

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
Fiscal Year Ended August 31, 2023



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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors  
Hopkins Hill Fire District  
Coventry, Rhode Island

**Qualified and Unmodified Opinions**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Hopkins Hill Fire District, as of and for the year ended August 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Hopkins Hill Fire District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

*Summary of Opinions*

<u>Opinion Unit:</u>	<u>Type of Opinion:</u>
Governmental Activities	Qualified
General Fund	Unmodified

*Qualified Opinion on Governmental Activities*

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the "Basis for Qualified and Unmodified Opinions" section of our report, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Governmental Activities of the Hopkins Hill Fire District as of August 31, , and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

*Unmodified Opinion on the General Fund*

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects the respective financial position of each major fund of the Hopkins Hill Fire District as of August 31, , and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United State of America.

**Basis for Qualified and Unmodified Opinions**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Hopkins Hill Fire District, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions

*Matter Giving Rise to the Qualified Opinion on Governmental Activities*

GASB Statement 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*, requires the net pension asset and/or liability and various components related to the net pension asset and/or liability be reported utilizing a measurement date which is no earlier than the end of the prior fiscal year. However, Hopkins Hill Fire District participates in the retirement plans administered by the State of Rhode Island and as

such, the measurement date utilized by the plan was June 30, 2022 which is a date earlier than Hopkins Hill Fire District's prior fiscal year end. The amount by which this departure would affect the net pension assets, deferred outflow of resources, net pension liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, net position, and expenses of the Governmental Activities has not been determined.

### **Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Hopkins Hill Fire District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Hopkins Hill Fire District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Hopkins Hill Fire District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

### **Required Supplementary Information**

Hopkins Hill Fire District has omitted the Management's Discussion and Analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require the budgetary comparison information on pages 31-33 and required schedules related to pension plans on pages 34-37, respectively, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

### **Supplementary Information**

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Hopkins Hill Fire District's financial statements as a whole. The schedule of property taxes on page 36 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The schedule of property taxes is the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

### **Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 23, 2024, on our consideration of the Hopkins Hill Fire District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Hopkins Hill Fire District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

WADOVICK + COMPANY

West Warwick, Rhode Island  
February 23, 2024

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
August 31, 2023

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$	801,865
Taxes receivable, net		73,104
Interest and penalties receivable, net		38,590
Accounts receivable		37,164
Rescue billing receivable, net		144,704
Other receivables		1,349
Prepaid expenses		28,199
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		1,124,975

NON-CURRENT ASSETS

Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation		703,807
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		703,807

TOTAL ASSETS		1,828,782
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DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES

Deferred outflows of resources related to pension plans		524,422
TOTAL DEFERRED OUTFLOWS		524,422

LIABILITIES

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts payable		16,197
Accrued interest		19,100
Current portion of long-term debt		96,233
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		131,530

NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES

Net pension liability		263,418
Long-term debt obligations, net		650,893
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		914,311

TOTAL LIABILITIES		1,045,841
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DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES

Deferred inflows of resources related to pension plans		345,408
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS		345,408

NET POSITION

Net investment in capital assets		107,733
Restricted		78,354
Unrestricted		775,868

TOTAL NET POSITION	\$	961,955
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
For the Year Ended August 31, 2023

		Program Revenues			Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
FUNCTIONS/PROGRAMS:	Expenses	Charges for Services, Fees & Licenses	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES					
Public safety-fire protection & rescue	\$ 1,974,490	\$ 1,048,653	\$ 41,557	\$ 221,702	\$ (662,578)
Interest on long-term debt	24,569	-	-	-	(24,569)
TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES	\$ 1,999,059	\$ 1,048,653	\$ 41,557	\$ 221,702	(687,147)
GENERAL REVENUES					
Property taxes including interest on taxes					1,060,451
Tax sale receipts					6,932
Gain on sale of compressor					5,000
Gain on sale of vehicle					3,000
Unrestricted investment earnings					17,860
TOTAL GENERAL REVENUES					1,093,243
CHANGE IN NET POSITION					406,096
NET POSITION - September 1, 2022					555,859
NET POSITION - August 31, 2023					\$ 961,955

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.



HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
BALANCE SHEET  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
August 31, 2023

	GENERAL FUND	CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	DISPATCH FUND	TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
<u>ASSETS</u>				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 453,636	\$ 304,493	\$ 43,736	\$ 801,865
Taxes receivable, net	73,104	-	-	73,104
Interest and penalties receivable, net	38,590	-	-	38,590
Accounts receivable	-	-	37,164	37,164
Rescue billing receivable, net	-	144,704	-	144,704
Other receivables	1,349	-	-	1,349
Due from other funds	2,546	35,059	-	37,605
Prepaid expenses	28,074	-	125	28,199
	<u>\$ 597,299</u>	<u>\$ 484,256</u>	<u>\$ 81,025</u>	<u>\$ 1,162,580</u>
 <u>LIABILITIES</u>				
Accounts payable	\$ 8,672	\$ 7,525	\$ -	\$ 16,197
Due to other funds	35,059	-	2,546	37,605
	<u>43,731</u>	<u>7,525</u>	<u>2,546</u>	<u>53,802</u>
 <u>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</u>				
Unavailable revenues - property taxes	52,291	-	-	52,291
Unavailable revenues - interest and penalties	38,590	-	-	38,590
Unavailable revenues - rescue billings	-	144,704	-	144,704
	<u>90,881</u>	<u>144,704</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>235,585</u>
 <u>FUND BALANCES</u>				
Non-spendable	28,074	-	125	28,199
Restricted	-	-	78,354	78,354
Assigned	-	332,027	-	332,027
Unassigned	434,613	-	-	434,613
	<u>462,687</u>	<u>332,027</u>	<u>78,479</u>	<u>873,193</u>
 TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES				
	<u>\$ 597,299</u>	<u>\$ 484,256</u>	<u>\$ 81,025</u>	<u>\$ 1,162,580</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
RECONCILIATION OF TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCES TO NET POSITION OF  
GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES IN THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
August 31, 2023

Total Governmental Funds Balances	\$	873,193
Capital assets used in governmental activities which are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the Governmental Fund balance sheet.		703,807
Long-term liabilities not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds. These liabilities are reported in the Statement of Net Position.		(747,126)
Unavailable tax revenues (net of an allowance for uncollectibles) recorded in the funds, but not reported under the measurement focus in the Statement of Net Position.		52,291
Unavailable interest and penalties revenues (net of an allowance for uncollectibles) recorded in the funds but not reported under the measurement focus in the Statement of Net Position.		38,590
Unavailable rescue billing revenue (net of an allowance for uncollectibles) recorded in the funds but not reported under the measurement focus in the Statement of Net Position.		144,704
Accrued interest expense on long-term obligations not due and payable in the current period and therefore is not reported in the funds. This liability is reported in the Statement of Net Position		(19,100)
Net pension liability and related deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pension plans are reported in the Statement of Net Position but are not reported on the Fund Statements.		<u>(84,404)</u>
Net Position of Governmental Activities	\$	<u><u>961,955</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
For the Year Ended August 31, 2023

	GENERAL FUND	CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	DISPATCH FUND	TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
<u>REVENUES</u>				
Taxes	\$ 1,021,685	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,021,685
Interest on taxes	38,156	-	-	38,156
Tax sale receipts	6,932	-	-	6,932
Intergovernmental grant income	41,557	221,702	-	263,259
Contract services	283,731	-	433,325	717,056
Fire rescue claims	120,000	125,784	-	245,784
Sale of compressor	-	5,000	-	5,000
Investment income	14,153	3,707	-	17,860
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>1,526,214</u>	<u>356,193</u>	<u>433,325</u>	<u>2,315,732</u>
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>				
Current:				
Salaries and wages	839,392	-	277,301	1,116,693
Employment taxes and fringes	308,567	-	146,573	455,140
District officers	44,599	-	-	44,599
Fire department operations	7,175	-	-	7,175
Fuel	20,395	-	-	20,395
Apparatus repairs and maintenance	33,297	-	-	33,297
Dispatch operation	-	-	21,936	21,936
Rescue operations and supplies	12,292	5,512	-	17,804
Hydrant rental	45,311	-	-	45,311
Street lighting	26,224	3,992	-	30,216
Grant expenses	8,854	-	-	8,854
Telephone/internet/cable TV	3,016	-	600	3,616
Occupancy	25,052	-	-	25,052
Insurance	58,516	-	-	58,516
Tax collector's expenses	-	2,912	-	2,912
Tax sale expenses	3,220	-	-	3,220
Audit and legal expense	13,820	-	-	13,820
Office expense	5,220	-	-	5,220
Small equipment	7,291	-	-	7,291
Miscellaneous	3,369	-	-	3,369
Debt Service:				
Principal	-	54,049	-	54,049
Interest	-	26,265	-	26,265
Capital:				
Station renovations	-	69,301	-	69,301
SCBA Compressor	-	75,275	-	75,275
Fire marshal vehicle	-	61,569	-	61,569
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>1,465,610</u>	<u>298,875</u>	<u>446,410</u>	<u>2,210,895</u>
CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES	60,604	57,318	(13,085)	104,837
FUND BALANCES - September 1, 2022	<u>402,083</u>	<u>274,709</u>	<u>91,564</u>	<u>768,356</u>
FUND BALANCES - August 31, 2023	<u>\$ 462,687</u>	<u>\$ 332,027</u>	<u>\$ 78,479</u>	<u>\$ 873,193</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND  
BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
For the Year Ended August 31, 2023

Change in Fund Balance - Governmental Funds	\$ 104,837
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlays exceeded depreciation expense for the year ended August 31, 2023.	49,703
Governmental funds report principal repayments on debt obligations as an expenditure. However, the repayment of principal has no effect on changes in net position.	54,049
Governmental funds do not report estimated accrued interest on long-term debt as a liability in the Fund Financial Statements if they are not going to be paid with current available resources. This liability is reported in the Government-Wide Financial Statements. This adjustment reflects the decrease in accrued interest on long-term obligations from August 31, 2022 to August 31, 2023.	1,696
Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in governmental funds. Unavailable tax revenue increased from fiscal 2022.	215
Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in governmental funds. Unavailable interest and penalty revenue increased from fiscal 2022.	395
Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in governmental funds. Unavailable rescue billing revenue increased from fiscal 2022.	85,813
Decrease in compensated absences. The governmental fund reflects this activity when it will be paid with measurable and available resources. The change from prior year balances is reflected in the statement of activities and changes in net position.	9,161
Changes in net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources related to pension plans, and deferred inflows related to pension plans results in an increase or decrease to the pension expense reported in the statement of activities. For fiscal 2023, the effect of these adjustments resulted in a decrease in the pension expense reported in the Statement of Activities.	<u>100,227</u>
Change in Net Position - Governmental Activities in the Statement of Activities	<u>\$ 406,096</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
August 31, 2023

**NOTE 1 – REPORTING ENTITY AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

*THE FINANCIAL REPORTING ENTITY*

The Hopkins Hill Fire District (the District) was organized by the Rhode Island General Assembly and approved by the electorate in 1955 to meet the fire needs in Coventry, Rhode Island. The Fire District provides fire protection, hazmat, and rescue services throughout the District. The District also provides fire protection and hazmat services to other local commercial entities under separate contracts.

The District complies with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). GAAP includes all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements. The accounting and reporting framework and the more significant accounting policies are discussed in subsequent subsections of this note.

*PRIMARY GOVERNMENT*

In evaluating how to define the District for financial reporting purposes, management has considered all potential component units. The decision to include a potential component unit in the reporting entity was made by applying the criteria set forth in GASB Statement No. 61. Under GASB Statement No. 61, a legally separate entity is required to be included as a component unit if it is fiscally dependent upon the primary government and there is a financial benefit or burden relationship present. The primary government is financially accountable if it appoints the voting majority of the organization's governing board and (1) it is able to impose its will on that organization or (2) there is a potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to or impose specific financial burdens on the primary government. A potential component unit has a financial benefit or burden relationship with the primary government if, for example, any one of the following conditions exists:

- a. The primary government is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources.
- b. The primary government is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the obligation to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization.
- c. The primary government is obligated in some manner for the debt of the organization.

There were no entities which met the criteria noted above.

*BASIS OF PRESENTATION*

*Government-Wide Financial Statements* – The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the reporting government as a whole. They include all funds of the reporting entity except for fiduciary funds and component units that are fiduciary in nature. The statement distinguishes between governmental and business-type activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange revenues. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods and services. Currently, the District has no business-type activities. Certain eliminations have been made as prescribed by GASB Statement No. 34 in regards to interfund activities, receivables, and payables.

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
August 31, 2023

*Fund Financial Statements* – Fund financial statements of the reporting entity are organized into funds each of which is considered to be separate accounting entities. Each fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts which constitute its assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, fund equity, revenues, and expenditures/expenses. An emphasis is placed on major funds within the governmental category. A fund is considered major if it is the primary operating fund of the District or meets the following criteria:

- a. Total assets and deferred outflows of resources, liabilities and deferred inflow of resources, revenues, or expenditures/expenses of that individual, government fund, or enterprise fund are at least 10 percent of the corresponding total for all funds of that category or type, and
- b. Total assets and deferred outflow of resources, liabilities and deferred inflow of resources, revenues, or expenditures/expenses of that individual, governmental fund or enterprise funds are at least 5 percent of the corresponding total for all governmental and enterprise funds combined.

The funds of the financial reporting entity are described below:

*GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS*

General Funds – The General Fund is the primary operating fund of the District and is always classified as a major fund. It is used to account for all activities except those legally or administratively required to be accounted for in other funds.

Capital Project Funds – Capital Project Funds are used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets.

Special Revenue Funds – Special Revenue Funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are committed or restricted to expenditures for specific purposes other than that debt service or capital projects.

*MAJOR AND NONMAJOR FUNDS*

The funds are further classified as major or nonmajor as follows:

<i>Major Funds:</i>	<u>General:</u>	See above for description.
	<u>Capital Projects Fund:</u>	See above for description.
	<u>Special Revenue Fund:</u>	Dispatch fund

*Nonmajor Funds:*       None

*MEASUREMENT FOCUS*

On the Government-Wide Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities governmental activities are presented using the economic resources measurement focus. The accounting objectives of this measurement focus are the determination of the income and financial position. All assets and liabilities (whether current or noncurrent) associated with their activities are reported. Fund equity is classified as net position.

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
August 31, 2023

In the fund financial statements, the “current financial resources” measurement focus or the “economic resources” measurement focus is used as appropriate. Only current financial assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources are generally included on their balance sheets. Their operating statements present sources and uses of available spendable financial resources during a given period. These funds are using fund balance as their measure of available spendable financial resources at the end of the period. The District considers property taxes as available if they are collected within 60 days after year end.

*BASIS OF ACCOUNTING*

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. All governmental funds are accounted for using a current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets, current deferred outflows of resources, current liabilities, and current deferred inflows of resources generally are included on the balance sheet. Operating statements of these funds present increases (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets.

The modified accrual basis of accounting is used by all governmental fund types. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when susceptible to accrual (i.e., both measurable and available). "Measurable" means the amount of the transaction can be determined and "available" means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. The District considers property taxes as available if they are collected within sixty days after year-end. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred. Principal and interest on general long-term debt are recorded as fund liabilities when due.

Amounts reported as program revenues include charges to customers or applicants for goods, services or privileges provided and operating grants and contributions. Internally dedicated resources are reported as general revenues rather than as program revenues. Likewise, general revenues include all taxes.

*CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS*

Cash and cash equivalents are generally considered short-term, highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less from the purchase date.

*ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE*

In the Government-Wide Financial Statements, receivables consist of all revenues earned at year-end and not yet received. Receivable balances for the governmental activities include property taxes, intergovernmental grant receivables, interest and penalties on delinquent property taxes, accounts receivable for services provided and fire rescue fees.

In the fund financial statements, receivables in governmental funds include revenue accruals such as property taxes and interest and penalties on delinquent property taxes. Non-exchange transactions collectible but not available are considered unearned in the fund financial statements in accordance with the modified accrual basis of accounting. Allowances for uncollectible accounts receivable are based upon historical trend and the periodic aging of accounts receivable. At August 31, 2023, the District has estimated the allowance for taxes receivable to be \$25,400, the allowance for interest and penalties receivable to be \$13,600, and the allowance for rescue billings to be \$579,000.

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
August 31, 2023

*INVENTORIES*

For governmental fund types, disbursements for inventory-type items are not recorded as assets but have been recorded as expenditures at the time individual inventory items were purchased.

*PREPAID ITEMS*

Prepaid items are accounted for under the allocation method whereby a prepaid asset is established at the date of payment and subsequently amortized over the accounting periods expected to benefit from the initial payment.

*PENSIONS*

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability (asset), deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Municipal Employees' Retirement System (MERS) of Rhode Island and additions to/deductions from MERS' fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by MERS. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

*PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT*

The accounting treatment over property, plant, and equipment (capital assets) depends on whether the assets are reported in the government-wide or fund financial statements.

*Government-Wide Financial Statements* – In the Government-Wide Financial Statements, long-lived assets are accounted for as capital assets. All capital assets are valued at historical cost or estimated historical cost if actual is unavailable, except for donated capital assets, which are recorded at their estimated fair value at the date of donation. Infrastructure, such as streets and drainage systems, are capitalized. The capitalization threshold of the District is any individual item with a total cost greater than \$5,000 and a useful life in excess of one year.

Depreciation of all exhaustible capital assets is recorded as an allocated expense in the Statement of Activities, with accumulated depreciation reflected in the Statement of Net Position. Depreciation is provided over the assets' estimated useful lives using the straight-line method of depreciation. The range of estimated useful lives by the type of asset is as follows:

	<u>Years</u>
Buildings and improvements	7 - 39
Vehicles	5 - 20
Fire equipment	5 - 20
Furniture and equipment	5 - 15

*Fund Financial Statements* – In the fund financial statements, long-lived assets used in governmental fund operations are accounted for as capital outlay expenditures of the governmental fund upon acquisition.



HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
August 31, 2023

*COMPENSATED ABSENCES*

Employees are granted vacation and sick leave in varying amounts. Upon retirement, termination or death, certain employees are compensated for unused vacation and sick leave (subject to certain limitations) at their current rates of pay. The amount recorded is the unused days earned at the current rate of pay. For governmental activities, the general fund is used to satisfy this liability as it becomes due. Compensated absences are recorded as a long-term liability in the Government-Wide Financial Statements as they are not due and payable in the current period. Accordingly, these liabilities are not included in the fund financial statements.

*EQUITY CLASSIFICATIONS*

Government-Wide Financial Statements – Equity is classified as net position and displayed in three components:

Net investment in capital assets – consists of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable by the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets.

Restricted net position – consists of net position with constraints placed on them either by (1) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributions, laws, or regulations of other governments, or (2) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Unrestricted net position – all other net positions that do not meet the definition of “restricted” or “net investment in capital assets”.

Fund Statements – Governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance. With the implementation of GASB Statement No. 54, fund balance is classified as one of the following five categories: non-spendable, restricted, committed, assigned, or unassigned. These categories are defined below:

Non-spendable – includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. “Not in spendable form” includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash.

Restricted – includes amounts that are restricted to specific purposes. Fund balance is reported as restricted when constraints placed in the use of resources are either externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments, or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Committed – includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the government’s highest level of decision-making authority. Those committed amount cannot be used for any other purpose unless the government removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action it employed to previously commit those amounts. The highest level of decision-making authority for the Hopkins Hill Fire District is the taxpayers that assemble annually to vote on the District’s budget and resolutions proposed by the Chief and Board of Directors.

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
 August 31, 2023

*Assigned* – includes amounts that are constrained by the government’s intent to be used for specific purposes but are neither restricted nor committed. The intent should be expressed by (a) the governing body itself or (b) a body (a budget or finance committee) or official to which the governing body has delegated the authority to assign amounts to be used for specific purposes.

*Unassigned* – is the residual classification for the General Fund. This classification represents fund balance that has not been assigned to other funds and that has not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes within the General Fund.

*RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION AND BALANCE SHEET OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS*

The governmental fund balance sheet includes reconciliation between fund balance - total governmental funds and net position - governmental activities as reported in the Government-Wide Statement of Net Position. One element of that reconciliation explains that "net pension liability and related deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pension plans are reported in the Statement of Net Position but are not reported on the Fund Statements." The details of this (\$84,404) adjustment are as follows:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources	Net Pension Liability	Total
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 355,877	\$ 201,495	\$ -	\$ 154,382
Changes in assumptions	45,529	97,491	-	(51,962)
Net difference between projected and actual earnings	-	46,422	-	(46,422)
Net pension liability	-	-	263,418	(263,418)
Pension contributions after the measurement date	123,016	-	-	123,016
NET ADJUSTMENT	\$ 524,422	\$ 345,408	\$ 263,418	\$ (84,404)

*EXPLANATION OF CERTAIN DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTAL FUND STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE AND THE GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES*

The governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances includes reconciliation between *net changes in fund balances - total governmental funds* and *changes in net position of governmental activities* as reported in the Government-Wide statement of activities. One element of that reconciliation explains that "Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their useful lives and reported as depreciation expense." The details of this \$46,703 difference are as follows:

Fund expenditures capitalized for reporting in Government-Wide Statements	\$ 188,345
Depreciation expense	(138,642)
NET ADJUSTMENT	\$ 49,703

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
August 31, 2023

*RECENTLY ISSUED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS*

During the fiscal year ended August 31, 2023 the District implemented the following new accounting pronouncements:

*GASB Statement No. 91* – Conduit Debt Obligations

*GASB Statement No. 93* – Replacement of Interbank Offered Rates

*GASB Statement No. 94* – Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements

*GASB Statement No. 96* – Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements

The following are recently issued governmental accounting standards which will be applicable in future years:

*GASB Statement No. 99* – Omnibus 2022, effective for fiscal year ending August 31, 2024

*GASB Statement No. 100* – Accounting Changes and Error Corrections, effective for fiscal year ending August 31, 2024

*GASB Statement No. 101* – Compensated Absences, effective for fiscal year ending August 31, 2025

The impact of these pronouncements on the District's financial statements has not been determined.

*USE OF ESTIMATES*

The preparation of basic financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

*SUBSEQUENT EVENTS*

The District's management has evaluated subsequent events through February 23, 2024, the date the financial statements were available to be issued. There are no material subsequent events requiring disclosure.

**NOTE 2 – BUDGETARY PROCESS**

*ADOPTION*

Budgets are adopted in accordance with District charter requirements. It is the responsibility of the Board of Directors to submit a proposed budget to the members of the District at the August board meeting. A public hearing is conducted on the recommended budget and the final recommended budget is legally

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
August 31, 2023

enacted through a vote of the District residents at the Annual District Meeting held in September. Annual appropriated budgets are adopted for the general fund. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end.

*ENCUMBRANCES*

Encumbrances represent commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting, under which purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of funds are recorded in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation, is employed in the governmental funds. Encumbrances outstanding at year-end are reported as either committed or assigned fund balances and do not constitute expenditures or liabilities because the commitments will be honored during the subsequent year. The District had no encumbrances outstanding at August 31, 2023.

**NOTE 3 – CASH AND INVESTMENTS**

The State of Rhode Island requires that certain uninsured deposits be collateralized. Section 35- 10.1-7 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, dealing with the collateralization of public deposits, requires that all time deposits with maturities of greater than 60 days and all deposits in institutions that do not meet the minimum capital requirements of its Federal regulator must be collateralized.

A. Deposits

At August 31, 2023, the District's carrying amount of cash and cash equivalents was \$801,865 and the bank balance was \$809,744.

B. Interest Rate Risk

The District does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates. The District did not maintain any investments at August 31, 2023 or during the year then ended.

C. Concentration of Credit Risk

At August 31, 2023, the District's deposits were held at one financial institution. The District attempts to minimize its concentration of credit risk by depositing and investing funds with multiple institutions and investing in government obligations. The District's deposits are maintained in highly rated financial institutions whose ratings are reviewed on a periodic basis. At August 31, 2023, \$250,000 of the District's bank balance was covered by the financial institutions under federal depository insurance and \$559,744 was covered by a collateralization agreement.

D. Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk in the case of deposits is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the District's deposits may not be returned. The state of Rhode Island requires that certain uninsured deposits be collateralized. Section 35-10.1-7 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, dealing with the collateralization of public deposits, requires that all time deposits with maturities of greater than 60 days and all deposits in institutions that do not meet the minimum capital requirements of its federal regulator

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
August 31, 2023

must be collateralized. The District does not have a formal deposit policy for custodial credit risk but is governed by State laws as described above.

**NOTE 4 – RECEIVABLES**

Receivables at August 31, 2023, including the applicable allowances for uncollectible accounts, are as follows:

	General Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Dispatch Fund	Total
Receivables:				
Taxes	\$ 98,504	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 98,504
Interest & penalties	52,190	-	-	52,190
Accounts receivable	-	-	37,164	37,164
Rescue billing	-	723,704	-	723,704
Other receivables	1,349	-	-	1,349
GROSS RECEIVABLES	152,043	723,704	37,164	912,911
Less: Allowances for uncollectible accounts	(39,000)	(579,000)	-	(618,000)
NET RECEIVABLES	<u>\$ 113,043</u>	<u>\$ 144,704</u>	<u>\$ 37,164</u>	<u>\$ 294,911</u>

All real estate in the District is taxed to the owners according to the last valuation made by the Tax Assessor of the Town of Coventry. The tax rate established for the year ended August 31, 2023 was \$2.20 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation on residential and personal property and \$3.30 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation on commercial property. The District does assess a \$10 minimum tax. The taxable value of property with an assessment date of December 31, 2021 was \$416,129,472.

Taxes are levied after the adoption of the annual budget (second Monday in September) and are payable and due by October 31<sup>st</sup>. Taxpayers are also given the option to make quarterly payments due October 31<sup>st</sup>, January 31<sup>st</sup>, April 30<sup>th</sup>, and July 31<sup>st</sup>. All unpaid taxes levied become delinquent on November 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year and are subject to interest at an annual rate of 18%. Total assessments for the year ended August 31, 2023 was \$1,024,410.

The District is responsible for assessing, collecting, and distributing property taxes in accordance with enabling State legislation. The District recognizes property tax revenues in accordance with Section P70, "Property Taxes" of the Codification of Government Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards. Unpaid property taxes as of August 31, 2023 are recorded as a receivable. Those net property taxes receivable which were not collected within 60 days immediately following August 31, 2023 are reported as deferred inflow of resources and amounted to \$52,291. Property taxes recognized as revenue for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2023 due to their collection in the 60 days following August 31, 2023 totaled \$20,813.

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
August 31, 2023

**NOTE 5 – CAPITAL ASSETS**

Capital asset activity for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2023 is as follows:

	<u>Balance</u> <u>September 1, 2022</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Retirements &amp;</u> <u>Disposals</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>August 31, 2023</u>
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,000
 Total capital assets not being depreciated	 <u>20,000</u>	 <u>-</u>	 <u>-</u>	 <u>20,000</u>
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Building and building improvements	313,660	48,501	-	362,161
Apparatus, vehicles and equipment	<u>3,106,463</u>	<u>139,844</u>	<u>(27,167)</u>	<u>3,219,140</u>
 Total capital assets being depreciated	 <u>3,420,123</u>	 <u>188,345</u>	 <u>(27,167)</u>	 <u>3,581,301</u>
 Total capital assets	 <u>3,440,123</u>	 <u>188,345</u>	 <u>(27,167)</u>	 <u>3,601,301</u>
Less accumulated depreciation:				
Building and building improvements	(220,954)	(8,600)	-	(229,554)
Apparatus, vehicles and equipment	<u>(2,565,065)</u>	<u>(130,042)</u>	<u>27,167</u>	<u>(2,667,940)</u>
 Total accumulated depreciation	 <u>(2,786,019)</u>	 <u>(138,642)</u>	 <u>27,167</u>	 <u>(2,897,494)</u>
 Net capital assets	 <u>\$ 654,104</u>	 <u>\$ 49,703</u>	 <u>\$ -</u>	 <u>\$ 703,807</u>

Depreciation expense charged to public safety was \$138,642 for the year ended August 31, 2023.

**NOTE 6 – LONG-TERM LIABILITIES**

*Long-Term Liability Activity*

Long-term liability activity for the year ended August 31, 2023 was as follows:

	<u>Balance</u> <u>September 1, 2022</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Retirements</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>August 31, 2023</u>	<u>Amounts</u> <u>Due Within</u> <u>One Year</u>
Governmental Activities:					
Long-term debt:					
Lease purchase obligation	\$ 650,123	\$ -	\$ (54,049)	\$ 596,074	\$ 56,233
Compensated absences	<u>160,213</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(9,161)</u>	<u>151,052</u>	<u>40,000</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 810,336</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (63,210)</u>	<u>\$ 747,126</u>	<u>\$ 96,233</u>

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 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
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Lease Purchase Obligation

Lease purchase obligation at August 31, 2023 are comprised of the following:

	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Interest Date</u>	<u>Issued/Maturity Date</u>	<u>Original Issue</u>	<u>Balance August 31, 2023</u>
Governmental Activities:					
Lease purchase obligation	4.040%	11/18	11/18/18 - 11/18/31	<u>\$ 800,000</u>	<u>\$ 596,074</u>

Debt Service Requirements

Presented below is a summary of debt service requirements, including interest, to maturity by years:

<u>Year Ending August 31,</u>	<u>Governmental Activities</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Notes from Direct Borrowings and Direct Placements</u>		
	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	
2024	\$ 56,233	\$ 24,081	\$ 80,314
2025	58,504	21,810	80,314
2026	60,868	19,446	80,314
2027	63,327	16,987	80,314
2028	65,885	14,429	80,314
2029 - 2032	<u>291,257</u>	<u>29,999</u>	<u>321,256</u>
	<u>\$ 596,074</u>	<u>\$ 126,752</u>	<u>\$ 722,826</u>

Interest expense paid on long-term debt obligations and reported in the governmental fund expenditures of the Capital Projects Fund was \$26,265 for the year ended August 31, 2023.

**NOTE 7 – FUND BALANCE**

As stated in Note 1, Fund Balance may be classified as one of five categories: Non-spendable, Restricted, Committed, Assigned, or Unassigned. Committed Fund Balance represents that amount of fund balance which can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the District’s highest level of decision-making authority. The Hopkins Hill Fire District’s taxpayers are considered to be the highest level of decision making authority. In accordance with the District Charter, the taxpayers vote on the annual budget and on any resolutions proposed by the Board of Directors. The passage of the District’s annual budget and proposed resolutions may result in the commitment of fund balance.

Non-spendable Fund Balance at August 31, 2023 totaled \$28,199 and represented amounts which have been prepaid on insurance policies and inventory supplies for future fiscal years.

Restricted Fund Balance at August 31, 2023 totaled \$78,354. This represents funds used exclusively in the operations for the Coventry Dispatch.

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
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Assigned Fund Balance represents the amount of fund balance which has been constrained by the District's intent to be used for specific purposes. The assignment of fund balance is determined by actions of the Board of Directors rather than the actions of the District taxpayers. The ability to assign fund balance is granted to the Board of Directors by the District taxpayers. At August 31, 2023, the District had \$332,027 of assigned fund balance relating to the District's capital outlays.

The Hopkins Hill Fire District does not currently have a spending policy regarding the order in which restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balances are spent when more than one amount is available for the expenditures incurred. Accordingly, by default the District is following the policy prescribed by GASB Statement No. 54 which specifies that fund balance is reduced first by committed, then by assigned, then by unassigned when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which any unrestricted fund balance could be used. In all situations, the District considers restricted fund balance to be used first when available and when expenditures are incurred that meet the requirements of the restricted fund balance.

**NOTE 8 – RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES**

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and natural disasters for which the District carries commercial insurance. Liabilities are reported when it is probable that a loss has occurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. As of August 31, 2023, the District has estimated the reserve for any potential losses to be immaterial and therefore has not recorded any liability in the financial statements.

**NOTE 9 – DEFINED BENEFITS PENSION PLAN**

***General Information about the Pension Plan***

***Plan Description***

The Municipal Employees' Retirement System (MERS), an agent multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan, provides certain retirement, disability and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. MERS was established under Rhode Island General Law and placed under the management of the Employee's Retirement System of Rhode Island (ERSRI) Board to provide retirement allowances to employees of municipalities, housing authorities, water and sewer districts, and municipal police and fire persons that have elected to participate. Benefit provisions are subject to amendment by the General Assembly.

MERS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. This report may be obtained accessing the ERSRI website at <http://www.ersri.org>.

***Benefit Provisions***

General employees, police officers and firefighters employed by electing municipalities participate in MERS. Eligible employees become members at their date of employment. Anyone employed by a municipality at the time the municipality joins MERS may elect not to be covered. Elected officials may opt to be covered by MERS. Employees covered under another plan maintained by the municipality may



HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
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not become members of MERS. Police officers and/or firefighters may be designated as such by the municipality, in which case the special contribution and benefit provisions described below will apply to them, or they may be designated as general employees with no special benefits. Members designated as police officers and/or firefighters are treated as belonging to a unit separate from the general employees, with separate contribution rates applicable.

**Salary:** Salary includes the member's base earnings plus any payments under a regular longevity or incentive plan. Salary excludes overtime, unused sick and vacation leave, severance pay, and other extraordinary compensation. Certain amounts that are excluded from taxable wages, such as amounts sheltered under a Section 125 plan or amounts picked up by the employer under IRC Section 414(h), are not excluded from salary.

**Service:** Employees receive credit for service while a member. In addition, a member may purchase credit for certain periods by making an additional contribution to purchase the additional service. Special rules and limits govern the purchase of additional service and the contribution required.

**Final Average Compensation (FAC):** Prior to July 1, 2012 and for general employee members eligible to retire as of August 31, 2012, the average was based on the member's highest three consecutive annual salaries. Effective July 1, 2012, the average was based on the member's highest five consecutive annual salaries. Once a member retires or is terminated, the applicable FAC will be the greater of the member's highest three-year FAC as of July 1, 2012 or the five-year FAC as of the retirement/termination date. Monthly benefits are based on one-twelfth of this amount.

***General employees***

Members with less than five years of contributory service as of June 30, 2012 and members hired on or after that date are eligible for retirement on or after their Social Security normal retirement age (SSNRA).

Members who had at least five years of contributory service as of June 30, 2012 will be eligible for retirement at an individually determined age. This age is the result of interpolating between the member's prior Retirement Date, described below, and the retirement age applicable to members hired after August 31, 2012 in (a) above. The interpolation is based on service as of June 30, 2012 divided by projected service at the member's prior Retirement Date. The minimum retirement age is 59.

Members with 10 or more years of contributory service on June 30, 2012 may choose to retire at their prior Retirement Date if they continue to work and contribute until that date. If this option is elected, the retirement benefit will be calculated using the benefits accrued as of June 30, 2012, i.e., the member will accumulate no additional defined benefits after this date, but the benefit will be paid without any actuarial reduction.

Effective July 1, 2015, members will be eligible to retire with full benefits at the earlier of their current Rhode Island Retirement Security Act (RIRSA) date described above or upon the attainment of age 65 with 30 years of service, age 64 with 31 years of service, age 63 with 32 years of service, or age 62 with 33 years of service.

A member who is within five years of reaching their retirement eligibility date and has 20 or more years of service, may elect to retire at any time with an actuarially reduced benefit.

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Prior to July 1, 2012, members were eligible for retirement on or after age 58 if they had credit for 10 or more years of service, or at any age if they had credit for at least 30 years of service. Members eligible to retire before July 1, 2012 were not impacted by the changes to retirement eligibility above.

The annual benefit is equal to 2.00% of the member's monthly FAC for each year of service prior to July 1, 2012 and 1.00% of the member's monthly FAC for each year of service from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2015. For all service after June 30, 2015, the annual benefit is equal to 1.0% per year unless the member had 20 or more years of service as of June 30, 2012 in which case the benefit accrual is 2.0% per year for service after June 30, 2015. The benefit cannot exceed 75% of the member's FAC. Benefits are paid monthly.

***Police and Fire employees***

Members are eligible to retire when they are at least 50 years old and have a minimum of 25 years of contributing service or if they have 27 years of contributing service at any age. Members with less than 25 years of contributing service are eligible for retirement on or after their Social Security normal retirement age.

Members who, as of June 30, 2012, had at least 10 years of contributing service, had attained age 45, and had a prior Retirement Date before age 52 may retire at age 52.

Active members on June 30, 2012 may choose to retire at their prior Retirement Date if they continue to work and contribute until that date. If option is elected, the retirement benefit will be calculated using the benefits accrued as of June 30, 2012, i.e., the member will accumulate no additional defined benefits after this date, but the benefit will be paid without any actuarial reduction.

A member who is within five years of reaching their retirement eligibility date, as described in this section, and has 20 or more years of service, may elect to retire at any time with an actuarially reduced benefit.

Prior to July 1, 2012, members designated as police officers or firefighters were eligible for retirement at or after age 55 with credit for at least 10 years of service or at any age with credit for 25 or more years of service. Members were also eligible to retire and receive a reduced benefit if they are at least age 50 and have at least 20 years of service. If the municipality elected to adopt the 20-year retirement provisions for police officers and/or firefighters, then such a member was eligible to retire at any age with 20 or more years of service. Members eligible to retire before July 1, 2012 were not impacted by the changes to retirement eligibility above.

A monthly benefit is paid equal to 2.00% of the member's monthly FAC for each year of service, up to 37.5 years (75% of FAC maximum).

If the optional 20-year retirement provisions were adopted by the municipality prior to July 1, 2012: benefits are based on 2.50% of the member's FAC for each year of service prior to July 1, 2012 and 2.00% of the member's FAC for each year of service after July 1, 2012. The benefit cannot exceed 75% of the member's FAC.

Active members (including future hires), members who retire after July 1, 2015 and after attaining age 57 with 30 years of service will have a benefit equal to the greater of their current benefit described in (a) and (b) above and one calculated based on a 2.25% multiplier for all years of service.

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 August 31, 2023

***Other benefit provisions***

Death and disability benefits are also provided to members. A member is eligible for a disability retirement provided he/she has credit for at least five years of service or if the disability is work-related. Members are not eligible for an ordinary disability benefit if they are eligible for unreduced retirement.

Joint and survivor benefit options are available to retirees. For some employees, a Social Security Option is also available where an annuity is paid at one amount prior to age 62, and at a reduced amount after age 62, designed to provide a level total income when combined with the member's age 62 Social Security benefit. Benefits cease upon the member's death.

Post-retirement benefit increases are paid to members who retire after August 31, 2012. Members will be eligible to receive cost of living increases at the later of the member's third anniversary of retirement and the month following their SSNRA (age 55 for members designated as police officers and/or firefighters). When a municipality elects coverage, it may elect either COLA C (covering only current and future active members and excluding members already retired) or COLA B (covering current retired members as well as current and future active members).

a. The COLA will be suspended for any unit whose funding level is less than 80%; however, an interim COLA may be granted in four-year intervals while the COLA is suspended. The first interim COLA may begin January 1, 2018.

b. Effective July 1, 2015, the COLA is determined based on 50% of the plan's five-year average investment rate of return less 5.5% limited to a range of 0.0% to 4.0%, plus 50% of the lesser of 3.0% or last year's CPI-U increase for a total maximum increase of 3.50%. Previously, it was the plan's five-year average investment rate of return less 5.5% limited to a range of 0.0% to 4.0%.

c. The COLA will be limited to the first \$25,000 of the member's annual pension benefit. For retirees and beneficiaries who retired on or before July 1, 2015, years in which a COLA is payable based on the every fourth year provision described in (a) above will be limited to the first \$30,000. These limits will be indexed annually to increase in the same manner as COLAs, with the known values of \$27,184 for 2020, \$27,608 for 2021, and \$27,901 for 2022.

***Employees Covered by Benefit Terms***

At the June 30, 2022 valuation date, the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

Retirees & Beneficiaries	6
Inactive, Nonretired members	1
Active members	15
Total	22

***Contributions***

The amount of employee and employer contributions have been established under Rhode Island General Law Chapter 45-21. General employees are required to contribute 2% of their salaries. General employees with more than 20 years of service as of June 30, 2012 are required to contribute 8.25%. Public safety employees are required to contribute 10% of their salaries. Hopkins Hill Fire District contributes at a rate of covered employee payroll as determined by an independent actuary on an annual basis. The General Assembly can amend the amount of these contribution requirements. The District

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
 August 31, 2023

contributed \$145,364 in the year ended June 30, 2022 which was 15.74% of annual covered payroll of \$923,531.

***Net Pension (Asset) Liability***

The total pension liability was determined by actuarial valuations performed as of June 30, 2020 and rolled forward to June 30, 2020, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement.

Although the District has a fiscal year of August 31, the MERS Plan administered by the State of Rhode Island have been valued as of June 30<sup>th</sup>. Because the information as of August 31<sup>st</sup> is not available, the District has included the valuation as of June 30, 2021 rolled forward to June 30, 2022 as provided by the State of Rhode Island for the MERS Plan since this is the most recent information available.

Summary of Actuarial Assumptions Used in the Valuations to determine the Net Pension (Asset) Liability at the June 30, 2022 measurement date (June 30, 2021 valuation rolled forward to June 30, 2022)	
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal - the Individual Entry Age Actuarial Cost methodology is used.
Amortization Method	Level Percent of Payroll - Closed
Actuarial Assumptions	
Investment Rate of Return	7.00%
Projected Salary Increases	General Employees - 3.50% to 7.25%; Police & Rescue Employees - 4.00% to 14.00%
Inflation	2.50%
Mortality	Mortality - variants of the PUB (10) Tables for Healthy and Disabled Retirees, projected with Scale Ultimate MP16.
Cost of Living Adjustments	All future COLAs were assumed to be 2.1% per annum for all MERS units with the COLA provision.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2021 valuation rolled forward to June 30, 2022 and the calculation of the total pension (asset) liability at June 30, 2022 were consistent with the results of an actuarial experience study performed as of June 30, 2019 for the six year period ended June 30, 2019 as approved by the System's Board on May 22, 2020.

The long-term expected rate of return best-estimate on pension plan investments was determined by the actuary using a building-block method. The actuary started by calculating best-estimate future expected real rates of return (expected returns net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) for each major asset class, based on a collective summary of capital market expectations from 40 sources. The June 30, 2022 expected arithmetic returns over the long-term (20 years) by asset class are summarized in the following table:

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
August 31, 2023

Asset Class	Long-Term Target Asset Allocation	Long-Term Expected Arithmetic Real Rate of Return
<b>Global Equity</b>		
US Equity	24.30%	5.52%
International Developed Equity	11.10%	6.04%
Emerging Markets Equity	4.60%	7.83%
<b>Private Growth</b>		
Private Equity	12.50%	9.42%
Non-Core RE	2.50%	4.80%
<b>Income</b>		
Equity Options	2.00%	5.25%
EMD (50/50 Blend)	2.00%	1.82%
Liquid Credit	3.00%	2.95%
Private Credit	3.00%	2.95%
Collateralized Loan Obligations (CLO)	2.00%	2.95%
<b>Crisis Protection Class</b>		
Treasury Duration	5.00%	-0.44%
Systematic Trend	5.00%	3.33%
<b>Inflation Protection</b>		
Core Real Estate	3.60%	4.80%
Private Infrastructure	2.40%	5.65%
<b>Volatility Protection</b>		
IG Corp Credit	3.25%	1.18%
Securitized Credit	3.25%	1.18%
Absolute Return	6.50%	3.33%
Cash	2.00%	-0.44%

These return assumptions are then weighted by the target asset allocation percentage, factoring in correlation effects, to develop the overall long-term expected rate of return best-estimate on an arithmetic basis.

***Discount rate***

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability of the plans was 7.0 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current contribution rate and that contributions from the employers will be made at statutorily required rates, actuarially determined. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
August 31, 2023

Changes in the Net Pension (Asset) Liability

	Increase (Decrease)		
	Total Pension Liability	Plan Fiduciary Net Position	Net Pension (Asset)/Liability
<u>Balances as of June 30, 2021</u>	\$ 4,356,486	\$ 4,861,956	\$ (505,470)
Changes for the Year			
Service cost	180,827	-	180,827
Interest on the total pension liability	306,979	-	306,979
Differences between expected & actual experience	378,750	-	378,750
Employer contributions	-	145,364	(145,364)
Employee contributions	-	92,353	(92,353)
Net investment income (loss)	-	(135,432)	135,432
Benefit payments, including employee refunds	(122,963)	(122,963)	-
Administrative expense	-	(4,617)	4,617
Net changes	<u>743,593</u>	<u>(25,295)</u>	<u>768,888</u>
<u>Balance as of June 30, 2022</u>	<u>\$ 5,100,079</u>	<u>\$ 4,836,661</u>	<u>\$ 263,418</u>

**Sensitivity of the Net Pension (Asset) Liability to changes in the discount rate**

The following presents the net pension (asset) liability of the District calculated using the discount rate of 7.0 percent, as well as what the District's net pension (asset) 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.

1.00% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1.00% Increase (8.00%)
\$ 733,959	\$ 263,418	\$ (163,969)

**Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position**

Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued ERSRI financial reports.

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
August 31, 2023

**Pension Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources, and Deferred Inflows of Resources**

For the year ended August 31, 2023 the District recognized pension expense of \$104,478. The District reported deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources	Net Deferred Outflows/ (Inflows) of Resources
	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
Contributions subsequent to measurement date	\$ 123,016	\$ -	\$ 123,016
Difference between expected and actual experience	355,877	201,495	154,382
Assumption changes	45,529	97,491	(51,962)
Net difference between projected and actual earnings	<u>-</u>	<u>46,422</u>	<u>(46,422)</u>
Total	<u>\$ 524,422</u>	<u>\$ 345,408</u>	<u>\$ 179,014</u>

Deferred outflows of resources related to 2022 contributions to pension plans subsequent to the measurement date (June 30, 2021 where applicable) will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability for the year ended August 31, 2023.

Amounts reported as deferred outflows and inflows of resources (excluding contributions subsequent to the measurement date) related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ending August 31,	Net Deferred Inflows of Resources
<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
2024	\$ (47,823)
2025	(44,299)
2026	(67,179)
2027	112,079
2028	38,795
Thereafter	<u>64,425</u>
Total	<u>\$ 55,998</u>

Amounts noted above and reported as deferred outflows or inflows of resources at August 31, 2023 will be recognized as a component of pension expense over the following periods of time:

- Closed 5 year period beginning in the current period for the deferred outflows or inflows of resources related to projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments.
- All other deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pension plans as described above are amortized over a closed period of time equal to the average of the expected remaining service lives of all employees that are provided with pensions through the pension plan (includes active and inactive employees) determined as of the beginning of the measurement period.

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
August 31, 2023

**NOTE 10 – DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PENSION PLAN**

***Plan Description***

Certain employees participating in the defined benefit plan, as described above, also participate in a defined contribution plan authorized by General Law Chapter 36-10.3. The defined contribution plan is established under IRS section 401(a) and is administered by TIAA-CREF. Employees may choose among various investment options available to plan participants. Employees contribute 5% of their annual covered salary and employers contribute 1% to 1.5% of annual covered salary depending on years of service. If an employee has over 20 years of service as of June 30, 2012, the employee and employer do not participate in the defined benefit plan. Employee contributions are immediately vested while employer contributions and any investment earnings thereon are vested after three years of contributory service. Benefit terms and contributions required under the plan by both the employee and employer are established by the General Laws, which are subject to amendment by the General Assembly. Amounts in the defined contribution plan are available to participants in accordance with Internal Revenue Service guidelines for such plans.

The District recognized pension expense of \$35,481, for the year ended August 31, 2023.

The System issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for plans administered by the System. The report can be obtained at <http://www.ersri.org>.

**NOTE 11 – COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES**

The District has received grants from various federal and state agencies for specific purposes that are subject to review and audit by the grantor agencies. Such audits could lead to a request for reimbursement to the grantor agencies for expenditures disallowed under the terms of the grants. District officials are of the opinion that such disallowances, if any, would be immaterial.

During fiscal year 2023, the chief of the District and tax collector were subject to an ethics complaint filed by the Rhode Island Ethics Commission. The District's executive board voted for the District to retain legal counsel for the chief and the tax collector and cover expenses associated with the matter. As of the date of the financial statements were available for issue, there is no estimate of the amount owed by the District for potential future legal expenses.



HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN  
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL  
GENERAL FUND - BUDGETARY BASIS  
(Unaudited)  
For the Year Ended August 31, 2023

	Original & Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
<u>REVENUES</u>			
Property tax collections	\$ 1,014,000	\$ 1,021,685	\$ 7,685
Interest on taxes	20,000	38,156	18,156
Tax sale receipts	-	6,932	6,932
Intergovernmental grant income	-	41,557	41,557
Contract services	283,731	283,731	-
Investment income	-	14,153	14,153
Fire rescue fees	120,000	120,000	-
TOTAL REVENUES	1,437,731	1,526,214	88,483
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>			
Insurance	65,000	58,516	6,484
Legal	500	-	500
Office supplies	3,000	3,395	(395)
Street lighting	21,000	26,224	(5,224)
Hydrant rental	46,000	45,311	689
Financial audit	18,000	13,820	4,180
Advertising	500	-	500
Information tech	2,500	1,185	1,315
Tax collector	-	2,955	(2,955)
Tax sale expenses	-	3,220	(3,220)
Total District Administration	156,500	154,626	1,874
Chairperson	1,100	1,100	-
Head tax assessor	1,000	1,000	-
Vice chairperson	1,000	1,000	-
Member at large	1,000	1,000	-
Clerk	8,000	8,000	-
Treasurer	8,000	8,000	-
Tax collector	17,500	17,499	1
Deputy chief	2,500	2,500	-
Chief engineer	1,000	1,000	-
Captains and lieutenants	4,000	3,500	500
Total District Officer Compensation	45,100	44,599	501
Base salaries	714,000	721,026	(7,026)
Payroll taxes	21,000	19,759	1,241
Pension payments	105,000	104,336	664
Medical plan	160,000	174,472	(14,472)
Full-time fill-ins	75,000	90,023	(15,023)
Holiday pay	31,000	28,343	2,657
Uniform allowance	10,000	10,000	-
Medical testing	1,500	-	1,500
Total Employee Payroll	1,117,500	1,147,959	(30,459)

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN  
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL  
GENERAL FUND - BUDGETARY BASIS  
(Unaudited)  
For the Year Ended August 31, 2023

	Original & Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
Electric	6,000	12,398	(6,398)
Natural gas	8,000	7,408	592
Phone/Cable/Internet	3,400	3,016	384
Domestic water	1,000	491	509
Equipment maintenance contracts	1,000	1,057	(57)
Station upkeep	4,000	3,697	303
Total Station Operation	<u>23,400</u>	<u>28,067</u>	<u>(4,667)</u>
Diesel & gasoline	19,000	20,395	(1,395)
Maintenance & repairs	35,000	33,297	1,703
Total Fire Apparatus Operation	<u>54,000</u>	<u>53,692</u>	<u>308</u>
Rescue supplies	6,000	6,443	(443)
Oxygen refill	1,500	1,553	(53)
Equipment maintenance contracts	1,500	478	1,022
Cellular phone	4,000	3,818	182
Medical director	3,000	-	3,000
Total Rescue Operation	<u>16,000</u>	<u>12,292</u>	<u>3,708</u>
Miscellaneous small tools	1,000	70	930
Badges & ID's	1,000	38	962
Petty cash	200	200	-
Educational	3,500	1,867	1,633
Fire chief's convention	550	-	550
Office supplies	2,000	598	1,402
Fire alarm maintenance	3,500	5,000	(1,500)
Grant expenditures	-	8,854	(8,854)
Total Fire Department Operations	<u>11,750</u>	<u>16,627</u>	<u>(4,877)</u>
New equipment	5,000	4,352	648
Capital purchases	2,500	2,939	(439)
Miscellaneous	3,000	3,369	(369)
Total Other	<u>10,500</u>	<u>10,660</u>	<u>(160)</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>1,434,750</u>	<u>1,468,522</u>	<u>(33,772)</u>
Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures	<u>\$ 2,981</u>	<u>\$ 57,692</u>	<u>\$ 54,711</u>

HOPKINGS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
August 31, 2023

**BUDGETARY TO GAAP BASIS RECONCILIATION**

The Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances presents a comparison of the legally adopted budget (more fully described in Notes to Financial Statements – Note 2) with actual data on a budgetary basis. Because accounting principles applied for purposes of developing data on a budgetary basis differ significantly from those used to present financial statements in conformity with GAAP, a reconciliation of resultant basis, entity and timing differences in excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources of financial resources over expenditures and other uses of financial resources for the year ended August 31, 2023 is presented below:

	General Fund - GAAP Basis
Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources	
General Fund - GAAP Basis	\$ 1,526,214
<b><i>Total Revenues - Budgetary Basis</i></b>	<b>\$ 1,526,214</b>
Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	
General Fund - GAAP Basis	\$ 1,465,610
General fund expenditures expended in Capital Projects Fund but part of General Fund budget	2,912
<b><i>Total Expenditures - Budgetary Basis</i></b>	<b>\$ 1,468,522</b>
Change in Fund Balance - General Fund - GAAP Basis	\$ 60,604
General fund expenditures expended in Capital Projects Fund but part of General Fund budget	(2,912)
<b><i>Excess of Revenues over Expenditures - Budgetary Basis</i></b>	<b>\$ 57,692</b>

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION - PENSION PLANS  
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN EMPLOYER'S NET PENSION ASSET AND RELATED RATIOS  
(Unaudited)  
August 31, 2023

	General Employees August 31, 2022	General Employees August 31, 2021	General Employees August 31, 2020	General Employees August 31, 2019	General Employees August 31, 2018	General Employees August 31, 2017	General Employees August 31, 2016	General Employees August 31, 2015	General Employees August 31, 2014
<b>A. Total pension liability</b>									
1. Service Cost	\$ 180,827	\$ 170,694	\$ 189,147	\$ 184,929	\$ 172,741	\$ 151,727	\$ 143,253	\$ 140,317	\$ 133,751
2. Interest on the total pension liability	306,979	287,554	277,074	249,183	242,948	214,573	196,981	166,668	148,791
3. Changes of benefit terms	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65,410	-
4. Difference between expected and actual experience of the total pension liability	378,750	(79,676)	(76,600)	6,295	(296,938)	88,930	(75,638)	56,901	-
5. Changes of assumptions	-	-	(159,877)	-	-	179,941	-	-	(26,600)
6. Benefit payments, including refunds or employee contributions	(122,963)	(89,317)	(52,278)	(35,858)	(35,710)	(36,210)	(32,343)	(20,832)	(20,897)
7. Net change in total pension liability	743,593	289,255	177,466	404,549	83,041	598,961	232,253	408,464	235,045
8. Total pension liability – beginning	4,356,486	4,067,231	3,889,765	3,485,216	3,402,175	2,803,214	2,570,961	2,162,497	1,927,452
9. Total pension liability – ending (a)	<u>\$ 5,100,079</u>	<u>\$ 4,356,486</u>	<u>\$ 4,067,231</u>	<u>\$ 3,889,765</u>	<u>\$ 3,485,216</u>	<u>\$ 3,402,175</u>	<u>\$ 2,803,214</u>	<u>\$ 2,570,961</u>	<u>\$ 2,162,497</u>
<b>B. Plan fiduciary net position</b>									
1. Contributions – employer	\$ 145,364	\$ 155,227	\$ 122,152	\$ 100,957	\$ 89,082	\$ 93,353	\$ 99,324	\$ 95,203	\$ 81,247
2. Contributions – employee	92,353	92,618	85,990	78,995	74,297	72,876	70,789	56,838	54,816
3. Net investment income	(135,432)	1,051,574	133,465	206,097	223,103	294,398	(863)	53,055	277,270
4. Benefit payments, including refunds of employee contributions	(122,963)	(89,317)	(52,278)	(35,858)	(35,710)	(36,210)	(32,343)	(20,832)	(20,897)
5. Pension plan administrative expense	(4,617)	(4,007)	(3,677)	(3,252)	(2,970)	(2,781)	(2,324)	(2,126)	(1,736)
6. Other	-	73	41,652	1	(138,453)	(137,874)	89,930	(1)	-
7. Net change in plan fiduciary net position	(25,295)	1,206,168	327,304	346,940	209,349	283,762	224,513	182,137	390,700
8. Plan fiduciary net position – beginning	4,861,956	3,655,788	3,328,484	2,981,544	2,772,195	2,488,433	2,263,920	2,081,783	1,691,083
9. Plan fiduciary net position – ending (b)	<u>\$ 4,836,661</u>	<u>\$ 4,861,956</u>	<u>\$ 3,655,788</u>	<u>\$ 3,328,484</u>	<u>\$ 2,981,544</u>	<u>\$ 2,772,195</u>	<u>\$ 2,488,433</u>	<u>\$ 2,263,920</u>	<u>\$ 2,081,783</u>
<b>C. Net pension (asset) liability - ending (a) - (b)</b>	<u>\$ 263,418</u>	<u>\$ (505,470)</u>	<u>\$ 411,443</u>	<u>\$ 561,281</u>	<u>\$ 503,672</u>	<u>\$ 629,980</u>	<u>\$ 314,781</u>	<u>\$ 307,041</u>	<u>\$ 80,714</u>
<b>D. Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability</b>	94.84%	111.60%	89.88%	85.57%	85.55%	81.48%	88.77%	88.06%	96.27%
<b>E. Covered employee payroll</b>	\$ 923,531	\$ 926,173	\$ 842,899	\$ 789,959	\$ 742,971	\$ 728,754	\$ 707,774	\$ 710,466	\$ 685,201
<b>F. Net pension liability as a percentage of covered payroll</b>	28.52%	-54.58%	48.81%	71.05%	67.79%	86.45%	44.47%	43.22%	11.78%

\*This schedule is presented to illustrate the requirement to show information for 10 years. However, until a full 10-year trend is compiled, information is presented for years which information is available.

HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION - PENSION PLANS  
SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS (MERS)  
(Unaudited)  
August 31, 2023

	General Employees Fiscal 2023	General Employees Fiscal 2022	General Employees Fiscal 2021	General Employees Fiscal 2020	General Employees Fiscal 2019	General Employees Fiscal 2018	General Employees Fiscal 2017	General Employees Fiscal 2016	General Employees Fiscal 2015	General Employees Fiscal 2014
Actuarially determined contribution	\$ 100,396	\$ 145,364	\$ 155,227	\$ 122,152	\$ 100,957	\$ 89,082	\$ 93,353	\$ 99,324	\$ 95,203	\$ 81,247
Contributions in relation to the actuarially determined contribution	100,396	145,364	155,227	122,152	100,957	89,082	93,353	99,324	95,203	81,247
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Covered-employee payroll	\$ 966,272	\$ 923,531	\$ 926,173	\$ 842,899	\$ 789,959	\$ 742,971	\$ 728,754	\$ 707,774	\$ 710,466	\$ 685,201
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	10.39%	15.74%	16.76%	14.49%	12.78%	11.99%	12.81%	14.03%	13.40%	11.86%

**Notes:**

- 1.) Employers participating in the Municipal Employee's Retirement System are required by RI General Laws, Section 45-21-42, to contribute an actuarially determined contribution rate each year.
- 2.) Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years - additional years will be displayed as they become available.

HOPKINGS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION – PENSION PLANS  
(Unaudited)  
August 31, 2023

The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the June 30 measurement date prior to the fiscal year end.

The schedules are intended to show information for 10 years – additional years will be displayed as they become available.

Employers participating in the Municipal Employee’s Retirement System are required by RI General Laws, Section 36-10-2, to contribute an actuarially determined contribution rate each year.

**Changes in Benefit Provisions:**

**June 30, 2022 Measurement Date**

There were no changes in actuarial methods or assumptions reflected in the calculation for the net pension liability (asset) of the plan as of the June 30, 2022 measurement date compared to the June 30, 2021 measurement date.

**June 30, 2021 Measurement Date**

There were no changes in actuarial methods or assumptions reflected in the calculation for the net pension liability (asset) of the plan as of the June 30, 2021 measurement date compared to the June 30, 2020 measurement date.

**June 30, 2020 Measurement Date**

As part of the 2020 Actuarial Experience Study for the six-year period ending June 30, 2019 as approved by the System Board on May 22, 2020, certain assumptions were modified and reflected in the determination of net pension liability (asset) at the June 30, 2020 measurement date. The following summarizes the more significant changes in assumptions:

- Updated the underlying mortality tables from the RP-2014 set of tables to the public sector-based PUB (10) tables.
- Increased slightly the probabilities of turnover.
- Decreased slightly the probabilities of retirement.
- Modified slightly the probabilities of disability, including adding material incidence of disability for members in the age ranges that historically have been eligible to retire but under prospective provisions are not.

**June 30, 2019 Measurement Date**

There were no changes in actuarial methods or assumptions reflected in the calculation for the net pension liability (asset) of the plan as of the June 30, 2019 measurement date compared to the June 30, 2018 measurement date.

**June 30, 2018 Measurement Date**

There were no changes in actuarial methods or assumptions reflected in the calculation for the net pension liability (asset) of the plan as of the June 30, 2018 measurement date compared to the June 30, 2017 measurement date.

**June 30, 2017 Measurement Date**

As part of the 2017 Actuarial Experience Investigation Study for the six-year period ending June 30, 2016 as approved by the System Board on May 15, 2017, certain assumptions were modified and reflected in the determination of the net pension liability (asset) at the June 30, 2017 measurement date. The following summarizes the more significant changes in assumptions:

- Decreased the general inflation assumption from 2.75% to 2.50%;
- Decreased the nominal investment return assumption from 7.50% to 7.00%;
- Decreased the general wage growth assumption from 3.25% to 3.00%;
- Decreased salary increase assumptions; and
- Updated the post-retirement mortality tables to variants of the RP-2014 table. For the improvement scale, update to the ultimate rates of the MP-2016 projection scale.

HOPKINGS HILL FIRE DISTRICT  
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION – PENSION PLANS  
(Unaudited)  
August 31, 2023

**June 30, 2016 Measurement Date**

There were no changes in actuarial methods or assumptions reflected in the calculation for the net pension liability (asset) of the plan as of the June 30, 2016 measurement date compared to the June 30, 2015 measurement date.

**June 30, 2015 Measurement Date**

There were no changes in actuarial methods or assumptions reflected in the calculation of the net pension liability (asset) of the plans as of the June 30, 2015 measurement date compared to the June 30, 2014 measurement date.

The June 30, 2015 measurement date determination of the net pension liability for the ERS and MERS plans reflects changes in benefit changes resulting from the settlement of litigation challenging the various pension reform measures enacted in previous years by the General Assembly. The final settlement approved by the Court on July 8, 2015 also included enactment of the pension settlement provisions by the General Assembly. These amended benefit provisions, are summarized below:

- *Employees with more than 20 years of service at July 1, 2012 will increase their employee contribution rates to 11% for state employees and municipal general employees will contribute 8.25% (9.25% for units with a COLA provision) and participate solely in the defined benefit plan going forward – service credit accruals will increase from 1% to 2% per year.*
- *Members are eligible to retire upon the attainment of: age 65 with 30 years of service, 64 with 31 years of service, 63 with 32 years of service, or 62 with 33 years of service. Members may retire earlier if their RIRSA date is earlier or are eligible under a transition rule.*
- *MERS public safety employees may retire at age 50 with 25 years of service, or any age with 27 years of service. MERS public safety employees will contribute 9.00% (10.00% for units with a COLA provision)*
- *Employees with more than 10 but less than 20 years of service at July 1, 2012 will receive an increased employer contribution to the defined contribution plan. Also, members who earn less than \$35,000 per year will not be required to pay the administrative fees to the defined contribution plan.*
- *Members who retired from a COLA eligible plan before July 1, 2012 will received a one-time cost of living adjustment of 2% of the first \$25,000 paid as soon as administratively possible.*
- *Retirees as of June 30, 2015 will receive two \$500 stipends; the interim cost of living increases will occur at 4 year rather than 5 year intervals.*
- *The COLA formula was adjusted to: 50% of the COLA is calculated by taking the previous 5-year average investment return, less 5.5% (5yr Return - 5.5%, with a max of 4%) and 50% calculated using previous year's CPI-U (max of 3%) for a total max COLA of 3.5%. This COLA is calculated on the first \$25,855, effective 01/01/16, and indexed as of that date as well. (The indexing formula is run annually regardless of funding level each year.)*
- *Minor adjustments were made to the actuarial reduction for employees choosing to retire early.*

**HOPKINS HILL FIRE DISTRICT**  
**SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY TAXES RECEIVABLE**  
For the Year Ended August 31, 2023

FISCAL YEAR ENDED	BALANCE September 1, 2022	CURRENT YEAR ASSESSMENT	REFUNDS	ADDITIONS AND ABATEMENTS			AMOUNT TO BE COLLECTED	CURRENT YEAR COLLECTIONS	BALANCE August 31, 2023	FY 2023 CASH COLLECTIONS SUMMARY			SEPT - OCT 2023 (FY24) CASH COLLECTIONS SUBJECT TO 60-DAY FY23 ACCRUAL
										2022 COLLECTIONS SUBJECT TO 60-DAY FY22 ACCRUAL	NOVEMBER 2022 - AUGUST 2023 COLLECTIONS NOT SUBJECT TO 60-DAY	TOTAL FY 2023 CASH COLLECTIONS	
2023	\$ -	\$ 1,024,410	\$ -	\$ 605	\$ (2)	\$ 1,025,013	\$ 969,154	\$ 55,859	\$ -	\$ 969,154	\$ 969,154	\$ 18,368	
2022	64,053	-	-	-	-	64,053	56,476	7,577	25,436	31,040	56,476	2,396	
2021	5,929	-	-	-	-	5,929	1,926	4,003	1,677	249	1,926	46	
2020	3,464	-	-	-	-	3,464	99	3,365	-	99	99	21	
2019	3,551	-	-	-	-	3,551	99	3,452	-	99	99	(18)	
2018	3,588	-	-	-	-	3,588	101	3,487	-	101	101	-	
2017	4,583	-	-	-	-	4,583	78	4,505	-	78	78	-	
2016	3,634	-	-	-	-	3,634	52	3,582	-	52	52	-	
2015	3,444	-	-	-	-	3,444	-	3,444	-	-	-	-	
2014	3,293	-	-	-	-	3,293	-	3,293	-	-	-	-	
2013	3,087	-	-	-	-	3,087	-	3,087	-	-	-	-	
2012	2,697	-	-	-	(70)	2,627	-	2,627	-	-	-	-	
2011	149	-	-	-	(91)	58	-	58	-	-	-	-	
2010	370	-	-	-	(314)	56	-	56	-	-	-	-	
2009	261	-	-	-	(200)	61	-	61	-	-	-	-	
2008	86	-	-	-	(38)	48	-	48	-	-	-	-	
	102,189	\$ 1,024,410	\$ -	\$ 605	\$ (715)	\$ 1,126,489	\$ 1,027,985	98,504	\$ 27,113	\$ 1,000,872	\$ 1,027,985	\$ 20,813	
Less: Allowance for Uncollectible Taxes	23,000							25,400					
	\$ 79,189							\$ 73,104					

**SCHEDULE OF NET ASSESSED PROPERTY VALUE BY CATEGORY**  
**ASSESSED DECEMBER 31, 2021 (2022 TAX ROLL)**

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY	VALUATIONS	LEVY
Real property	\$ 402,589,750	
Exemptions	(4,589,000)	
Net Real Property	398,000,750	\$ 984,537
Tangible personal property	18,128,722	39,873
<b>NET ASSESSED VALUE</b>	<b>\$ 416,129,472</b>	<b>\$ 1,024,410</b>

**RECONCILIATION OF CURRENT YEAR**  
**PROPERTY TAX REVENUE**

Current year collections	\$ 1,027,985
Revenue collected within 60 days subsequent fiscal year ending August 31, 2023	20,813
Less prior year 60 day revenue rule collections	(27,113)
<b>CURRENT YEAR PROPERTY TAX REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 1,021,685</b>



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON  
INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING  
AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS  
BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
*GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

To the Board of Directors  
Hopkins Hill Fire District  
Coventry, Rhode Island

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Hopkins Hill Fire District, as of and for the year ended August 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Hopkins Hill Fire District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated February 23, 2024.

**Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Hopkins Hill Fire District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Hopkins Hill Fire District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Hopkins Hill Fire District's internal control.

*A deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. *A material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

## **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Hopkins Hill Fire District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

## **Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of Hopkins Hill Fire District's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Hopkins Hill Fire District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

WADOVICK + COMPANY

West Warwick, Rhode Island  
February 23, 2024