## **COMPLIANCE AUDIT**

# Porter Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan

Lycoming County, Pennsylvania

July 2025





Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of the Auditor General
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TIMOTHY L. DEFOOR AUDITOR GENERAL

Board of Township Supervisors Porter Township Lycoming County Jersey Shore, PA 17740

We have conducted a compliance audit of the Porter Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan 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 finding 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 finding 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:

- · For the period January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024, 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 the period January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024, 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.
- · For the period January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024, we determined that there were no employee contributions required by the plan's governing document and applicable laws and regulations.
- · For the period January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024, we determined that there were no benefit calculations prepared.
- We determined whether the January 1, 2023 actuarial valuation report was prepared and submitted by March 31, 2024 in accordance with Act 205 and whether selected information provided on this report 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.

The Porter Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan participates in the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System (PMRS), which is an agent multiple-employer public employee retirement system that acts as a common investment and administrative agent for participating municipal pension plans. PMRS issues a separate Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, copies of which are available from the PMRS accounting office. PMRS's financial statements were not audited by us and, accordingly, we express no opinion or other form of assurance on them.

Township officials are responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that the Porter Township Non-Uniformed 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 Porter Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies for the periods noted above.

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 Porter Township and, where appropriate, their responses have been included in the report. We would like to thank township officials for the cooperation extended to us during the conduct of the audit.

Timothy L. DeFoor Auditor General

July 1, 2025

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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 Porter Township Non-Uniformed 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 15 - Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Law, Act of February 1, 1974 (P.L. 34, No. 15), as amended, 53 P.S. § 881.101 et seq.

The Porter Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan is a single-employer cash balance pension plan locally controlled by the provisions of Ordinance No. 1-2020, and a separately executed plan agreement with the plan's custodian effective April 1, 2020, as amended, adopted pursuant to Act 15. Prior to April 1, 2020, the plan locally was controlled by the provisions of Ordinance No. 2-2008, and a separately executed plan agreement with the plan's custodian, also adopted pursuant to Act 15. The plan was established January 1, 1991. Active members are not required to contribute to the plan. Effective July 1, 2021, the municipality is required to contribute 16 percent of each member's compensation. Prior to July 1, 2021, the municipality was required to contribute 12 percent of each member's compensation. As of December 31, 2024, the plan had 3 active members and 1 terminated member eligible for vested benefits in the future.

# PORTER TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN STATUS OF PRIOR FINDING

### Compliance With Prior Recommendation

Porter Township has complied with the prior recommendation concerning the following:

Failure To Maintain An Adequate Record-Keeping System To Effectively Monitor Activity
Of The Pension Plan

For the period subject to audit, the township provided annual financial statements of transactions of the custodial account of the pension plan.

### PORTER TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (UNAUDITED)

#### SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Year Ended December 31	Statutorily Required Contribution (SRC)*		Contributions in Relation to the SRC*		Contribution Deficiency (Excess)**		Covered- Employee Payroll***		Contributions as a Percentage of Covered- Employee Payroll
2015	\$	12,445	\$	12,365	\$	80	\$	123,650	10.00%
2016		13,518		13,438		80		134,381	10.00%
2017		13,948		13,868		80		136,678	10.00%
2018		14,325		14,245		80		142,448	10.00%
2019		12,763		18,643		(5,880)		126,822	14.70%
2020		17,332		18,781		(1,449)		150,088	12.51%
2021		17,210		17,130		80		120,592	14.20%
2022		23,884		23,883		1		148,770	16.05%
2023		27,362		27,282		80		170,511	16.00%
2024		27,762		27,762		-		***	

<sup>\*</sup> The Statutorily Required Contribution (SRC) is a contribution amount based upon the payroll and the contribution rate as outlined under the terms of the cash balance pension plan.

In 2019, the township met the plan's \$12,763 funding requirement through the deposit of \$12,682 in state aid and \$80 in municipal reserve funds.

In 2020, the township met the plan's \$17,332 funding requirement through the deposit of \$14,296 in state aid, \$2,956 in employer contributions, and \$80 in municipal reserve funds.

In 2021, the township met the plan's \$17,210 funding requirement through the deposit of \$14,392 in state aid, \$2,738 in employer contributions, and \$80 in municipal reserve funds.

In 2023, the township met the plan's \$27,362 funding requirement through the deposit of \$17,600 in state aid, \$9,682 in employer contributions, and \$80 in municipal reserve funds.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The SRC and the actual Contribution were provided by PMRS. Deviation between these amounts may be due to contributions to or transfers from the municipal reserve account.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Due to the timing of this audit, covered-employee payroll for 2024 was not provided in this schedule.

### PORTER TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN REPORT DISTRIBUTION LIST

This report was initially distributed to the following:

The Honorable Joshua D. Shapiro

Governor Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Mr. Ervin L. Rauch

Chairman, Board of Township Supervisors

Ms. Judith D. Herr

Secretary/Treasurer

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at <a href="www.PaAuditor.gov">www.PaAuditor.gov</a>. Media questions about the report can be directed to the Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General, Office of Communications, 229 Finance Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120; via email to: news@PaAuditor.gov.