

COMPLIANCE AUDIT

Newville Borough Police Pension Plan Cumberland County, Pennsylvania For the Period January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024

April 2026



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of the Auditor General

Timothy L. DeFoor • Auditor General



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**TIMOTHY L. DEFOOR
AUDITOR GENERAL**

The Honorable Mayor and Borough Council
Newville Borough
Cumberland County
Newville, PA 17241

We have conducted a compliance audit of the Newville Borough Police Pension Plan for the period January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024. We also evaluated compliance with some requirements subsequent to that period when possible. The audit was conducted pursuant to authority derived from the Municipal Pension Plan Funding Standard and Recovery Act (Act 205 of 1984, as amended, 53 P.S. § 895.402(j)), which requires the Auditor General, as deemed necessary, to audit every municipality which receives general municipal pension system state aid and every municipal pension plan and fund in which general municipal pension system state aid is deposited. The audit was not conducted, nor was it required to be, in accordance with Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. We planned and performed the 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 findings contained in our prior 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. To determine if municipal officials took appropriate corrective action to address the findings contained in our prior 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 plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies, our methodology included the following:

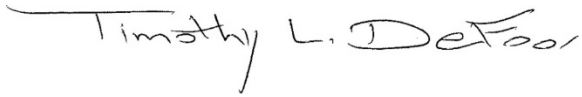
- We determined whether state aid was properly determined and deposited in accordance with Act 205 requirements by verifying the annual deposit date of state aid and determining whether deposits were made within 30 days of receipt for all years within the period under audit.
- We determined whether annual 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 that there were no employee contributions required for the years covered by our audit period due to the fact that employee contributions were appropriately waived by the municipality.
- We determined that there were no benefit calculations prepared for the years covered by our audit period.
- We determined whether the January 1, 2023 and January 1, 2025 actuarial valuation reports were prepared and submitted by March 31, 2024 and 2026, 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.

Borough officials are responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that the Newville Borough Police Pension Plan is administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies. As previously described, we tested transactions, interviewed selected officials, and performed procedures to the extent necessary 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 Newville 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 Newville 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy L. DeFoor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the left of the first letter.

Timothy L. DeFoor
Auditor General
March 25, 2026

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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.

Annual state aid allocations are provided from a two 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 Newville Borough Police Pension Plan is also governed by implementing regulations 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 Newville Borough Police Pension Plan is a single-employer defined benefit pension plan locally controlled by the provisions of Ordinance No. 2019-02 and a separately executed plan agreement with the plan's custodian, 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 October 1, 1976. Active members are required to contribute 2.75 percent of the participant's compensation to the plan; however, member contributions were waived during the current audit period. As of December 31, 2024, the plan had two active members, no terminated members eligible for vested benefits in the future, and one retiree receiving pension benefits from the plan.

NEWVILLE BOROUGH POLICE PENSION PLAN
STATUS OF PRIOR FINDINGS

Compliance With Prior Recommendations

Newville Borough has complied with the prior recommendations concerning the following:

· Failure To Deposit State Aid Into An Eligible Pension Plan

On November 30, 2025, the borough deposited the outstanding 2012 state aid allocation of \$25,286, plus interest, into the police pension plan.

· Failure To Pay The Minimum Municipal Obligation Of The Plan

The borough paid the outstanding MMOs due to the police pension plan for the years 2012 and 2016 through 2022, totaling \$256,153, plus interest in accordance with Section 302(e) of Act 205. In addition, on October 21, 2025, the borough paid the interest due to the police pension plan for the untimely payment of the 2013, 2014, and 2015 MMOs in accordance with Section 302(e) of Act 205, along with residual interest related to the 2010 and 2011 MMOs.

NEWVILLE BOROUGH POLICE PENSION PLAN
STATUS OF ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

An Order to Show Cause (OTSC) was issued to the borough on July 15, 2013 by this department as a result of the borough's noncompliance with the finding recommendations contained in the police and non-uniformed pension plan audit reports for the period January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2011, resulting in the withholding of the borough's annual state aid allocations. The borough's partial compliance with those and subsequent audit recommendations was reported in subsequent audit reports and as a result, certain years' state aid allocations were released to the borough while the OTSC remained in effect. As of the date of this audit report, the borough has demonstrated full compliance with all outstanding audit recommendations, and the OTSC was withdrawn on March 24, 2026. All remaining years of withheld state aid will be released to the borough.

NEWVILLE BOROUGH POLICE PENSION PLAN
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
 (UNAUDITED)

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, 2021, is as follows:

	(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)
01-01-21	\$ 630,990	\$ 652,105	\$ 21,115	96.8%
01-01-23	673,793	723,189	49,396	93.2%
01-01-25	828,525	583,601	(244,924)	142.0%

NEWVILLE BOROUGH POLICE PENSION PLAN
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.

NEWVILLE BOROUGH POLICE PENSION PLAN
 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
 (UNAUDITED)

SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS

<u>Year Ended December 31</u>	<u>Actuarially Determined Contribution</u>	<u>Actual Contributions</u>	<u>Contribution Deficiency (Excess)</u>	<u>Covered- Employee Payroll</u>	<u>Contributions as a Percentage of Covered- Employee Payroll</u>
2015	\$ 34,801	\$ -	\$ 34,801	\$ 163,506	N/A
2016	26,380	-	26,380	150,202	N/A
2017	27,008	-	27,008	155,980	N/A
2018	25,621	-	25,621	111,150	N/A
2019	24,173	-	24,173	100,000	N/A
2020	33,967	-	33,967	189,192	N/A
2021	44,384	-	44,384	268,588	N/A
2022	50,722	50,722	-	274,228	18.50%
2023	54,947	54,947	-	301,842	18.20%
2024	49,937	49,937	-	257,818	19.37%

N/A – Not applicable

Note: As of December 31, 2024, the unpaid aggregate MMO balance due with interest originating from the years 2010 through 2021 was \$407,213.

NEWVILLE 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, 2025
Actuarial cost method	Entry age normal
Amortization method	Not applicable
Remaining amortization period	None
Asset valuation method	Fair value
Actuarial assumptions:	
Investment rate of return	6.5%
Projected salary increases	5.0%
Cost-of-living adjustments	3.0%

NEWVILLE BOROUGH POLICE PENSION PLAN
REPORT DISTRIBUTION LIST

This report was initially distributed to the following:

The Honorable Joshua D. Shapiro
Governor
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

The Honorable Dr. Becky L. Barrick
Mayor

Mr. Robert Sharpe Over
Council President

Ms. Vicki Witter
Council Vice-President

Ms. Katherine Baker
Council Member

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Council Member

Mr. Joseph Kindon
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Mr. Edward Sinkovitz
Council Member

Mr. Robert Sabatini
Borough Manager

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