



ARMSTRONG 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

Board of Township Supervisors Gilpin Township Armstrong County Leechburg, PA 15656

We have conducted a compliance audit of the Gilpin Township 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 our audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our conclusions based on our audit objectives.

The objectives of the audit were:

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

Our audit was limited to the areas related to the objectives identified above. 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 provisions of the union pension plan agreement are in accordance with the plan's governing document and the collective bargaining agreement and that payments made to the multi-employer union pension plan are made in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement.

The township's non-uniformed union employees participate in the Western Pennsylvania Teamsters and Employers Pension Fund, a Taft-Hartley Act collectively bargained, jointly trusteed, multi-employer pension plan, which is governed primarily by the Federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ERISA provides for substantial federal government oversight of the operating and reporting practices of employee benefit plans subject to its provisions. Accordingly, the scope of our audit was restricted to the activities of the Gilpin Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan and did not extend to the activities of the multi-employer pension plan.

Township officials are responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that the Gilpin Township 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 township's internal controls as they relate to the township's compliance with those requirements and that we considered to be significant within the context of our audit objectives, and assessed whether those significant controls were properly designed and implemented. Additionally, we tested transactions, assessed official actions, performed analytical procedures and interviewed selected officials to 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 tests indicated that, in all significant respects, the Gilpin Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies.

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

Eugn f. O-Pager

August 15, 2013

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 <u>et seq</u>.). 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 Gilpin Township 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.

As further described in the Letter from the Auditor General included in this report, the township's non-uniformed union employees participate in the Western Pennsylvania Teamsters and Employers Pension Fund. The Gilpin Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan is locally controlled by the provisions of an agreement between Gilpin Township and General Teamsters, Local Union No. 538. Active members are not required to contribute to the plan. For each road crew employee the municipality is required to contribute at the following rates per week:

New hires to five years employment - \$45.00 Six years of employment - \$75.00 Seven to eight years of employment - \$80.00 Nine to ten years of employment - \$85.00 After ten years of employment - \$150.00

The municipality is also required to make contributions for the township's part-time secretary/treasurer. During the current audit period, the township contributed \$4,852 in 2010, \$4,902 in 2011, and \$4,952 in 2012 for the secretary/treasurer.

As of December 31, 2012, the plan had 3 active members and no retirees currently receiving pension benefits.

GILPIN TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN STATUS OF PRIOR FINDING

Compliance With Prior Audit Recommendation

Gilpin Township has complied with the prior audit recommendation concerning the following:

· Allocation Of State Aid In Excess Of Entitlement

Municipal officials re-allocated \$2,346 of excess state aid, plus interest of \$449, to the township's police pension plan.

GILPIN TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN SUMMARY OF DEPOSITED STATE AID AND EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS

Year Ended December 31	State Aid	Employer Contributions
2007	\$ 4,680	\$ 4,702
2008	7,410	4,842
2009	1,491	11,818
2010	1,490	11,682
2011	8,780	4,902
2012	316	19,391

GILPIN TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN REPORT DISTRIBUTION LIST

This report was initially distributed to the following:

The Honorable Tom Corbett Governor Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Gilpin Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan Armstrong County 589 State Route 66 Leechburg, PA 15656

Ms. Janice Remaley	Chairwoman, Board of Township Supervisors
Ms. Sharon Long	Secretary/Treasurer

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at <u>www.auditorgen.state.pa.us</u>. 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.