

LETTERKENNY TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN

FRANKLIN 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 Letterkenny Township Franklin County Orrstown, PA 17244

We have conducted a compliance audit of the Letterkenny 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 finding and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our finding and conclusions based on our audit objectives.

The objectives of the audit were:

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

Our audit was limited to the areas related to the objectives identified above. Our methodology addressed determinations about the following:

- Whether state aid was properly determined and deposited in accordance with Act 205 requirements.
- Whether employer contributions are determined and deposited in accordance with the plan's governing document and applicable laws and regulations.
- Whether employee contributions are required and, if so, are determined, deducted and deposited into the pension plan and are in accordance with the plan provisions and applicable laws and regulations.

- Whether benefit payments, if any, represent payments to all (and only) those entitled to receive them and are properly determined in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.
- Whether obligations for plan benefits are accurately determined in accordance with plan provisions and based on complete and accurate participant data; and whether actuarial valuation reports are prepared and submitted to the Public Employee Retirement Commission (PERC) in accordance with state law and selected information provided on these reports is accurate, complete and in accordance with plan provisions to ensure compliance for participation in the state aid program.
- Whether the terms of the allocated insurance contracts, including ownership and any restrictions, are in compliance with plan provisions, investment policies and state regulations.

The township has elected to purchase allocated insurance contracts to fund the pension benefits for plan members. Under an allocated funding arrangement, the insurer receives and retains consideration in exchange for a legally enforceable obligation to pay future benefits. In accordance with Statement No. 25 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, allocated insurance contracts are excluded from the pension plan's assets. Consequently, the plan has no reportable assets.

Township officials are responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that the Letterkenny 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 Letterkenny Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies, except as noted in the following finding further discussed later in this report:

Finding – Incorrect Data On Certification Form AG 385 Resulting In An Overpayment Of State Aid

The 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 Letterkenny Township and, where appropriate, their responses have been included in the report.

July 29, 2013

Eugent: O-Pager

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 Letterkenny 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 including, but not limited to, the following:

Act 69 - The Second Class Township Code, Act of May 1, 1933 (P.L. 103, No. 69), as reenacted and amended, 53 P.S. § 65101 et seq.

The Letterkenny Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan is a single-employer defined contribution pension plan locally controlled by the provisions of Resolution No. 10-6. Active members are not required to contribute to the plan. The municipality is required to contribute 10 percent of each member's compensation.

LETTERKENNY TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN STATUS OF PRIOR FINDING

Compliance With Prior Audit Recommendation

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

· <u>Receipt Of State Aid In Excess Of Entitlement</u>

The township reimbursed \$762 to the Commonwealth for the overpayment of state aid.

LETTERKENNY TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION

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

<u>Condition</u>: The township certified 2 ineligible non-uniformed employees (2 units) and overstated payroll by \$30,053, certified 2 ineligible non-uniformed employees (2 units) and overstated payroll by \$31,430 and certified 3 ineligible non-uniformed employees (3 units) and overstated payroll by \$47,027 on the Certification Forms AG 385 filed in 2010, 2011, and 2012, respectively. The data contained on these certification forms is based on prior calendar year information. The ineligible employees certified by the township did not work enough hours during the respective calendar years to be considered full-time employees.

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

<u>Cause</u>: Township officials misunderstood the requirements for certifying an employee. The township's requirement to become a member of the pension plan is for the employee to work 910 hours per calendar year; therefore, the township considered the employees eligible to be certified. The 910 hours was arrived at by the requirement on the Certification Form AG 385 stating that an employee must work 35 hours per week for 6 consecutive months (35 hours x 26 weeks = 910 hours). Township officials interpreted that to mean an employee had to work 910 hours per year to be eligible to be a member of the pension plan and to be eligible for certification.

<u>Effect</u>: The data submitted on these certification forms is used, in part, to calculate the state aid due to the municipality for distribution to its pension plan.

The township's state aid allocation for 2010 was based on the plan's pension costs in the amount of \$6,542. However, based on the corrected information, the township was only entitled to an allocation of \$3,235 (1 unit at \$3,235 each). Therefore, the township received a \$3,307 overpayment of state aid in 2010.

LETTERKENNY TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION

Finding – (Continued)

Because the township's state aid allocations for 2011 and 2012 were based on pension costs, the incorrect certification of pension data affected the township's state aid allocations, as identified below:

Year	Normal Cost	Payroll verstated	ate Aid rpayment
2011	10.0%	\$ 31,430	\$ 3,143
2012	10.0%	\$ 47,027	 4,703
		Total	\$ 7,846

Therefore, as a result of the certification errors, the township received a total overpayment of state aid during the current audit period in the amount of \$11,153.

<u>Recommendation</u>: We recommend that the total overpayment of state aid, in the amount of \$11,153, be returned to the Commonwealth from the township's general fund. A check in this amount, with interest compounded annually from date of receipt to date of repayment, at a rate earned by the pension plan, should be made payable to: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and mailed to: Department of the Auditor General, Municipal Pension & Fire Relief Programs Unit, 11 Stanwix Street, Suite 1450, Pittsburgh, PA 15222. A copy of the interest calculation must be submitted along with the check.

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

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

LETTERKENNY TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN POTENTIAL WITHHOLD OF STATE AID

The finding contained in this audit report cites an overpayment of state aid to the township in the amount of \$11,153. A condition of this nature may lead to a total withholding of state aid in the future unless the finding is corrected. A check in this amount with interest, at a rate earned by the pension plan, should be made payable to: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and mailed to: Department of the Auditor General, Municipal Pension & Fire Relief Programs Unit, 11 Stanwix Street, Suite 1450, Pittsburgh, PA 15222.

LETTERKENNY TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (UNAUDITED)

SCHEDULE OF STATE AID AND EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS

Year Ended December 31	State Aid Deposited	Employer Contributions
2007	\$ 4,925	\$ 218
2008	5,143	2,305
2009	7,448	None
2010	6,542	30
2011	6,528	2,058
2012	7,578	None

LETTERKENNY TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN REPORT DISTRIBUTION LIST

This report was initially distributed to the following:

The Honorable Tom Corbett Governor Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Letterkenny Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan Franklin County 4924 Orrstown Road Orrstown, PA 17244

Mr. Charles Myers	Chairman, Board of Township Supervisors
Ms. Melissa Kibbe	Chief Administrative Officer

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.