarial valuation reports were prepared and submitted to the former Public Employee Retirement Commission (PERC) in accordance with Act 205 and whether 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 by comparing selected information to supporting source documentation.
- We determined whether all annual special ad hoc postretirement reimbursements received by the municipality were authorized and appropriately deposited in accordance with Act 147 by tracing information to supporting documentation maintained by plan officials.
- We determined whether the pension trust fund is in compliance with Act 205 for distressed municipalities through inquiry of plan officials and evaluation of the recovery remedies implemented during the audit period and through the completion of our fieldwork procedures.
- We determined whether the terms and methodologies of the issuance of pension obligation bonds by the municipality, and any restrictions were in compliance with plan provisions and Act 205 through inquiry of plan officials and examination of supporting documentation.

- We determined whether provisions of the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) were in accordance with the provisions of Act 205 by examining provisions stated in the plans' governing documents.

The City of Easton contracted with an independent certified public accounting firm for annual audits of its basic financial statements as of December 31, 2017, which are available at the city's offices. Those financial statements were not audited by us and, accordingly, we express no opinion or other form of assurance on them.

City officials are responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that the City of Easton Aggregated Pension Trust Fund 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 city's internal controls as they relate to the city'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 and as previously described, 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 objectives.

The results of our procedures indicated that, in all significant respects, the City of Easton Aggregated Pension Trust Fund was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies, except as noted in the following findings further discussed later in this report:

#### Police Pension Plan

- Finding No. 1 – Noncompliance With Prior Audit Recommendation – Inconsistent Benefit Provisions And Provision Of Pension Benefits Not In Compliance With The Third Class City Code

#### Firemen's Pension Plan

- Finding No. 2 – Noncompliance With Prior Audit Recommendation – Provision Of Benefits Not In Compliance With The Third Class City Code

#### Officers' and Employees' Pension Plan

- Finding No. 3 – Incorrect Data On Certification Form AG 385 Resulting In An Underpayment Of State Aid

Finding Nos. 1 and 2 contained in this audit report repeat conditions that were cited in our previous audit report that have not been corrected by city officials. We are concerned by the city's failure to correct these previously reported audit findings and strongly encourage timely implementation of the recommendations noted in this audit report.

As previously noted, one of the objectives of our audit of the City of Easton Aggregated Pension Trust Fund was to determine compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies. Among several provisions relating to municipal pension plans, Act 205, which was previously amended on September 18, 2009 through the adoption of Act 44 of 2009, provides for the implementation of a distress recovery program. Three levels of distress have been established:

<u>Level</u>	<u>Indication</u>	<u>Funding Criteria</u>
I	Minimal distress	70-89%
II	Moderate distress	50-69%
III	Severe distress	Less than 50%

The accompanying supplementary information is presented for purposes of additional analysis. We did not audit the information or conclude on it and, accordingly, express no form of assurance on it. **However, we are extremely concerned about the funded status of the plans contained in the schedules of funding progress included in this report which indicates the police pension plan's funded ratio is 53.9%, and the officers' and employees' pension plan's funded ratio is 56.3% as of January 1, 2017, which is the most recent data available. Based on this information, and the funded status of the city's Officers' and Employees' PMRS Pension Plan, the former Public Employee Retirement Commission issued a notification that the city is currently in Level II moderate distress status.** We encourage city officials to monitor the funding of its pension plans to ensure their long-term financial stability.

The contents of this report were discussed with officials of the City of Easton and, where appropriate, their responses have been included in the report. We would like to thank city officials for the cooperation extended to us during the conduct of the audit.

November 15, 2019



EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE  
Auditor General

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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.

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 City of Easton Aggregated Pension Trust Fund is also governed by implementing regulations adopted by the former 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 67 - The Third Class City Code, Act of November 24, 2015 (P.L. 242, No. 67), as amended, 11 Pa. C.S. § 10101 et seq.
- 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 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 City of Easton Aggregated Pension Trust Fund acts as a common investment and administrative agent for the city's police, firemen's and officers' and employees' defined benefit pension plans. The police pension plan is governed by Article II of Chapter 110 of the city's codified ordinances. The firemen's pension plan is governed by Article V of Chapter 110 of the city's codified ordinances. The officers' and employees' pension plan is governed by Article III of Chapter 110 of the city's codified ordinances for non-uniformed employees hired prior to January 1, 1979. The plans are also affected by the provisions of collective bargaining agreements between the city and its police officers, firefighters and non-uniformed employees. The police pension plan was established July 1, 1923. The firemen's pension plan was established June 23, 1931. The officers' and employees' pension plan for non-uniformed employees hired prior to January 1, 1979, was established May 23, 1945.

## BACKGROUND – (Continued)

Active members of the police pension plan are required to contribute 6 percent of compensation to the plan. Active members of the firemen’s pension plan are required to contribute 5.5 percent of compensation to the plan. Active members of the officers’ and employees’ pension plan are required to contribute 6.5 percent of compensation to the plan. As of December 31, 2018, the police pension plan had 62 active members, no terminated members eligible for vested benefits in the future, and 76 retirees receiving pension benefits. As of December 31, 2018, the firemen’s pension plan had 40 active members, 1 terminated member eligible for vested benefits in the future, and 46 retirees receiving pension benefits. As of December 31, 2018, the officers’ and employees’ pension plan had 1 active member, no terminated members eligible for vested benefits in the future, and 64 retirees receiving pension benefits.

As of December 31, 2018, selected plan benefit provisions for the police pension plan are as follows:

### Eligibility Requirements:

Normal Retirement	Eligible with 20 years of service.
Early Retirement	None
Vesting	100% vesting is available after 12 years of service.

### Retirement Benefit:

Benefit equals 50% of final rate of pay plus an incremental pension of 2.5% times final pay for each year of service in excess of 20 years. Maximum pension of 75% of final pay after 30 years of service. For members hired after January 1, 2015, 50% of average monthly compensation.

### Survivor Benefit:

If retired, eligible for retirement or killed in service – 100% of benefit to surviving spouse or child under 18.

### Service Related Disability Benefit:

Greater than 15 years of service, benefit based on normal retirement formula with 12 to 15 years of service, normal retirement pension prorated to 15 years. Less than 12 years of service, normal retirement pension prorated to 20 years.



## **BACKGROUND – (Continued)**

As of December 31, 2018, selected plan benefit provisions for the firemen's pension plan are as follows:

### Eligibility Requirements:

Normal Retirement	Age 50 and 20 years of service.
Early Retirement	None
Vesting	100% vesting available after 12 years of service effective January 1, 2009.

### Retirement Benefit:

Benefit equals 50% of highest yearly compensation during the last 5 years (or final pay rate if higher) plus 2.5% of compensation per year of service in excess of 20 years (maximum 75% of compensation) plus an incremental pension (maximum \$100 per month) of 1.25% times the compensation for each year of service (before age 65) in excess of 20 years. For members hired after January 1, 2013, 50% of average monthly compensation.

### Survivor Benefit:

If a member with 20 years of service dies or is killed in service, 100% of monthly pension.  
If a member has 12 to 20 years of service, 25% of compensation.

### Service Related Disability Benefit:

The disabled participant will receive full benefits provided by the plan.

## **BACKGROUND – (Continued)**

As of December 31, 2018, selected plan benefit provisions for the officers' and employees' pension plan are as follows:

### Eligibility Requirements:

Normal Retirement	Age 55 and 20 years of service.
Early Retirement	None
Vesting	100% vesting available after 12 years of service.

### Retirement Benefit:

Benefit equals 50% of average compensation over the last five years (or final compensation rate if higher), plus an incremental pension of 1.25% of average compensation for each year of service in excess of 20 years.

### Survivor Benefit:

If member has 12 or more years of service, a death benefit is payable to his spouse. Benefit equals 50% of pension prorated for less than 20 years.

### Service Related Disability Benefit:

If a member is vested, disability pension is the accrued benefit to the date of disability.

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
STATUS OF PRIOR FINDINGS

Noncompliance With Prior Audit Recommendations

The City of Easton has not complied with the prior audit recommendations concerning the following as further discussed in the Findings and Recommendations section of this report:

Police Pension Plan

- Inconsistent Benefit Provisions And Provision Of Pension Benefits Not In Compliance With The Third Class City Code

Firemen's Pension Plan

- Provision Of Pension Benefits Not In Compliance With The Third Class City Code

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Police Pension Plan

**Finding No. 1 – Noncompliance With Prior Audit Recommendation – Inconsistent Benefit Provisions And Provision Of Pension Benefits Not In Compliance With The Third Class City Code**

Condition: As disclosed in the prior three audit reports, the City of Easton operated pursuant to the Optional Third Class City Charter Law, Act of July 15, 1957 (P.L. 901, No. 399), as amended, 53 P.S. § 41101 et seq. prior to January 2, 2008. Consequently, the city’s aggregated pension trust fund was not subject to the constraints of the Third Class City Code. The city adopted a home rule charter pursuant to the Home Rule Charter and Optional Plans Law, 53 Pa. C.S. § 2901 et seq. (previously 53 P.S. § 1-101 et seq.), effective January 2, 2008. Therefore, pursuant to this change, the city’s pension plans must be in compliance with the Third Class City Code for employees hired after the adoption of the home rule charter. Our previous audits have disclosed that the city has continued to provide benefits to police officers, hired on or after the effective date noted above, that are not in compliance with the Third Class City Code.

In addition, the police pension plan’s governing document, Article II of Chapter 110 of City Codified Ordinances, continues to maintain benefit provisions that conflict with the collective bargaining agreement negotiated between the police officers and the city. The inconsistent benefit provisions and the applicable Third Class City Code provisions are illustrated below:

<u>Benefit Provision</u>	<u>Governing Document</u>	<u>Collective Bargaining Agreement</u>	<u>Third Class City Code</u>
Minimum retirement benefit	The minimum pension payable under this section shall be \$3,000 per year.	Not provided	Not provided
Service requirement	The later of the member’s 50 <sup>th</sup> birthday and the 20 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the date on which employment commenced.	Any covered employee may make application to retire at 20 years of service regardless of age.	A minimum service requirement of at least 20 years of continuous service for a normal retirement benefit and a minimum age of 50 years, if prescribed.

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Police Pension Plan – (Continued)

**Finding No. 1 – (Continued)**

<u>Benefit Provision</u>	<u>Governing Document</u>	<u>Collective Bargaining Agreement</u>	<u>Third Class City Code</u>
Service-related disability	A service-related disability benefit for participants with 12 or fewer years of service regardless of age of such participant, he shall be entitled to receive such portion of pension as his service up to the date of his termination bears to 20 years of service.	Not provided	A service-related disability benefit equal to the normal monthly pension benefit, regardless of the time served.
Member's contributions	A participant is required to contribute 6% of pensionable compensation. Each participant is required to contribute \$1 per month for the service increment contribution until the member has reached age 60.	Pension contributions shall be deducted at 6.5% of pensionable wages plus \$2 per pay for survivor's benefits.	A member's contribution rate of up to 5% of the officer's compensation, plus service increment contributions. Service increment contributions are payable only to age 65.

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Police Pension Plan – (Continued)

**Finding No. 1 – (Continued)**

<u>Benefit Provision</u>	<u>Governing Document</u>	<u>Collective Bargaining Agreement</u>	<u>Third Class City Code</u>
Monthly pension benefit	<p>A participant shall receive an annual pension equal to 50% of the employee's pensionable compensation. (Pensionable compensation is defined as the annual salary plus degree pay, longevity pay, personal day buyback, holiday pay, scheduled shift differential, and acting rank pay for regularly scheduled shift of a participant on the date in question.)</p> <p><i>(Collective bargaining agreement modified provision for members hired after January 1, 2015, to 50% of average monthly compensation.)</i></p>	<p>Any covered employee with 20 years of service shall be entitled to 50% of pensionable compensation.</p>	<p>The basis of the apportionment of the pension: (1) Shall be determined by the rate of the monthly pay of the member at the date of injury, death, honorable discharge, vesting under section 14302.1 (relating to limited vested benefit) or retirement, or the highest average annual salary that the member received during any five years of service preceding injury, death, honorable discharge, vesting under section 14302.1 or retirement, whichever is higher. (2) Except as to service increments provided for in subsection (d), may not exceed in a year one-half the annual pay of the member computed at the monthly or average annual rate, whichever is higher. section 14303(b)</p>

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Police Pension Plan – (Continued)

**Finding No. 1 – (Continued)**

<u>Benefit Provision</u>	<u>Governing Document</u>	<u>Collective Bargaining Agreement</u>	<u>Third Class City Code</u>
Service increments	The service increment shall be obtained by computing the number of whole years after 20 years of service, including credit for military service as provided in this plan, and multiplying the number of years so computed by 2.5% of pensionable compensation for each year of service to a maximum of 75% of pensionable compensation after 30 years of service. No employment after the participant has reached the age of 60 years shall be included.	Any covered employee with over 20 years of service shall be entitled to additional service increments of 2.5% of pensionable compensation for each additional year of service to a maximum of seventy-five (75%) of pensionable compensation after thirty (30) years of service. Any employee hired after January 1, 2015 with 20 years of service shall be entitled to a maximum of 50% pensionable compensation with no additional increases.	A service increment provision, indicating that additional benefits accrue to age 65 for service exceeding the minimum required for retirement in an amount equal to 1/40 <sup>th</sup> (2.5%) times the monthly <u>pension benefit</u> for each whole year over the minimum, not to exceed \$500 per month. [Emphasis added]

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Police Pension Plan – (Continued)

**Finding No. 1 – (Continued)**

<u>Benefit Provision</u>	<u>Governing Document</u>	<u>Collective Bargaining Agreement</u>	<u>Third Class City Code</u>
Nonservice-related disability	A participant who has not less than 15 years of service shall be eligible to receive a normal retirement benefit. If the participant has at least 12 years of service but less than 15 years of service, regardless of age of such participant, he shall be entitled to receive such portion of the normal retirement benefit as his service up to the date of termination bears to 20 years of service.	Not provided	For officers with less than 10 years of service, a pension equal to 25% of his annual compensation.  For officers with more than 10 years of service, a pension equal to 50% of annual compensation.

Criteria: As previously disclosed, on January 24, 2001, the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania issued its opinion in *Municipality of Monroeville v. Monroeville Police Department Wage Policy Committee*. Therein, the court held that Section 2962(c)(5) of the Home Rule Charter and Optional Plans Law, 53 Pa. C.S. § 2962(c)(5), “clearly precludes home rule municipalities from providing pension benefits different from those prescribed in general law including Act 600.” The court’s holding was in accord with the position taken by this department since at least January 1995. Therefore, for police officers hired on or after January 2, 2008, the pension plan’s benefit structure should be in compliance with the provisions of the Third Class City Code.

Furthermore, a governing document which contains clearly defined and updated benefit provisions is a prerequisite for the consistent, sound administration of retirement benefits.

Cause: The City has not been able to amend their police pension plan accordingly since the prior audit period to comply with the Third Class City Code regarding the aforementioned inconsistencies in plan documents as previously recommended.



CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Police Pension Plan – (Continued)

**Finding No. 1 – (Continued)**

Effect: Inconsistent plan documents could result in inconsistent or improper benefit calculations and incorrect benefit payments from the pension plan. As noted previously, in 2011, a member began receiving a retirement benefit at the age of 45 because of the inconsistency between the governing document and the collective bargaining agreement.

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 city 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.

Furthermore, as previously noted, the plan's governing document contains provisions that could result in plan members receiving pension benefits that are not in accordance with statutorily prescribed provisions of the Third Class City Code.

Recommendation: We again recommend that the city provide pension benefits in accordance with the Third Class City Code for all police officers who began full-time employment on or after January 2, 2008. To the extent that the city is not in compliance with the Third Class City Code and/or is contractually obligated to provide benefits in excess of those authorized by the Third Class City Code to police officers who began employment on or after January 2, 2008, 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, 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, on the city's future state aid allocations and submit this information to the department.

Furthermore, to the extent that the city has failed to provide benefits which are mandated by the Third Class City Code, we again recommend that the city increase those benefits to the levels prescribed by the code at its earliest opportunity to do so.

We also again recommend that municipal officials eliminate the inconsistencies between the plan's governing document and the collective bargaining agreement at their earliest opportunity to do so.

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Police Pension Plan – (Continued)

**Finding No. 1 – (Continued)**

Special note should be taken that the department’s application of *Monroeville* only to employees hired on or after January 2, 2008, does not sanction (1) a municipality’s granting excess benefits to existing or future employees when none had been granted as of January 2, 2008, or (2) a municipality’s increasing excess benefits for existing or future employees beyond those that had been granted as of that date.

Management’s Response: The city of Easton would like to note that the City’s Administration and Fraternal Order of Police have met a minimum of six times during the course of 2019 in order to revise the Police Pension Ordinance (Governing Document). These meetings typically lasted at least two hours and as of today, the proposed revisions are being reviewed by the Solicitors for both groups. Once those reviews are complete, both parties will reconvene and discuss any discrepancies and/or concerns. Assuming that any such discrepancies will be quickly remedied, the changes, once approved, will ensure that the Police Pension Ordinance will adhere to Third Class City Code and should alleviate the inconsistent benefit provisions currently not in compliance.

Auditor’s Conclusion: We are concerned that the city has not complied with the prior audit recommendation and encourage compliance at the earliest opportunity to do so; however, based on the management response, it appears municipal officials are striving to comply with the finding recommendation. Compliance will be evaluated during our next audit of the plan.

Firemen’s Pension Plan

**Finding No. 2 – Noncompliance With Prior Audit Recommendation – Provision Of Benefits Not In Compliance With The Third Class City Code**

Condition: As disclosed in the three previous audit reports, the City of Easton operated pursuant to the Optional Third Class City Charter Law, Act of July 15, 1957 (P.L. 901, No. 399), as amended, 53 P.S. § 41101 et seq. prior to January 2, 2008. Consequently, the city’s aggregated pension trust fund was not subject to the constraints of the Third Class City Code. The city adopted a home rule charter pursuant to the Home Rule Charter and Optional Plans Law, 53 Pa. C.S. § 2901 et seq. (previously 53 P.S. § 1-101 et seq.), effective January 2, 2008. Therefore, pursuant to this change the city’s pension plans must be in compliance with the Third Class City Code for employees hired after the adoption of the home rule charter.

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Firemen’s Pension Plan – (Continued)

**Finding No. 2 – (Continued)**

As previously disclosed in prior reports and evident during the current audit period, the city continues to provide benefits to firefighters hired on or after the January 2, 2008 effective date, that are not in compliance with the Third Class City Code, as noted below:

<u>Benefit Provision</u>	<u>Governing Document</u>	<u>Third Class City Code</u>
Monthly pension benefit	<p>The greater of the compensation at the date of retirement or 1/12 of the highest average annual salary during any five years of service preceding retirement. The multiplier percentage set forth correspondent to years of service; 20 years at 50%, 21 years at 52.5%, 22 years at 55%, 23 years at 57.5%, 24 years at 60%, 25 years at 62.5%, 26 years at 65%, 27 years at 67.5%, 28 years at 70%, 29 years at 72.5%, and 30 years at 75%.</p> <p><i>(Collective bargaining agreement modified provision for members hired after January 1, 2013, to 50% of average monthly compensation.)</i></p>	<p>A monthly pension benefit of 50% of the higher of the monthly salary at the date of termination or the highest average annual salary during any 5 years of service.</p>

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Firemen’s Pension Plan – (Continued)

**Finding No. 2 – (Continued)**

<u>Benefit Provision</u>	<u>Governing Document</u>	<u>Third Class City Code</u>
Definition of salary	A firefighter’s total gross annual compensation, including, without limitation, position salary, longevity pay, degree pay, extra-duty pay, and birthday pay.	A definition of salary as the fixed amount of compensation paid at regular, periodic intervals by the city to the member and from which pension contributions have been deducted.
Member’s contributions	A monthly contribution equal to 4.5% of compensation, plus an additional 1% of compensation towards the survivor benefit and an additional \$1 per month for the service increment contribution.	A member’s contribution rate of up to 5% of the firefighter’s compensation, plus service increment contributions.
Minimum pension benefit	The pension benefit of any participant who becomes entitled to a pension benefit under the plan shall not be less than \$3,000 annually.	Not provided
Survivor benefit	Nonservice-related death benefits where participant has 20 or more years of service. The surviving spouse of any participant who has retired or died while in service after having served for a minimum of 20 years, shall during their lifetime receive a pension benefit of the amount which would have been payable had the firefighter been retired and 50 years of age at the time of death.	A survivor’s benefit to the surviving spouse of a deceased retiree or employee equal to the amount that the member was receiving or would have been receiving if he was retired, and continuing during the spouse’s life.

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Firemen's Pension Plan – (Continued)

**Finding No. 2 – (Continued)**

Criteria: As previously disclosed, on January 24, 2001, the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania issued its opinion in *Municipality of Monroeville v. Monroeville Police Department Wage Policy Committee*. Therein, the court held that Section 2962(c)(5) of the Home Rule Charter and Optional Plans Law, 53 Pa. C.S. § 2962(c)(5), “clearly precludes home rule municipalities from providing pension benefits different from those prescribed in general law including Act 600.” The court’s holding was in accord with the position taken by this department since at least January 1995.

Therefore, for firefighters hired on or after January 2, 2008, the pension plan’s benefit structure should be in compliance with the Third Class City Code.

Cause: The City has not been able to amend their firemen’s pension plan accordingly since the prior audit period to comply with the Third Class City Code regarding the aforementioned inconsistencies in plan documents as previously recommended.

Effect: 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 city 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 city provide pension benefits in accordance with the Third Class City Code for all firefighters who began full-time employment on or after January 2, 2008, upon the renewal, extension, or renegotiation of the collective bargaining agreement. To the extent that the city is not in compliance with the Third Class City Code and/or is contractually obligated to provide benefits in excess of those authorized by the Third Class City Code to firefighters who began employment on or after January 2, 2008, 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, 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, on the city’s future state aid allocations and submit this information to the department.

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Firemen's Pension Plan – (Continued)

**Finding No. 2 – (Continued)**

Special note should be taken that the department's application of *Monroeville* only to employees hired on or after January 2, 2008, does not sanction (1) a municipality's granting excess benefits to existing or future employees when none had been granted as of January 2, 2008, or (2) a municipality's increasing excess benefits for existing or future employees beyond those that had been granted as of that date.

Management's Response: The City of Easton and International Association of Firefighters received an arbitration ruling earlier this year which amended some of the wording in both the Collective Bargaining Agreement and Fire Pension Ordinance (Governing Document). This may alleviate some of the provisions of benefits currently not in compliance. It is the Administration's aim to continue to revise both documents as both parties head into contract negotiations in 2020.

Auditor's Conclusion: We are concerned that the city has not complied with the prior audit recommendation and encourage compliance at the earliest opportunity to do so. Additionally, the arbitration ruling the city received dated February 6, 2019, does not appear to address any of the pension matters. Compliance will be evaluated during our next audit of the plan.

Officers' And Employees' Pension Plan

**Finding No. 3 – Incorrect Data On Certification Form AG 385 Resulting In An Underpayment Of State Aid**

Condition: The city failed to certify an eligible non-uniformed employee (1 unit) and understated payroll by \$42,530 on the Certification Form AG 385 filed in 2019. The data contained on this certification form is based on prior calendar year information.

Criteria: Pursuant to Act 205, at Section 402(e)(2), an employee who has been employed on a full-time basis for at least six consecutive months and has been participating in a pension plan during the certification year is eligible for certification.

Cause: Plan officials failed to implement adequate internal control procedures to ensure the accuracy of the data certified for 2019.

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Officers' And Employees' Pension Plan – (Continued)

**Finding No. 3 – (Continued)**

Effect: 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 city's state aid allocation was based on unit value, the city received an underpayment of state aid as identified below:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Type of Plan</u>	<u>Units Understated</u>	<u>Unit Value</u>	<u>State Aid Underpayment</u>
2019	Non-Uniformed	1	\$ 5,121	\$ 5,121

Although the city will be reimbursed for the underpayment of state aid due to the city's certification error, the full amount of the 2019 state aid allocation was not available for timely deposit and therefore was not available to pay operating expenses or for investment in the plan.

Recommendation: We recommend that in the future, plan officials implement adequate internal control procedures, such as having at least two people review the data certified, 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: City officials agreed with the finding without exception.

Auditor's Conclusion: Compliance will be evaluated during our next audit of the plan.

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
(UNAUDITED)

The supplementary information contained on Pages 18 through 29 reflects the implementation of GASB Statement No. 67, *Financial Reporting for Pension Plans*. The objective of this statement is to improve financial reporting by state and local governmental pension plans.

SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE NET PENSION  
LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS  
POLICE PENSION PLAN  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014, 2015, AND 2016

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
Total Pension Liability			
Service cost	\$ 753,083	\$ 808,386	\$ 848,805
Interest	2,506,321	2,645,645	2,743,288
Difference between expected and actual experience	-	656,187	-
Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions	<u>(2,085,465)</u>	<u>(2,141,028)</u>	<u>(2,244,052)</u>
Net Change in Total Pension Liability	1,173,939	1,969,190	1,348,041
Total Pension Liability – Beginning	<u>33,707,264</u>	<u>34,881,203</u>	<u>36,850,393</u>
Total Pension Liability – Ending (a)	<u><u>\$34,881,203</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 36,850,393</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 38,198,434</u></u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position			
Contributions – employer	\$ 1,703,854	\$ 2,304,171	\$ 2,246,363
Contributions – member	258,853	280,296	292,681
Net investment income	1,512,997	(495,045)	1,722,920
Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions	<u>(2,085,465)</u>	<u>(2,141,028)</u>	<u>(2,244,052)</u>
Administrative expense	(14,805)	(13,889)	(17,066)
Other	<u>1,020</u>	<u>(1,088)</u>	<u>100</u>
Net Change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position	1,376,454	(66,583)	2,000,946
Plan Fiduciary Net Position – Beginning	<u>16,889,268</u>	<u>18,265,722</u>	<u>18,199,139</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position – Ending (b)	<u><u>\$18,265,722</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 18,199,139</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 20,200,085</u></u>
Net Pension Liability – Ending (a-b)	<u><u>\$16,615,481</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 18,651,254</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 17,998,349</u></u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	52.37%	49.39%	52.88%
Estimated Covered Employee Payroll	\$ 4,648,695	\$ 4,755,170	\$ 4,758,818
Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll	357.42%	392.23%	378.21%



CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
(UNAUDITED)

SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE NET PENSION  
LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS  
POLICE PENSION PLAN  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2018

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
Total Pension Liability		
Service cost	\$ 957,879	\$ 1,005,773
Interest	2,876,380	2,984,555
Difference between expected and actual experience	(210,640)	-
Changes of assumptions	2,601,819	-
Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions	(2,354,497)	(2,373,312)
Net Change in Total Pension Liability	<u>3,870,941</u>	<u>1,617,016</u>
Total Pension Liability – Beginning	38,198,434	42,069,375
Total Pension Liability – Ending (a)	<u>\$ 42,069,375</u>	<u>\$ 43,686,391</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position		
Contributions – employer	\$ 2,510,888	\$ 2,501,073
Contributions – member	314,754	313,440
Net investment income	2,967,235	(1,674,439)
Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions	(2,354,497)	(2,373,312)
Administrative expense	(8,818)	(25,116)
Other	100	100
Net Change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position	<u>\$ 3,429,662</u>	<u>(1,258,254)</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position – Beginning	20,200,085	23,629,747
Plan Fiduciary Net Position – Ending (b)	<u>\$ 23,629,747</u>	<u>\$ 22,371,493</u>
Net Pension Liability – Ending (a-b)	<u>\$ 18,439,628</u>	<u>\$ 21,314,898</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	56.17%	51.21%
Estimated Covered Employee Payroll	\$ 4,561,549	\$ 4,837,962
Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll	404.24%	440.58%

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
 (UNAUDITED)

POLICE PENSION PLAN

Sensitivity Of The Net Pension Liability To Changes In The Discount Rate

The following presents the net pension liability of the city as of December 31, 2014, 2015 and 2016, calculated using the discount rate of 7.5%, as well as what the city's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage-point lower or 1 percentage-point higher than the current rate:

	<u>1% Decrease (6.5%)</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate (7.5%)</u>	<u>1% Increase (8.5%)</u>
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/14	\$ 20,404,389	\$ 16,615,481	\$ 12,452,236
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/15	\$ 23,602,254	\$ 18,651,254	\$ 14,910,325
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/16	\$ 23,155,592	\$ 17,998,349	\$ 14,109,353

In addition, the following presents the net pension liability of the city as of December 31, 2017 and 2018, calculated using the discount rate of 7.125%, as well as what the city's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage-point lower or 1 percentage-point higher than the current rate:

	<u>1% Decrease (6.125%)</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate (7.125%)</u>	<u>1% Increase (8.125%)</u>
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/17	\$ 23,964,995	\$ 18,439,628	\$ 13,852,998
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/18	\$ 27,054,479	\$ 21,314,898	\$ 16,536,613

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
 (UNAUDITED)

SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS

POLICE PENSION PLAN

Year Ended December 31	Actuarially Determined Contribution	Actual Contributions	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Covered- Employee Payroll*	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered- Employee Payroll
2009	\$ 500,537	\$ 500,579	\$ (42)	\$ -	-
2010	485,312	485,312	-	-	-
2011	843,933	843,934	(1)	-	-
2012	761,291	761,291	-	-	-
2013	1,684,086	1,684,086	-	-	-
2014	1,703,854	1,703,854	-	4,648,695	36.65%
2015	2,304,171	2,304,171	-	4,755,170	48.46%
2016	2,246,363	2,246,363	-	4,758,818	47.20%
2017	2,510,888	2,510,888	-	4,561,549	55.04%
2018	2,501,073	2,501,073	-	4,837,962	51.70%

\* Due to GASB Statement No. 67, *Financial Reporting for Pension Plans*, being implemented only recently, the amount of Covered-Employee Payroll was not provided for years prior to 2014.

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENT RETURNS  
 POLICE PENSION PLAN

Annual Money-Weighted Rate of Return, Net of Investment Expense:

2017	14.64%
2016	9.57%
2015	(2.72%)
2014	6.28%

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
(UNAUDITED)

SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE NET PENSION  
LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS  
FIREMEN'S PENSION PLAN  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014, 2015, AND 2016

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
Total Pension Liability			
Service cost	\$ 571,789	\$ 557,196	\$ 585,056
Interest	1,900,331	1,943,501	2,046,325
Difference between expected and actual experience	-	(696,365)	-
Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions	(1,120,697)	(1,041,050)	(1,439,980)
Net Change in Total Pension Liability	1,351,423	763,282	1,191,401
Total Pension Liability – Beginning	25,326,303	26,819,817	27,583,099
Total Pension Liability – Ending (a) *	<u>\$26,677,726</u>	<u>\$ 27,583,099</u>	<u>\$28,774,500</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position			
Contributions – employer	\$ 1,061,666	\$ 1,415,944	\$ 1,418,639
Contributions – member	201,891	215,973	206,592
Net investment income	1,483,012	(493,043)	1,849,123
Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions	(1,120,697)	(1,041,050)	(1,439,980)
Administrative expense	(14,084)	(12,604)	(17,462)
Other	920	2,758	-
Net Change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position	1,612,708	87,978	2,016,912
Plan Fiduciary Net Position – Beginning	16,291,120	18,045,919	18,133,897
Plan Fiduciary Net Position – Ending (b) *	<u>\$17,903,828</u>	<u>\$ 18,133,897</u>	<u>\$20,150,809</u>
Net Pension Liability – Ending (a-b)	<u>\$ 8,773,898</u>	<u>\$ 9,449,202</u>	<u>\$ 8,623,691</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	67.11%	65.74%	70.03%
Estimated Covered Employee Payroll	\$ 3,081,522	\$ 3,624,573	\$ 3,782,072
Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll	284.73%	260.70%	228.01%

\* The 2014 Total Pension Liability - Ending (a) and Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Ending (b) does not reflect the Firemen's Deferred Retirement Option Plan amount of \$142,091 as of December 31, 2014.

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
(UNAUDITED)

SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE NET PENSION  
LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS  
FIREMEN'S PENSION PLAN  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2018

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
Total Pension Liability		
Service cost	\$ 617,257	\$ 648,120
Interest	2,165,996	2,213,895
Difference between expected and actual experience	(324,978)	-
Changes of assumptions	1,824,790	-
Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions	(1,127,855)	(1,218,171)
Net Change in Total Pension Liability	<u>3,155,210</u>	<u>1,643,844</u>
Total Pension Liability – Beginning	28,774,500	31,929,710
Total Pension Liability – Ending (a)	<u>\$ 31,929,710</u>	<u>\$ 33,573,554</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position		
Contributions – employer	\$ 1,508,983	\$ 1,522,361
Contributions – member	221,637	203,408
Net investment income	2,954,972	(1,682,480)
Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions	(1,127,855)	(1,218,171)
Administrative expense	(16,034)	(29,935)
Net Change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position	<u>3,541,703</u>	<u>(1,204,817)</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position – Beginning	20,150,809	23,692,512
Plan Fiduciary Net Position – Ending (b)	<u>\$ 23,692,512</u>	<u>\$ 22,487,695</u>
Net Pension Liability – Ending (a-b)	<u>\$ 8,237,198</u>	<u>\$ 11,085,859</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	74.20%	66.98%
Estimated Covered Employee Payroll	\$ 2,918,361	\$ 2,841,066
Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll	282.25%	390.20%

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
 (UNAUDITED)

FIREMEN’S PENSION PLAN

Sensitivity Of The Net Pension Liability To Changes In The Discount Rate

The following presents the net pension liability of the city as of December 31, 2014, 2015 and 2016, calculated using the discount rate of 7.5%, as well as what the city’s net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage-point lower or 1 percentage-point higher than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (6.5%)	Current Discount Rate (7.5%)	1% Increase (8.5%)
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/14	\$ 11,852,327	\$ 8,773,898	\$ 6,166,213
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/15	\$ 12,585,231	\$ 9,449,202	\$ 6,790,352
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/16	\$ 11,870,411	\$ 8,623,691	\$ 5,897,912

In addition, the following presents the net pension liability of the city as of December 31, 2017 and 2018, calculated using the discount rate of 7.125%, as well as what the city’s net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage-point lower or 1 percentage-point higher than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (6.125%)	Current Discount Rate (7.125%)	1% Increase (8.125%)
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/17	\$ 11,897,782	\$ 8,237,198	\$ 5,145,947
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/18	\$ 14,853,388	\$ 11,085,859	\$ 7,926,453

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
 (UNAUDITED)

SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS

FIREMEN'S PENSION PLAN

Year Ended December 31	Actual Determined Contribution	Actual Contributions	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Covered- Employee Payroll*	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered- Employee Payroll
2009	\$ 405,504	\$ 405,504	\$ -	\$ -	-
2010	434,626	434,626	-	-	-
2011	434,219	434,219	-	-	-
2012	441,521	441,521	-	-	-
2013	1,073,905	1,073,905	-	-	-
2014	1,061,666	1,061,666	-	3,081,522	34.45%
2015	1,415,944	1,415,944	-	3,624,573	39.07%
2016	1,418,639	1,418,639	-	3,782,072	37.51%
2017	1,508,983	1,508,983	-	2,918,361	51.71%
2018	1,522,361	1,522,361	-	2,841,066	53.58%

\* Due to GASB Statement No. 67, *Financial Reporting for Pension Plans*, being implemented only recently, the amount of Covered-Employee Payroll was not provided for years prior to 2014.

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENT RETURNS

FIREMEN'S PENSION PLAN

Annual Money-Weighted Rate of Return, Net of Investment Expense:

2017	14.64%
2016	9.57%
2015	(2.72%)
2014	6.28%

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
(UNAUDITED)

SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE NET PENSION  
LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS  
OFFICERS' AND EMPLOYEES' PENSION PLAN  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014, 2015, AND 2016

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
Total Pension Liability			
Service cost	\$ 17,966	\$ 13,710	\$ 14,396
Interest	713,728	685,520	656,144
Difference between expected and actual experience	-	(10,039)	-
Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions	<u>(1,081,524)</u>	<u>(1,105,482)</u>	<u>(1,077,707)</u>
Net Change in Total Pension Liability	(349,830)	(416,291)	(407,167)
Total Pension Liability – Beginning	<u>10,039,171</u>	<u>9,689,341</u>	<u>9,273,050</u>
 Total Pension Liability – Ending (a)	 <u>\$ 9,689,341</u>	 <u>\$ 9,273,050</u>	 <u>\$ 8,865,883</u>
 Plan Fiduciary Net Position			
Contributions – employer	\$ 524,433	\$ 804,861	\$ 782,506
Contributions – member	20,384	12,996	7,288
Net investment income	411,644	(123,831)	396,395
Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions	(1,081,524)	(1,105,482)	(1,077,707)
Administrative expense	(10,590)	(11,783)	(13,676)
Other	920	6,704	-
Net Change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position	<u>(134,733)</u>	<u>(416,535)</u>	<u>94,806</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position – Beginning	<u>5,103,621</u>	<u>4,968,888</u>	<u>4,552,353</u>
 Plan Fiduciary Net Position – Ending (b)	 <u>\$ 4,968,888</u>	 <u>\$ 4,552,353</u>	 <u>\$ 4,647,159</u>
 Net Pension Liability – Ending (a-b)	 <u>\$ 4,720,453</u>	 <u>\$ 4,720,697</u>	 <u>\$ 4,218,724</u>
 Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	 51.28%	 49.09%	 52.42%
Estimated Covered Employee Payroll	\$ 242,604	\$ 180,815	\$ 143,982
Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll	1,945.74%	2,610.79%	2,930.04%



CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
(UNAUDITED)

SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE NET PENSION  
LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS  
OFFICERS' AND EMPLOYEES' PENSION PLAN  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2018

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
Total Pension Liability		
Service cost	\$ 6,482	\$ 6,806
Interest	612,746	588,652
Difference between expected and actual experience	(382,462)	-
Changes in benefit assumptions	603,328	-
Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions	(986,572)	(928,861)
Net Change in Total Pension Liability	<u>(146,478)</u>	<u>(333,403)</u>
Total Pension Liability – Beginning	8,865,883	8,719,405
Total Pension Liability – Ending (a)	<u>\$ 8,719,405</u>	<u>\$ 8,386,002</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position		
Contributions – employer	\$ 827,782	\$ 828,255
Contributions – member	7,007	7,950
Net investment income	645,050	(349,737)
Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions	(986,572)	(928,861)
Administrative expense	(6,503)	(18,866)
Net Change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position	<u>486,764</u>	<u>(461,259)</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position – Beginning	4,647,159	5,133,923
Plan Fiduciary Net Position – Ending (b)	<u>\$ 5,133,923</u>	<u>\$ 4,672,664</u>
Net Pension Liability – Ending (a-b)	<u>\$ 3,585,482</u>	<u>\$ 3,713,338</u>
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	58.88%	55.72%
Estimated Covered Employee Payroll	\$ 117,832	\$ 75,486
Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll	3,042.88%	4,919.24%

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
 (UNAUDITED)

OFFICERS' AND EMPLOYEES' PENSION PLAN

Sensitivity Of The Net Pension Liability To Changes In The Discount Rate

The following presents the net pension liability of the city as of December 31, 2014, 2015 and 2016, calculated using the discount rate of 7.5%, as well as what the city's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage-point lower or 1 percentage-point higher than the current rate:

	<u>1% Decrease (6.5%)</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate (7.5%)</u>	<u>1% Increase (8.5%)</u>
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/14	\$ 5,369,517	\$ 4,720,453	\$ 4,144,186
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/15	\$ 5,334,869	\$ 4,720,697	\$ 4,174,491
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/16	\$ 4,790,071	\$ 4,218,724	\$ 3,710,214

In addition, the following presents the net pension liability of the city as of December 31, 2017 and 2018, calculated using the discount rate of 7.125%, as well as what the city's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage-point lower or 1 percentage-point higher than the current rate:

	<u>1% Decrease (6.125%)</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate (7.125%)</u>	<u>1% Increase (8.125%)</u>
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/17	\$ 4,179,899	\$ 3,585,482	\$ 3,059,161
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/18	\$ 4,264,596	\$ 3,713,338	\$ 3,224,656

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
 (UNAUDITED)

SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Year Ended December 31	Actuarially Determined Contribution	Actual Contributions	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Covered- Employee Payroll*	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered- Employee Payroll
2009	\$ 54,537	\$ 54,537	-	\$ -	-
2010	43,788	43,788	-	-	-
2011	164,399	164,399	-	-	-
2012	157,440	157,440	-	-	-
2013	516,830	516,830	-	-	-
2014	524,433	524,433	-	242,604	216.17%
2015	804,861	804,861	-	180,815	445.13%
2016	782,506	782,506	-	143,982	543.47%
2017	827,782	827,782	-	117,832	702.51%
2018	828,255	828,255	-	75,486	1,097.23%

\* Due to GASB Statement No. 67, *Financial Reporting for Pension Plans*, being implemented only recently, the amount of Covered-Employee Payroll was not provided for years prior to 2014.

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENT RETURNS  
 OFFICERS' AND EMPLOYEES' PENSION PLAN

Annual Money-Weighted Rate of Return, Net of Investment Expense:

2017	14.64%
2016	9.57%
2015	(2.72%)
2014	6.28%

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
 (UNAUDITED)

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. The historical information, beginning as of January 1, 2013, is as follows:

POLICE PENSION PLAN

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
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)
01-01-13	\$ 17,016,919	\$ 32,634,045	\$ 15,617,126	52.1%
01-01-15	18,779,544	35,537,390	16,757,846	52.8%
01-01-17	21,864,956	40,589,613	18,724,657	53.9%

Note: The market values of the plan’s assets at 01-01-13, 01-01-15, and 01-01-17 have been adjusted to reflect the smoothing of gains and/or losses subject to a corridor between 90 to 110 percent of the market value of assets. These methods 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.

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
 (UNAUDITED)

SCHEDULES OF FUNDING PROGRESS – (Continued)

FIREMEN’S PENSION PLAN

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
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)
01-01-13	\$ 16,029,344	\$ 24,115,633	\$ 8,086,289	66.5%
01-01-15	18,229,363	26,123,452	7,894,089	69.8%
01-01-17	21,575,242	30,274,312	8,699,070	71.3%

Note: The market values of the plan’s assets at 01-01-13, 01-01-15, and 01-01-17 have been adjusted to reflect the smoothing of gains and/or losses subject to a corridor between 90 to 110 percent of the market value of assets. These methods 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.

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
 (UNAUDITED)

SCHEDULES OF FUNDING PROGRESS – (Continued)

OFFICERS’ AND EMPLOYEES’ PENSION PLAN

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
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)
01-01-13	\$ 5,868,994	\$ 10,414,324	\$ 4,545,330	56.4%
01-01-15	5,370,446	9,679,302	4,308,856	55.5%
01-01-17	5,111,875	9,086,749	3,974,874	56.3%

Note: The market values of the plan’s assets at 01-01-13, 01-01-15, and 01-01-17 have been adjusted to reflect the smoothing of gains and/or losses subject to a corridor between 90 to 110 percent of the market value of assets. These methods 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.

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
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.

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
NOTES TO SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULES  
(UNAUDITED)

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

POLICE PENSION PLAN

Actuarial valuation date	January 1, 2017
Actuarial cost method	Entry age normal
Amortization method	Level dollar
Remaining amortization period	13 years
Asset valuation method	Plan assets are valued using the method described in Section 210 of Act 205, as amended, subject to a corridor between 90-110% of the market value of assets.
Actuarial assumptions:	
Investment rate of return	7.125%
Projected salary increases	5.0%



CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
NOTES TO SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULES  
(UNAUDITED)

FIREMEN'S PENSION PLAN

Actuarial valuation date	January 1, 2017
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 of Act 205, as amended, subject to a corridor between 90-110% of the market value of assets.
Actuarial assumptions:	
Investment rate of return	7.125%
Projected salary increases	5.0%

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
NOTES TO SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULES  
(UNAUDITED)

OFFICERS' AND EMPLOYEES' PENSION PLAN

Actuarial valuation date	January 1, 2017
Actuarial cost method	Entry age normal
Amortization method	Level dollar
Remaining amortization period	15 years
Asset valuation method	Plan assets are valued using the method described in Section 210 of Act 205, as amended, subject to a corridor between 90-110% of the market value of assets.
Actuarial assumptions:	
Investment rate of return	7.125%
Projected salary increases	5.0%

CITY OF EASTON AGGREGATED PENSION TRUST FUND  
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