# **COMPLIANCE AUDIT**

# Lititz Borough Police Pension Plan

Lancaster County, Pennsylvania For the Period January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2018

July 2019



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General

Eugene A. DePasquale • Auditor General





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EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE AUDITOR GENERAL

The Honorable Mayor and Borough Council Lititz Borough Lancaster County Lititz, PA 17543

We have conducted a compliance audit of the Lititz Borough Police Pension Plan for the period January 1, 2015 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 the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our conclusions based on our audit objective. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our 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. To determine whether the pension plan 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 plan's governing document and applicable laws and regulations by examining the municipality's calculation of the plan's annual financial requirements and minimum municipal obligation (MMO) and comparing these calculated amounts to amounts actually budgeted and deposited into the pension plan as evidenced by supporting documentation.

- We determined whether annual employee contributions were calculated, deducted, and deposited into the pension plan in accordance with the plan's governing document and applicable laws and regulations by testing total members' contributions on an annual basis using the rates obtained from the plan's governing document in effect for all years within the period under audit and examining documents evidencing the deposit of these employee contributions into the pension plan.
- We determined whether retirement benefits calculated for all 4 of the plan members who retired during the current audit period represent payments to all (and only) those entitled to receive them and were properly determined and disbursed in accordance with the plan's governing document, 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, 2013, January 1, 2015, and January 1, 2017 actuarial valuation reports were prepared and submitted by March 31, 2014, 2016, and 2018, respectively, 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.

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

Borough officials are responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that the Lititz Borough 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 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 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 objective.

The results of our procedures indicated that, in all significant respects, the Lititz Borough Police Pension Plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies.

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.

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

June 26, 2019

EUGENE A. DEPASQUALE

Eugent: O-Pager

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 Lititz Borough Police Pension Plan 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 600 - Police Pension Fund Act, Act of May 29, 1956 (P.L. 1804, No. 600), as amended, 53 P.S. § 767 et seq.

The Lititz Borough Police Pension Plan is a single-employer defined benefit pension plan locally controlled by the provisions of Ordinance No. C-495, as amended, adopted pursuant to Act 600. The plan is also affected by the provisions of collective bargaining agreements between the borough and its police officers. The plan was established August 17, 1961. Active members are required to contribute 5 percent of compensation to the plan. As of December 31, 2018, the plan had 13 active members, 1 terminated member eligible for vested benefits in the future, and 13 retirees receiving pension benefits from the plan.

# **BACKGROUND** – (Continued)

As of December 31, 2018, selected plan benefit provisions are as follows:

#### **Eligibility Requirements:**

Normal Retirement Age 50 and 25 years of service

Early Retirement None

Vesting 100% vesting available after 12 years of service

#### Retirement Benefit:

Benefit equals 50% of average monthly compensation based on last 36 months.

#### Survivor Benefit:

If member is retired or eligible for retirement, the benefit is 50% of pension.

# Service-Related Disability Benefit:

The monthly disability pension is equal to 50% of the member's monthly salary at the time of disability.

The supplementary information contained on Pages 3 through 6 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 FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014, 2015, AND 2016

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
Total Pension Liability			
Service cost	\$ 150,870	\$ 160,307	\$ 168,322
Interest	408,983	413,159	442,977
Difference between expected and actual experience	-	(380,461)	-
Benefit payments, including refunds of member			
contributions	(131,398)	(126,928)	(184,093)
Net Change in Total Pension Liability	428,455	66,077	427,206
Total Pension Liability – Beginning	5,757,437	6,185,892	6,251,969
Total Pension Liability – Ending (a)	\$ 6,185,892	\$ 6,251,969	\$ 6,679,175
Plan Fiduciary Net Position			
Contributions – state aid	\$ 151,035	\$ 156,833	\$ 174,986
Contributions – employer	64,309	78,694	11,209
Contributions – member	51,203	52,200	56,831
Net investment income appreciation (depreciation)	300,455	(142,070)	318,887
Benefit payments, including refunds of member	•	, ,	•
contributions	(131,398)	(126,928)	(184,093)
Administrative expense	(2,000)	(4,700)	(2,900)
Net Change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position	433,604	14,029	374,920
Plan Fiduciary Net Position – Beginning	4,897,193	5,330,797	5,344,826
Plan Fiduciary Net Position – Ending (b)	\$ 5,330,797	\$ 5,344,826	\$ 5,719,746
Net Pension Liability – Ending (a-b)	\$ 855,095	\$ 907,143	\$ 959,429
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total			
Pension Liability	86.2%	85.5%	85.6%
Estimated Covered Employee Payroll	\$ 1,012,432	\$ 1,015,090	\$ 1,100,061
Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll	84.5%	89.4%	87.2%

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

		<u>2017</u>		<u>2018</u>
Total Pension Liability				
Service cost	\$	195,308	\$	205,074
Interest		477,776		509,397
Difference between expected and actual experience		(181,807)		-
Changes of assumptions		237,604		-
Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions		(209,808)		(252,431)
Net Change in Total Pension Liability		519,073		462,040
Total Pension Liability – Beginning		6,679,175		7,198,248
Total Pension Liability – Ending (a)	\$	7,198,248	\$	7,660,288
Plan Fiduciary Net Position				
Contributions – state aid	\$	188,118	\$	193,726
Contributions – employer	Ψ	11,345	Ψ	-
Contributions – member		57,842		80,285
Net investment income and appreciation (depreciation)		845,716		(344,545)
Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions		(209,808)		(252,431)
Administrative expense		(20),000)		(9,700)
Net Change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position		893,213		(332,665)
Plan Fiduciary Net Position – Beginning		5,719,746		6,612,959
Plan Fiduciary Net Position – Ending (b)	\$	6,612,959	\$	6,280,294
Trail Fiduciary Net Fosition – Ending (b)	Ψ	0,012,939	Ψ	0,280,294
Net Pension Liability – Ending (a-b)	\$	585,289	\$	1,379,994
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension				
Liability		91.9%		82.0%
Estimated Covered Employee Payroll	\$	1,157,263	\$	1,193,213
Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll		50.6%		115.7%

#### Sensitivity of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the net pension liability of the borough as of December 31, 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018, calculated using the discount rate of 7.0%, as well as what the borough'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	Current Decrease Discount Rate 1% Increase		
	(6.0%)	(7.0%)	(8.0%)	
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/15	\$ 1,722,192	\$ 907,143	\$ 221,627	
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/16	1,809,911	959,429	245,950	
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/17	1,533,118	585,289	(206,380)	
Net Pension Liability – 12/31/18	2,373,264	1,379,994	550,413	

#### SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Year Ended December 31	De	ctuarially etermined ntribution	Actual ntributions	De	ntribution eficiency Excess)	Covered- Employee Payroll*	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll*
2009	\$	205,646	\$ 205,646	\$	-	\$ 844,359	24.4%
2010		213,742	213,742		-		
2011		184,374	184,374		-	914,045	20.2%
2012		184,599	198,041		(13,442)		
2013		195,329	195,329		-	913,769	21.4%
2014		200,344	215,344		(15,000)	1,012,432	21.3%
2015		210,527	235,527		(25,000)	1,015,090	23.2%
2016		186,195	186,195		-	1,100,061	16.9%
2017		199,463	199,463		-	1,157,263	17.2%
2018		193,726	193,726		-	1,193,213	16.2%

<sup>\*</sup> 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 even years prior to 2013.

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

2018	(1.5%)
2017	19.2%
2016	6.7%
2015	(2.0%)
2014	6.8%
2013	7.6%
2012	5.0%

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

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
			Unfunded	
		Actuarial	(Assets in	
		Accrued	Excess of)	
	Actuarial	Liability	Actuarial	
Actuarial	Value of	(AAL) -	Accrued	Funded
Valuation	Assets	Entry Age	Liability	Ratio
Date	(a)	(b)	(b) - (a)	(a)/(b)
01-01-13	\$ 4,596,186	\$ 5,369,304	\$ 773,118	85.6%
01-01-15	5,376,039	5,805,431	429,392	92.6%
01-01-17	6,030,116	6,734,971	704,855	89.5%

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 over a 5-year averaging period which will be limited to a maximum of 120 percent and a minimum of 80 percent of the fair market value of assets. 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.

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.

#### LITITZ BOROUGH POLICE PENSION PLAN 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:

Actuarial valuation date January 1, 2017

Actuarial cost method Entry age normal

Amortization method Level dollar

Remaining amortization period 19 years

Asset valuation method 5-year smoothing, the actuarial value of

assets will be limited to a maximum of 120% and a minimum of 80% of the fair

market value of assets.

Actuarial assumptions:

Investment rate of return 7.0%

Projected salary increases 5.0%

Cost-of-living adjustments Equal to increase in CPI for preceding

calendar year is made to retirees with a maximum total increase of 30%. Maximum pension benefit is 75% of salary used to compute retirement

benefits.

#### LITITZ BOROUGH POLICE PENSION PLAN REPORT DISTRIBUTION LIST

This report was initially distributed to the following:

The Honorable Tom W. Wolf

Governor Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

The Honorable Timothy R. Snyder Mayor

> Mr. Shane Weaver Council President

Mr. Scott Hain
Council Vice-President

Mr. J. Andrew Greiner Council Member

> Ms. Stephanie Lee Council Member

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> Mr. John Bear Council Member

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