TOWN OF COLUMBUS Columbus, North Carolina

Annual Financial Report For the Year Ended June 30, 2020

Prepared by the Finance Department

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Letter of Transmittal

November 19, 2020 To the Mayor and Council, and Residents of the Town of Columbus, North Carolina

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We are pleased to present the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) of the Town of Columbus for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020. The financial statements contained herein have been audited by the independent, certified public accounting firm of Carland & Andersen, Inc., located in Hendersonville, North Carolina. That firm's unmodified opinion is included in the Financial Section of this report. The report itself, however, is presented by the Town, which is responsible for the accuracy of the data, and for the completeness and fairness of its presentation including all disclosures. We believe the data as presented is accurate in all material aspects; that it is presented in a manner designed to set forth fairly the financial position and results of operations of the Town as measured by the reader to gain the maximum understanding of the Town's financial affairs have been included.

GAAP requires that management provide a narrative introduction, overview, and analysis to accompany the basic financial statements in the form of Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A). The MD&A can be found immediately following the report of the independent auditors and should be read in conjunction with this letter of transmittal.

The financial reporting entity includes all the funds of the Town of Columbus, as well as all of its discretely presented component units. The Town (as legally defined) is considered to be a primary government. A component unit is a legally separate entity for which the primary government is financially accountable or for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government is such that their exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

The primary government is considered financially accountable if it appoints a voting majority of the Organization's governing body, and if (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.

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A discretely presented component unit is reported in a separate column in the basic financial statements to emphasize that it is legally separate from the primary government and to distinguish its financial position, results of operations, and cash flows from those of the Town. The Town of Columbus Alcoholic Beverage Control ("ABC") Board is reported as a discretely presented component unit.

Description of the Town

The Town of Columbus, founded in 1855, is located in Polk County in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina, approximately 35 miles south of Asheville, North Carolina. The population of the town is 1,012, with a land area of 1.94 square miles. Columbus is the County seat for Polk County. The entire County has a population of approximately 21,000 and includes 238 square miles of mountains, streams, waterfalls, gracious small-town living, and a rural atmosphere including an emphasis on equestrian activities. The retirement community makes up a large portion of the population base, and per capita income for the County is higher than the State average.

The Town has a Council/Manager form of government. The Mayor is elected at large and serves a two-year term. The four Council members are elected at large and the candidate with the largest number of votes serves a four-year term while the remaining three serve two-year terms. Council elections are held in odd-numbered years. The Town Council holds policy-making and legislative authority. They are also responsible for adopting the budget and appointing the Town Manager. The Town Manager is the chief administrative officer and prepares and recommends the annual budget in addition to being responsible for implementing policies and managing daily operations.

The Town provides its citizens with a wide range of services that include public safety, water and sewer, planning, sanitation, general administration, and cultural and recreational activities. Each year the Town holds a very successful 4th of July celebration that includes food and craft vendors and entertainment including a fireworks display. The Town also supports other smaller seasonal events. This report includes all the Town's activities in maintaining these services.

The annual budget serves as the foundation for the Town's financial planning and control. Town Council conducts an annual retreat in February of each year to prioritize goals for the coming fiscal year. Along with department heads, the Town Manager uses departmental requests and Council's priorities as the starting point for developing a proposed budget that is presented to Council. Along with the required public hearing on the proposed budget, Council also conducts budget workshops and community input is encouraged. The budget must be adopted by no later than June 30th, the close of the Town's fiscal year.

Budget Control

The appropriated budget is prepared by fund, and line items within individual departments. Formal budgetary accounting is used for all funds as a management control required by the North Carolina General Statutes. The budget ordinance adopted by Town Council creates a legal limit on spending authorizations at the line item level. Budgetary control is facilitated by the use of computer software for utility billing, payroll, accounts payable, and general ledger. The Town Manager is the Budget Officer and receives financial statements weekly from the Finance Department. The Finance Department supplies Town Council with monthly financial statements for all funds, which includes an analysis of the current financial position for the month provided. All transfers and amendments to the original budget must be adopted by Town Council no later than June 30th of the fiscal year in question.

Factors Affecting Financial Condition

The information presented in the financial statements is perhaps best understood when it is considered from the broader perspective of the specific environment within which the Town operates.

Local Economy. The present unemployment rate is 6.3% (up from 4.5% from the previous year) and is slightly lower than the State unemployment rate of 7.6%. As of June 30, 2020, Polk County ranks nineteenth of the 100 counties in having the lowest unemployment rates. The County had its lowest unemployment rate of 3.3% in 2004 and its highest rate of 8.8% in 2009. The County has slowly lost some industries in the fields of manufacturing and textiles. However, the agricultural and equine industries are growing. In June of 2014, a major developer announced the opening of Tryon Equestrian in Polk County. During the 2018-2019 fiscal year, a parcel on Mills Street was developed into a Bojangles' restaurant, urgent care facility, O'Reilley Auto Parts store, and one additional commercial suite.

Long-term Financial Planning. The Town develops and maintains a twenty-year capital improvement plan. This plan has projects in the five, ten, and twenty-year range that address Town facilities, road improvements, and upgrades to the water/sewer system. The capital improvement plan is an important focus of the annual Council retreat.

Employee Health Insurance Costs. Facing a 21% increase in employee health insurance rates through the North Carolina League of Municipalities effective July, 2010, the Town switched insurance to a Health Reimbursement Plan with Blue Cross/Blue Shield of North Carolina having an annual deductible of \$10,000. The employee's share of a claim of \$10,000 is \$1,080, with the remainder being paid by the Town from the claims account. All claims exceeding \$10,000 are paid in full by Blue Cross/Blue Shield. The claims account was funded from the savings in premiums. Based on favorable claims experience since July, 2010, the Town has saved over \$27,000. This savings is held in reserve for future claim years to pay the employer-portion of claims and to offset rate increases incurred through Blue Cross/Blue Shield of North Carolina.

Internal Controls

This report consists of management's representation concerning the finances of the Town of Columbus. To provide a reasonable basis for making these representations, an internal control framework has been designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance regarding (1) the safeguarding of assets against loss from unauthorized use or disposition; (2) the reliability of financial records for preparing financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and maintaining accountability of assets; (3) the effectiveness and efficiency of operations; and (4) compliance with applicable laws and regulations related to federal and state financial assistance programs. The concept of reasonable assurance recognizes that the cost of control should not exceed the benefits to be derived, and the evaluation of costs and benefits requires estimates and judgments by management. We believe that the Town's internal accounting controls adequately safeguard assets and provide reasonable assurance of proper recording of financial transactions.

Awards and Acknowledgements

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the Town of Columbus for its comprehensive annual financial report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019. This was the eleventh consecutive year that the Town of Columbus has received this prestigious award. In order to be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, a government must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized comprehensive annual financial report. This report must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements.

A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year only. We believe that our current comprehensive annual financial report continues to meet the Certificate of Achievement Program's requirements and we are submitting it to the GFOA to determine its eligibility for another certificate.

We wish to thank and acknowledge the efforts of our auditors, Carland & Andersen, Inc., in the preparation of this report and providing technical assistance. We also thank the Mayor and Council of the Town of Columbus for their leadership in making the Town a fiscally sound, well-governed community.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy J. Barth

Timothy J. Barth Town Manager

Monica Pace Greene

Monica Pace Greene Town Clerk/Assistant Finance Director

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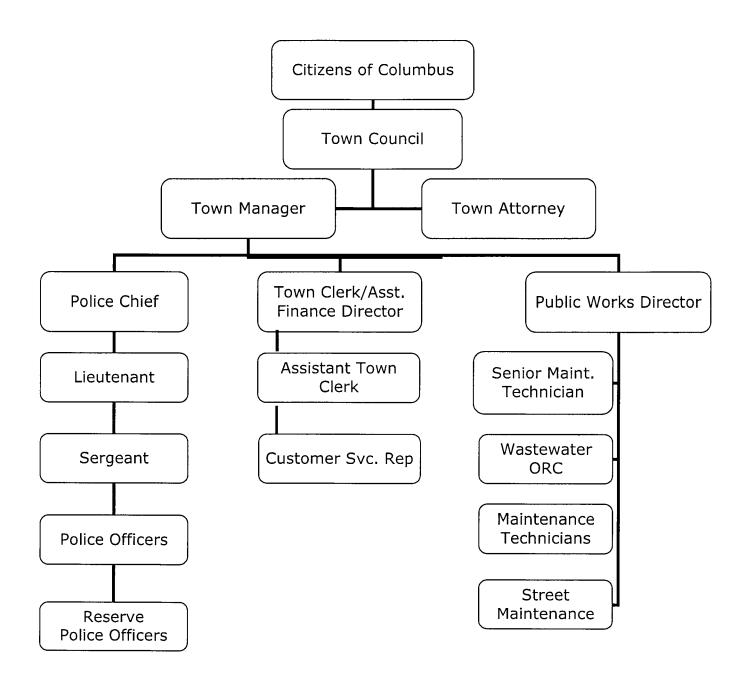
TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA LIST OF PRINCIPAL OFFICERS June 30, 2020

Town Council Members

Patrick McCool, Mayor Richard Hall Brent Jackson Mark Phillips Robert Williamson

Town Officials

Timothy J. Barth, Town Manager/Finance Director Monica Pace Greene, Assistant Finance Director and Town Clerk Scott Hamby, Chief of Police Town of Columbus Organizational Chart June 30, 2020



Government Finance Officers Association

Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

Presented to

Town of Columbus North Carolina

For its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report For the Fiscal Year Ended

June 30, 2019

Christophen P. Morrill

Executive Director/CEO

FINANCIAL SECTION



MAILING: P.O. BOX 179 • HENDERSONVILLE, NC 28793 MEMBER - AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS MEMBER - NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS Ronald G. Carland, CPA Terry B. Andersen, CPA

Trish Cheek, CPA George B. Lee, CPA Ashley Larach, CPA Roger Warren, CPA Harold C. Reid, CPA Kim Baker-Hudgins, CPA

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Honorable Mayor and Members of the Town Council Town of Columbus, North Carolina

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, and each major fund of the Town of Columbus, North Carolina, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility 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.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Opinions

In our opinion, based on our audits, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, and each major fund of the Town of Columbus, North Carolina as of June 30, 2020, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where appropriate, thereof and the respective budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that Management's Discussion and Analysis on pages four through fifteen, the Local Government Employees' Retirement System's Schedules of the Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) and Contributions, on pages sixty-one and sixty-two, and the Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance schedules of the Changes in Total Pension Liability and Total Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll on pages sixty-three and sixty-four, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a required 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 and Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the basic financial statements of the Town of Columbus, North Carolina. The individual fund statements, budgetary schedules, and other schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The individual fund statements, budgetary schedules, and other schedules, are 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, based on our audits and the procedures as described above, the individual fund statements, budgetary schedules, and other schedules are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Calador Adusen, Ir.

Hendersonville, North Carolina November 19, 2020

As management of the Town of Columbus (the Town), we offer readers of the Town of Columbus' financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town of Columbus for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020. We encourage readers to read the information presented here in conjunction with additional information that we have furnished in the Town's financial statements, which follow this narrative.

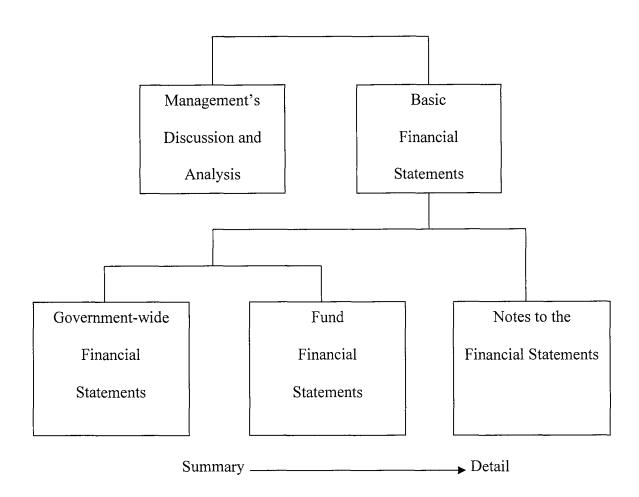
Financial Highlights

- The assets of the Town of Columbus exceeded its liabilities at the close of the fiscal year by \$5,100,718 (*net position*).
- The government's total net position increased by \$59,728.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, the Town of Columbus' governmental fund reported an ending fund balance of \$875,475, approximately 64% of the ending fund balance, or \$561,067 is available for spending at the government's discretion (*unassigned fund balance*).
- At the end of the current fiscal year the unassigned fund balance for the General Fund of \$561,067 was approximately 42% of total general fund expenditures for the fiscal year.
- The Town of Columbus' total debt for the General Fund increased by \$51,328. The Town's total debt decreased by \$301,096 for the Proprietary Fund.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis are intended to serve as an introduction to the Town of Columbus' basic financial statements. The Town's basic financial statements consist of three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements (see Figure 1). The basic financial statements present two different views of the Town through the use of government-wide statements and fund financial statements. In addition to the basic financial statements, this report contains other supplemental information that will enhance the reader's understanding of the financial condition of the Town of Columbus.

Required Components of Annual Financial Report Figure 1



Basic Financial Statements

The first two statements (Exhibits 1 and 2) in the basic financial statements are the **Government-wide Financial Statements**. They provide both short and long-term information about the Town's financial status.

The next statements (Exhibits 3 through 8) are **Fund Financial Statements**. These statements focus on the activities of the individual parts of the Town's government. These statements provide more detail than the government-wide statements. There are three parts to the Fund Financial Statements: 1) the governmental funds statements; 2) the budgetary comparison statements; and 3) the proprietary fund statements.

The next section of the basic financial statements is the **notes**. The notes to the financial statements explain in detail some of the data contained in those statements. After the notes, **supplemental information** is provided to show details about the Town's individual funds. Budgetary information required by the North Carolina General Statutes also can be found in this part of the statements.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide the reader with a broad overview of the Town's finances, similar in format to a financial statement of a private-sector business. The government-wide statements provide short and long-term information about the Town's financial status as a whole.

The two government-wide statements report the Town's net position and how it has changed. Net position is the difference between the Town's total assets and deferred outflows of resources and total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Measuring net position is one way to gauge the Town's financial condition.

The government-wide statements are divided into three categories:

Governmental activities – These activities include most of the Town's basic services such as public safety, environmental protection, and general administration. Property taxes and state and federal grant funds finance most of these activities.

Business-type activities – These activities are those that the Town charges customers to provide. These include the water and sewer services offered by the Town of Columbus.

Component unit – The government-wide financial statements include not only the Town of Columbus (known as the primary government), but also a legally separate Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (ABC Board). Although legally separate from the Town, the ABC Board is important to the Town. The Town exercises control over the Board by appointing its members and the Board is required to distribute its profits to the Town.

The government-wide financial statements are Exhibits 1 and 2 of this report.

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements (see Figure 1) provide a more detailed look at the Town's most significant activities. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Town of Columbus, like all other governmental entities in North Carolina, uses fund accounting to ensure and reflect compliance (or non-compliance) with finance-related legal requirements, such as the General Statutes or the Town's budget ordinance. All of the funds of Town of Columbus can be divided into two categories: governmental funds and proprietary funds.

Governmental Funds – Governmental funds are used to account for those functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. Most of the Town's basic services are accounted for in governmental funds. These funds focus on how assets can readily be converted into cash flow in and out, and what monies are left at year-end that will be available for spending in the next year. Governmental funds are reported using an accounting method called *modified accrual accounting* which provides a short-term spending focus. As a result, the governmental fund financial statements give the reader a detailed short-term view that helps him or her determine if there are more or less financial resources available to finance the Town's programs. The relationship between government activities (reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds is described in a reconciliation that is a part of the fund financial statements.

The Town of Columbus adopts an annual budget for its General Fund, as required by the General Statutes. The budget is a legally adopted document that incorporates input from the citizens of the Town, the management of the Town, and the decisions of the Board about which services to provide and how to pay for them. It also authorizes the Town to obtain funds from identified sources to finance these current period activities. The budgetary statement provided for the General Fund demonstrates how well the Town complied with the budget ordinance and whether the Town succeeded in providing the services as planned when the budget was adopted. The budgetary comparison statement uses the budgetary basis of accounting and is presented using the same format, language, and classifications as the legal budget document.

The statement shows four columns: 1) the original budget as adopted by the board; 2) the final budget as amended by the board; 3) the actual resources, charges to appropriations, and ending balances in the General Fund; and 4) the difference or variance between the final budget and the actual resources and charges.

Proprietary Funds – Town of Columbus has one proprietary fund. *Enterprise Funds* are used to report the same functions presented as business-type activities in the government-wide financial statements. The Town of Columbus uses an enterprise fund to account for its water and sewer activity. This fund is the same as those functions shown in the business-type activities in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities.

Notes to the Financial Statements – The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements begin on page twenty-eight of this report.

Other Information – In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report includes certain required supplementary information concerning the Town of Columbus' progress in funding its obligation to provide pension benefits to its employees. Required supplementary information can be found beginning on page sixty-one of this report.

Interdependence with Other Entities - The Town depends on financial resources flowing from, or associated with, both the federal government and the State of North Carolina. Because of this dependency, the Town is subject to changes in specific flows of intergovernmental revenues based on modifications to federal and state laws and federal and state appropriations. It is also subject to changes in investments earnings and asset values associated with U.S. Treasury Securities because of actions by foreign governments and other holders of publicly held U.S. Treasury Securities.

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

Town of Columbus' Net Position

Figure 2

	Gover nmental Activities			Business-Type Activities			Total			
		2020		2019	 2020		2019	2020		2019
Current and other assets, restated Capital assets	\$	882,070 1,112,601	\$	943,498 1,123,176	\$ 1,171,579 5,700, <u>028</u>	\$	1,348,538 \$ 5,854,877	2,053,649 6,812,629	\$	2,292,036 6,978,053
Total assets		1,994,671		2,066,674	6,871,607		7,203,415	8,866,278		9,270,089
Deferred outflows of resources		131,102		152,550	68,070		83,282	199,172		235,832
Long-term liabilities outstanding Other liabilities Total liabilities Deferred inflows of resources		523,048 523,048 147,797		584,402 12,169 596,571 31,006	 3,185,884 97,951 3,283,835 10,052		3,732,545 96,362 3,828,907 8,447	3,708,932 97,951 3,806,883 157,849		4,316,947 108,531 4,425,478 39,453
Net position: Net investment in capital assets Restricted Unrestricted, restated		867,732 262,338 324,858		929,636 254,477 407,534	2,655,447 - 990,343		2,509,200 - 940,143	3,523,179 262,338 1,315,201		3,438,836 254,477 1,347,677
Total net position	\$	1,454,928	\$	1,591,647	\$ 3,645,790	\$	3,449,343 \$	5,100,718	\$	5,040,990

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as one useful indicator of a government's financial condition. The assets and deferred outflows of the Town of Columbus exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows by \$5,100,718 as of June 30, 2020. The Town's net position increased by \$59,728 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020. However, the largest portion (69.1%) of net position reflects the Town's investment in capital assets (e.g. land, buildings, machinery, and equipment). The Town of Columbus uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the Town of Columbus's net investment in capital assets is reported net of the outstanding related debt, the resources needed to repay that debt must be provided by other sources, since the capital assets cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities. An additional portion of the Town of Columbus's net position totaling \$262,338 represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining balance of \$1,315,201 is unrestricted.

Several particular aspects of the Town's financial operations positively influenced the total unrestricted net position:

- Continued diligence in the collections of property taxes by maintaining a tax collections percentage of 99.24%.
- Continued low cost of debt due to the Town's high credit rating.

	Governmental Activities				ess-type vities	Total		
	2020		2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	
Revenues:								
Program revenues:								
Charges for services	\$ 74,:	585	\$ 77,041	\$ 1,324,320	\$ 1,326,927	\$ 1,398,905	\$ 1,403,968	
Operating grants and contributions	61,	127	47,840	-	-	61,127	47,840	
General revenues:								
Property taxes	586,	115	548,764	-	-	586,115	548,764	
Other taxes	418,	753	436,698	-	-	418,753	436,698	
Grants and contributions not restricted								
to specific programs	41,)29	43,449	-	-	41,029	43,449	
Other	1,	363	1,548	7,449	6,458	9,312	8,006	
Total revenues	1,183,4	172	1,155,340	1,331,769	1,333,385	2,515,241	2,488,725	
Expenses:								
General government	235,	341	205,555	-	-	235,841	205,555	
Public safety	876,	571	779,898	-	-	876,671	779,898	
Transportation	132,	794	111,694	-	-	132,794	111,694	
Environmental Protection	70,	593	68,173	-	-	70,593	68,173	
Interest on long-term debt	4,	292	5,474	-	-	4,292	5,474	
Water and sewer		-	-	1,135,322	1,158,547	1,135,322	1,158,547	
Total expenses	1,320,	191	1,170,794	1,135,322	1,158,547	2,455,513	2,329,341	
Increase in net position	(136,	719)	(15,454)	196,447	174,838	59,728	159,384	
Net position, previously reported	1,591,	547	1,607,101	3,391,589	3,216,751	4,983,236	4,823,852	
Net position, beginning restated	1,591,	547	1,607,101	3,449,343	3,274,505	5,040,990	4,881,606	
Net position, June 30	\$ 1,454,	928	\$ 1,591,647	\$ 3,645,790	\$ 3,449,343	\$ 5,100,718	\$ 5,040,990	

Town of Columbus Changes in Net Position Figure 3

Governmental activities: Governmental activities decreased the Town's net position by \$136,719. Key elements of this result are as follows:

• Increase in payroll and related expenditures of approximately \$100,000 from 2018/19 to 2019/20 fiscal years. This is due to new hires to account for attrition in the previous fiscal year. When three employees left the Town in 2018/19 they were not immediately replaced resulting in a lower than expected payroll and related expenditures during the 2018/19 year. The Town returned to full staff in the 2019/20 fiscal year.

Business-type activities: Business-type activities increased the Town of Columbus' net position by \$196,447. Key elements of this increase are as follows:

• Revenues of \$1,331,769 exceeded expenses of \$1,135,322. Water and sewer fees were increased by the Town previously following a litigation settlement of \$947,813 discussed in Note 3 of this report.

Financial Analysis of the Town's Funds

As noted earlier, the Town of Columbus uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental Funds. The focus of the Town of Columbus' governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of usable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Town of Columbus' financing requirements.

The general fund is the chief operating fund of the Town of Columbus. At the end of the current fiscal year, the Town of Columbus' fund balance available in the General Fund was \$561,067 while total fund balance was \$875,475.

The Governing Body of the Town of Columbus has determined that the Town should maintain an available fund balance of 20 percent of general fund budgeted expenditures in case of unforeseen needs or opportunities, in addition to meeting the cash flow needs of the Town. The Town currently has an available fund balance of 40.7 percent of general fund budgeted expenditures, while total fund balance represents 63.4 percent of the same amount.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights: During the fiscal year, the Town revised the budget on several occasions. Generally, budget amendments fall into one of three categories: 1) amendments made to adjust the estimates that are used to prepare the original budget ordinance once exact information is available; 2) amendments made to recognize new funding amounts from external sources, such as federal and state grants; and 3) increases in appropriations that become necessary to maintain services.

During the 2019/20 fiscal year the budget was amended to account for project grant revenues per grant agreements that were not known when the original budget ordinance was adopted, to allow for repairs to be completed to the foundation at the Veterans Park, and to correct the budget to reflect actual revenues and expenditures within the departments budgets.

Actual revenues were greater than budget by \$16,867 and actual expenses were less than budget by \$73,941.

Proprietary Fund. The Town of Columbus's proprietary fund provides the same type of information found in the government-wide statements but in more detail. Unrestricted net position of the Water and Sewer Fund at the end of the fiscal year amounted to \$990,343. The total change in net position was an increase of \$196,447.

Capital Asset and Debt Administration

Capital assets. The Town of Columbus' investment in capital assets for its governmental and business-type activities as of June 30, 2020, totals \$6,812,629 (net of accumulated depreciation). These assets include buildings, roads, land, machinery and equipment, water and sewer lines, and vehicles. Major capital asset transactions during the year include the following:

- Purchase of a new server for the Organization at a cost of \$15,608.
- Purchase of two new vehicles for the police department at a cost of \$91,976.
- Engineering costs for the water tank project at a cost of \$12,783.
- Engineering costs for a sanitary sewer project on East Mills Street at a cost of \$7,617.
- Engineering costs for a chlorine contact chamber at the Waste Treatment Plant at a cost of \$9,164.
- Purchase of two refrigerated samplers at the Waste Treatment Plant at a cost of \$13,367.
- Purchase of a new vehicle for the water and sewer department at a cost of \$28,848.

Town of Columbus's Capital Assets (net of depreciation)

Figure 4

	Gover	nmental	Busine	ss-type			
	Acti	vities	Activ	vities	Total		
	2020	2019	2020	2020 2019		2019	
Land	\$ 249,979	\$ 249,979	\$ 41,112	\$ 41,112	\$ 291,091	\$ 291,091	
Buildings and system improvements	420,624	439,019	108,827	120,790	529,451	559,809	
Water & sewer distribution systems	-	-	5,348,126	5,531,828	5,348,126	5,531,828	
Equipment & Furniture	54,899	61,442	124,302	107,712	179,201	169,154	
Vehicles and motorized equipment	155,201	111,677	49,878	38,435	205,079	150,112	
Infrastructure	231,898	261,059	-	-	231,898	261,059	
Construction in progress			27,783	15,000	27,783	15,000	
Total	\$1,112,601	\$1,123,176	\$5,700,028	\$5,854,877	\$6,812,629	\$6,978,053	

Additional information on the Town's capital assets can be found in Note 3 of the Basic Financial Statements beginning on page forty.

Long-term Debt. As of June 30, 2020, the Town of Columbus had debt outstanding of \$3,289,450. Of this, \$441,940 is debt backed by the full faith and credit of the Town. The remainder of the Town's debt represents installment obligations secured solely by specific assets purchased.

Town of Columbus' Outstanding Debt Installment Obligations and State Loans

Figure 5

		Governmental Activities		ess-type ivities	Total		
	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	
Installment obligations	\$ 244,869	\$ 193,541	\$ 2,602,641	\$ 2,815,349	\$2,847,510	\$3,008,890	
State emergency loan		-	441,940	530,328	441,940	530,328	
Total	\$ 244,869	\$ 193,541	\$ 3,044,581	\$ 3,345,677	\$3,289,450	\$3,539,218	

The Town of Columbus' total debt decreased by a net of \$249,768 (7.1%) during the past fiscal year.

North Carolina general statutes limit the amount of general obligation debt that a unit of government can issue to 8% of the total assessed value of taxable property located within that government's boundaries. The legal debt margin for the Town of Columbus is \$10,037,233.

Additional information regarding the Town of Columbus's long-term obligations can be found in Note 3 beginning on page fifty-five of this report.

Economic Factors

The following key economic indicators reflect the economy of the Town of Columbus.

- The unemployment rate in Polk County increased from 4.5% to 6.3% as of June 30, 2020 in comparison to the previous year. The unemployment rate for the State of North Carolina increased from 4.2% to 7.6% for the same time period. As of June 30, 2020, Polk County ranks nineteenth of the 100 counties in having the lowest unemployment rates.
- The outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, which began locally in March 2020, continues to cause a disruption to the regular operations of the Town, its service providers, volunteers, and citizens. While this continuing disruption is expected to be temporary, there is considerable uncertainty around the overall duration, the financial impact cannot be reasonably estimated at this time.
- A continued tax collection rate of over 99%.

Highlights for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2020

Governmental Activities: The Town's adopted budget for fiscal year 2020/21 totaled \$1,506,180 which represents a 9.2% increase from the fiscal year 2019/20 final budget of \$1,379,825.

The tax rate in the 2020/21 budget increased by .05 to .5246 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

The adopted budget provides for July 4th activities, which include a street fair, entertainment, and fireworks.

Business-type activities: The Town's adopted budget for fiscal year 2020/21 totaled \$1,737,545 which represents a 27.4% increase from the fiscal year 2019/20 final budget of \$1,364,030.

This increase largely due to loan proceeds of \$380,000 being secured for the town in the 2020/21 fiscal year.

Requests for Information

This report is designed to provide an overview of the Town's finances for those with an interest in this area. Questions concerning any of the information found in this report or requests for additional information should be directed to the Town Manager, Town of Columbus, P.O. Box 146, Columbus, North Carolina, 28722.

TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA STATEMENT OF NET POSITION JUNE 30, 2020

	P	-		
	Governmental <u>Activities</u>	Business-type Activities	Total	Town of Columbus ABC Board
Assets				
Current assets:	¢ <12.127	¢ 044.422	¢ 1557570	¢ 97142
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 613,137 5,278	\$ 944,433	\$ 1,557,570 5,278	\$ 87,143
Taxes receivables, net Accrued interest receivable on taxes	1,317		1,317	
Accounts receivable, net	22,862	78,217	101,079	
Due from other governments	80,279	56,954	137,233	
Inventories	•••,=••			151,829
Prepaid items				3,081
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	159,197	91,975	251,172	
Total current assets	\$ 882,070	\$ 1,171,579	\$ 2,053,649	\$ 242,053
Noncurrent assets: Capital assets (Note 1): Land, non-depreciable improvements,				
and construction in progress	\$ 249,979	\$ 68,895	\$ 318,874	
Other capital assets, net of depreciation	862,622	5,631,133	6,493,755	\$ 11,393
Total capital assets	\$ 1,112,601	\$ 5,700,028	\$ 6,812,629	\$ 11,393
Total assets	\$ 1,994,671	\$ 6,871,607	\$ 8,866,278	\$ 253,446
Deferred Outflows of Resources				
Pension deferrals	\$ 131,102	\$ 68,070	\$ 199,172	35,125
Liabilities				
Current liabilities:				
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		\$ 5,976	\$ 5,976	\$ 77,631
Current portion of long-term liabilities	\$ 56,277	332,850	389,127	
Payable from restricted assets		91,975	91,975	
Total current liabilities	\$ 56,277	\$ 430,801	\$ 487,078	\$ 77,631
Long-term liabilities:	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			
Due in more than one year	\$ 466,771	\$ 2,853,034	\$ 3,319,805	\$ 46,426
Total liabilities	\$ 523,048	\$ 3,283,835	\$ 3,806,883	\$ 124,057
Deferred Inflows of Resources				
Pension deferrals	\$ 147,797	\$ 10,052	\$ 157,849	
Net Position				
Net investment in capital assets	\$ 867,732	\$ 2,655,447	\$ 3,523,179	\$ 11,393
Restricted for:	102 141		102 141	
Stabilization by State Statute Streets	103,141 110,946		103,141 110,946	
Public safety	48,251		48,251	
Working capital	10,201		70,201	22,006
Unrestricted	324,858	990,343	1,315,201	131,115
Total net position	\$ 1,454,928	\$ 3,645,790	\$ 5,100,718	\$ 164,514
				<u> </u>

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

TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

		Program Revenues			
Functions/Programs	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions		
Primary government:					
Governmental Activities:					
General government	\$ 235,841	\$ 6,354	\$ 18,383		
Public safety	876,671		9,554		
Transportation	132,794		33,190		
Environmental protection	70,593	68,231			
Interest on long-term debt	4,292				
Total governmental activities		<u></u>			
(See Note 1)	\$ 1,320,191	\$ 74,585	\$ 61,127		
Business-type activities:					
Water and sewer	\$ 1,135,322	\$ 1,324,320			
Total business-type activities	\$ 1,135,322	\$ 1,324,320			
Total primary government	\$ 2,455,513	\$ 1,398,905	\$ 61,127		
Component unit:					
ABC Board	\$ 754,319	\$ 739,398			
Total component unit	\$ 754,319	\$ 739,398			

TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

	Net (Expense) F	Revenue and Char	iges in Net Position	l
	Pi	imary Governme	nt	·· <u>··</u> ····
Functions/Programs	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total	Town of Columbus ABC Board
Primary government: Governmental Activities: General government Public safety Transportation Environmental protection Interest on long-term debt Total governmental activities (See Note 1) Business-type activities: Water and sewer Total business-type activities Total primary government	<pre>\$ (211,104) (867,117) (99,604) (2,362) (4,292) \$ (1,184,479) \$ (1,184,479)</pre>	\$ 188,998 \$ 188,998 \$ 188,998 \$ 188,998	<pre>\$ (211,104) (867,117) (99,604) (2,362) (4,292) \$ (1,184,479) \$ 188,998 \$ 188,998 \$ 188,998 \$ (995,481)</pre>	
Component unit: ABC Board Total component unit				\$ (14,921) \$ (14,921)
General revenues: Taxes: Property taxes, levied for general purpose Local option sales tax Other taxes Grants and contributions not restricted to	\$ 586,115 295,505 123,248		\$ 586,115 295,505 123,248	
specific programs Unrestricted investment earnings Total general revenues Change in net position Net position, previously reported Net position, beginning, restated Net position, ending	41,029 1,863 \$ 1,047,760 \$ (136,719) \$ 1,591,647 \$ 1,591,647 \$ 1,454,928	\$ 7,449 \$ 7,449 \$ 196,447 \$ 3,391,589 \$ 3,449,343 \$ 3,645,790	41,029 9,312 \$ 1,055,209 \$ 59,728 \$ 4,983,236 \$ 5,040,990 \$ 5,100,718	\$ (14,921) \$ 179,435 \$ 179,435 \$ 164,514

TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUND JUNE 30, 2020

	General Fund	
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	613,137
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		159,197
Receivables, net:		
Taxes		5,278
Accounts		22,862
Due from other governments		80,279
Total assets	\$	880,753
Deferred Inflows of Resources		
Property taxes receivable	\$	5,278
Total deferred inflows of resources	\$	5,278
Fund Balances		
Restricted		
Stabilization by State Statute	\$	103,141
Streets		110,946
Public Safety		48,251
Assigned		
Subsequent year's expenditures		52,070
Unassigned		561,067
Total fund balances	\$	875,475
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources		
and fund balances	\$	880,753

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

TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUND JUNE 30, 2020

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position (Exhibit 1) are different because:		
Total Fund Balance, Governmental Fund		\$ 875,475
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial		
resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.	¢ 0.240.520	
Gross capital assets at historical cost	\$ 2,342,539	1 112 601
Accumulated depreciation	(1,229,938)	1,112,601
Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions are not		
reported in the funds		131,102
Other long-term assets (accrued interest receivable from taxes) are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and,		
therefore, are inflows of resources in the funds.		1,317
		-,
Earned revenues considered deferred inflows of resources in the		
fund statements.		5,278
Tunu statements.		5,270
Long-term liabilities used in governmental activities are not financial		
uses and therefore are not reported in the funds		
Gross long-term debt, beginning	\$ (223,689)	
Long-term debt included as net position below (includes the		
addition of long-term debt and principal payments during the year.)	(57,955)	(281,644)
Net pension liability		(241,404)
Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions are not		
reported in the funds		(147,797)
		<u></u>
Net position of governmental activities		\$ 1,454,928
·		

TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE -- GOVERNMENTAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

	General Fund	
Revenues		
Ad valorem taxes	\$ 589,471	
Other taxes and licenses	21,294	
Unrestricted intergovernmental	405,503	
Restricted intergovernmental	42,744	
Permits, fees and other receipts	108,314	
Grants	10,339	
Investment earnings	1,862	
Total revenues	\$ 1,179,527	
Expenditures		
General government	\$ 216,844	
Public safety	788,398	
Transportation	104,153	
Environmental protection	70,593	
Debt service:	,	
Principal	38,691	
Interest and other charges	4,292	
Capital outlay	99,780	
Total expenditures	\$ 1,322,751	
Excess (deficiency) of revenues		
over expenditures	\$ (143,224)	
Other Financing Sources		
Sale of capital assets	\$ 7,300	
Installment purchase obligations issued	90,019	
Total other financing sources	\$ 97,319	
Net change in fund balance	\$ (45,905)	
Fund balance, beginning as previously reported	921,380	
Fund balance, ending	\$ 875,475	

TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE -- GOVERNMENTAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:			
Net change in fund balance - total governmental fund		\$	(45,905)
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 in the current period. Capital outlay expenditures which were capitalized Depreciation expense for governmental assets	\$ 99,780 (110,355)		(10,575)
Contributions to the pension plan in the current fiscal year are not included on the Statement of Activities			45,447
Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds. Change in unavailable revenue for tax revenues			(3,355)
The issuance of long-term debt provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes the current financial resources of governmental funds. Neither transaction has any effect on net position. This amount is the net effect of these differences in the treatment of long-term debt and related items. New long-term debt issued Principal payments on long-term debt	\$ (90,019) 38,690		(51,329)
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Change in compensated absences Pension Expense			(6,626) (64,376)
Total changes in net position of governmental activities		\$ (136,719)

TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES ANNUAL BUDGET AND ACTUAL -- GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

	General Fund			
	Original	Final	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)
Revenues:				
Ad valorem taxes	\$ 579,000	\$ 588,400	\$ 589,471	\$ 1,071
Other taxes and licenses	28,600	18,600	21,294	2,694
Unrestricted intergovernmental	396,400	409,400	405,503	(3,897)
Restricted intergovernmental	33,700	33,700	42,744	9,044
Permits, fees and other receipts	82,700	101,665	108,314	6,649
Grants	20,000	10,340	10,339	(1)
Investment earnings	555	555	1,862	1,307
Total revenues	\$ 1,140,955	\$ 1,162,660	\$1,179,527	\$ 16,867
Expenditures: Current:	Ф. 041 5 05	Ф. 040.00 <i>г</i>	Ф. <u>220</u> 746	¢ 01.400
General government	\$ 241,705	\$ 242,235	\$ 220,746	\$ 21,489 20,704
Public safety	939,855	914,980	884,276	30,704
Transportation	71,390	114,690	104,153	10,537
Environmental protection Debt service:	64,930	64,930	70,593	(5,663)
Principal retirement		38,695	38,691	4
Interest and other charges	3,775	4,295	4,292	3
Total expenditures	\$ 1,321,655	\$ 1,379,825	\$1,322,751	\$ 57,074
Revenues over (under) expenditures	\$ (180,700)	\$ (217,165)	\$ (143,224)	\$ 73,941
Other financing sources:				
Sale of capital assets	\$ 10,000	\$ 7,300	\$ 7,300	
Installment purchase obligations issued	93,200	93,200	90,019	\$ (3,181)
Total other financing sources	\$ 103,200	\$ 100,500	\$ 97,319	\$ (3,181)
Fund balance appropriated	\$ 77,500	\$ 116,665		\$(116,665)
Net change in fund balance	\$ -	<u>\$</u> -	\$ (45,905)	\$ (45,905)
Fund balance, beginning as previously reported			921,380	
Fund balance, ending			<u>\$ 875,475</u>	

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

TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA STATEMENT OF FUND NET POSITION PROPRIETARY FUND JUNE 30, 2020

	Water and Sewer Fund	
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 944,433	
Accounts receivable, net	78,217	
Due from other governments	56,954	
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	91,975	
Total current assets	\$ 1,171,579	
Noncurrent assets:		
Capital assets:		
Land and construction in progress	\$ 68,895	
Other capital assets, net of depreciation	5,631,133	
Capital assets	\$ 5,700,028	
Total noncurrent assets	\$ 5,700,028	
Total assets	\$ 6,871,607	
Deferred Outflows of Resources		
Pension deferrals	\$ 68,070	
Liabilities		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 5,976	
Compensated absences, current	5,278	
Installment obligations, current	327,572	
Liabilities payable from restricted assets:		
Customer deposits	91,975	
Total current liabilities	\$ 430,801	
Non-current liabilities:		
Compensated absences	\$ 19,728	
Net pension liability	116,297	
Installment obligations, non-current	2,717,009	
Total noncurrent liabilities	\$ 2,853,034	
Total liabilities	\$ 3,283,835	
Deferred Inflows of Resources		
Pension deferrals	\$ 10,052	
Net Position		
Net investment in capital assets	\$ 2,655,447	
Unrestricted	990,343	
Total net position	\$ 3,645,790	

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

TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN FUND NET POSITION -- PROPRIETARY FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

	Water and Sewer Fund
Operating revenues:	¢ 1 202 120
Charges for services	\$ 1,303,120
Water and sewer taps	21,200
Total operating revenues	\$ 1,324,320
Operating expenses:	
Salaries and employee benefits	\$ 535,309
Outside services	52,817
Utilities	84,377
Telephone	2,458
Repairs and maintenance	93,621
Equipment rental	156
Materials and supplies	23,774
Office supplies and postage	15,562
Advertising	1,472
Uniforms	1,306
Staff development	365
Professional services	43,486
Safety program and equipment	1,544
Insurance	15,759
Depreciation	234,432
Total operating expenses	\$ 1,106,438
Operating income	\$ 217,882
Non-operating revenues (expenses):	
Investment earnings	\$ 7,449
Interest and other charges	(28,884)
Total non-operating revenues (expenses)	\$ (21,435)
Change in net position	\$ 196,447
Total net position, previously reported	\$ 3,391,589
Beginning net position, restated	\$ 3,449,343
Total net position, ending	\$ 3,645,790

TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS PROPRIETARY FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

		Vater and ewer Fund
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Cash received from customers	\$	1,347,408
Cash paid for goods and services		(333,709)
Cash paid to or on behalf of employees for services		(511,187)
Customer deposits received		7,410
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$	509,922
Cash flows from noncapital financing activities:		
Decrease in due from other governments	\$	800
Net cash provided by noncapital financing activities	\$	800
Cash flows from capital and related financing activities:		
Acquisition and construction of capital assets	\$	(79,582)
Installmet purchase obligations issued		28,848
Principal paid on installment obligations		(329,944)
Principal paid on refund settlement obligation		(261,680)
Interest paid on installment obligations		(28,884)
Net cash (used) by capital and related financing activities	\$	(671,242)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Interest and dividends	\$	7,449
Net cash provided by investing activities	\$	7,449
Net (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	\$	(153,071)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	<u></u>	1,189,479
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$	1,036,408

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

Exhibit 8 (continued)

TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS PROPRIETARY FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

	Water and Sewer Fund		
Reconciliation of operating income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Operating income	\$	217,882	
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash			
provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation	\$	234,432	
Changes in assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities,			
and deferred inflows of resources:			
Decrease in accounts receivable		23,089	
Decrease in deferred outflows of resources - pensions		15,211	
Increase in net pension liability		4,713	
Increase in deferred inflows of resources - pensions		1,604	
(Decrease) in accounts payable and accrued liabilities		(5,820)	
Increase in customer deposits		7,410	
Increase in compensated absences		11,401	
Total adjustments	\$	292,040	
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$	509,922	

Note 1 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The accounting policies of the Town of Columbus and its discretely presented component unit conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments. The following is a summary of the more significant accounting policies:

A. <u>Reporting Entity</u>

The Town of Columbus (the Town) is a municipal corporation that is governed by an elected mayor and a four-member council. As required by generally accepted accounting principles, these financial statements present the Town and its component unit, a legally separate entity for which the Town is financially accountable. The discretely presented component unit presented below is reported in a separate column in the financial statements in order to emphasize that it is legally separate from the Town.

Town of Columbus ABC Board

The members of the ABC Board's governing board are appointed by the Town. In addition, the ABC Board is required by state statute to distribute its surpluses to the General Fund of the Town. The ABC Board, which has a June 30 year-end, is presented as if it were a proprietary fund (discrete presentation). Complete financial statements for the ABC Board may be obtained from the entity's administrative offices at Town of Columbus ABC Board, P.O. Box 755, Columbus, NC 28722-0755.

B. Basis of Presentation

Government-wide Statements: The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the primary government and its component unit. These statements include the financial activities of the overall government. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double counting of internal activities. These statements distinguish between the *governmental* and *business-type activities* of the Town. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange transactions. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties.

The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for the different business-type activities of the Town and for each function of the Town's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a specific function. Indirect expense allocations that have been made in the funds have been reversed for the statement of activities. Program revenues include (a) fees and charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by the programs and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a specific program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - continued

Fund Financial Statements: The fund financial statements provide information about the Town's funds. Separate statements for each fund category – governmental and proprietary – are presented. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental and enterprise funds, each displayed in a separate column. All remaining governmental and enterprise funds are aggregated and reported as non-major funds.

Proprietary fund operating revenues, such as charges for services, result from exchange transactions associated with the principal activity of the fund. Exchange transactions are those in which each party receives and gives up essentially equal values. Non-operating revenues, such as subsidies result from non-exchange transactions. Other non-operating revenues are ancillary activities such as investment earnings.

The Town reports the following major governmental fund:

General Fund. The General Fund is the general operating fund of the Town. The General Fund accounts for all financial resources except those that are required to be accounted for in another fund. The primary revenue sources are ad valorem taxes, state grants, and various other taxes and licenses. The primary expenditures are for public safety, street maintenance and construction, and sanitation services.

The Town reports the following major enterprise fund:

Water and Sewer Fund. This fund is used to account for the Town's water and sewer operations.

C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

In accordance with North Carolina General Statutes, all funds of the Town are maintained during the year using the modified accrual basis of accounting.

Government-wide and Proprietary Fund Financial Statements. The government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus. The government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash flows take place. Non-exchange transactions, in which the Town gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange, include property taxes, grants, and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. Revenue from grants and donations are recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - continued

Amounts reported as program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants for goods, services, or privileges provided, 2) operating grants and contributions, and 3) capital grants and contributions, including special assessments. Internally dedicated resources are reported as general revenues rather than as program revenues. Likewise, general revenues include all taxes.

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from non-operating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues of the Town's enterprise fund are charges to customers for sales and services. The Town also recognizes as operating revenue the portion of tap fees intended to recover the cost of connecting new customers to the water and sewer system. Operating expenses for the enterprise fund include the cost of sales and services, administrative expenses, and depreciation on capital assets. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating revenues and expenses.

Governmental Fund Financial Statements. Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, claims and judgments, and compensated absences, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Issuance of general long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

The Town considers all revenues available if they are collected within ninety days after year-end, except for property taxes. Ad valorem taxes receivable are not accrued as revenue because the amount is not susceptible to accrual. At June 30, taxes receivable for property other than motor vehicles are materially past due and are not considered to be an available resource to finance the operations of the current year. Also, as of September 1, 2013, state law altered the procedures for the assessment and collection of property taxes on registered motor vehicles in North Carolina. Effective with this change in the law, the State of North Carolina is responsible for billing and collecting the property taxes on registered motor vehicles on behalf of all municipalities and special tax districts. Property taxes are due when vehicles are registered. The billed taxes are applicable to the fiscal year in which they are received. Uncollected taxes that were billed in periods prior to September 1, 2013, and for limited registration plates are shown as a receivable in these financial statements and are offset by deferred inflows of resources.

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - continued

Sales taxes and certain intergovernmental revenues, such as the beer and wine tax, collected and held by the state at year-end on behalf of the Town are recognized as revenue. Sales taxes are considered a shared revenue for the Town of Columbus because the tax is levied by Polk County and then remitted to and distributed by the state. Most intergovernmental revenues and sales and services are not susceptible to accrual because generally they are not measurable until received in cash. All taxes, including those dedicated for specific purposes are reported as general revenues rather than program revenues. Under the terms of grant agreements, the Town funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost-reimbursement grants, categorical block grants, and general revenues. Thus, when program expenses are incurred, there is both restricted and unrestricted net position available to finance the program. It is the Town's policy to first apply cost-reimbursement grant resources to such programs, followed by categorical block grants, and then general revenues.

D. Budgetary Data

The Town's budgets are adopted as required by the North Carolina General Statutes. An annual budget is adopted for the General Fund and the Enterprise Fund. All annual appropriations lapse at the fiscal-year end. All budgets are prepared using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations at the functional level for all annually budgeted funds. All amendments must be approved by the governing board and the Board must adopt an interim budget that covers that time until the annual ordinance can be adopted.

E. Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Fund Equity

1. Deposits and Investments

All deposits of the Town and the ABC Board are made in board-designated official depositories and are secured as required by state law [G.S. 159-31]. The Town and the ABC Board may designate, as an official depository, any bank or savings association whose principal office is located in North Carolina. Also, the Town and the ABC Board may establish time deposit accounts such as NOW and SuperNOW accounts, money market accounts, and certificates of deposit.

State law [G.S. 159-30(c)] authorizes the Town and the ABC Board to invest in obligations of the United States or obligations fully guaranteed both as to principal and interest by the United States; obligations of the State of North Carolina; bonds and notes of any North Carolina local government or public authority, obligations of

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - continued

1. Deposits and Investments (continued)

certain non-guaranteed federal agencies, certain high quality issues of commercial paper and bankers' acceptances, and the North Carolina Capital Management Trust (NCCMT). The Town's and the ABC Board's investments are reported at fair value. The NCCMT Government Portfolio, a SEC-registered (2a-7) money market mutual fund, is measured at fair value. The NCCMT- Term Portfolio is bond fund, has no rating and is measured at fair value. As of June 30, 2020, The Term portfolio has a duration of .15 years. Because the NCCMT Government and Term Portfolios have a weighted average maturity of less than ninety days, they are presented as an investment with a maturity of less than six months.

2. Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Town pools money from several funds to facilitate disbursement and investment and to maximize investment income and considers all cash and investments to be cash and cash equivalents. The ABC Board considers all highly liquid investments (including restricted assets) with a maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash and cash equivalents.

3. <u>Restricted Assets</u>

Powell Bill funds are classified as restricted cash because they can be expended only for the purposes outlined in G.S. 136-41.1 through 136-41.4.

Federal Seizure funds are also classified as a restricted asset because their use is restricted to benefit the Public Safety efforts of the Town.

Customer deposits held by the Town before any services are supplied are restricted to the service for which the deposit was collected.

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - continued

3. Restricted Assets (continued)

Town of Columbus Restricted Cash							
Governmental Activities							
General Fund							
Streets	\$	110,946					
Public Safety		48,251					
Total governmental activities	\$	159,197					
Business-type Activities							
Water and Sewer Fund							
Customer deposits	\$	91,975					
Total business-type activities	\$	91,975					
Total Restricted Cash	\$	251,172					

4. Ad Valorem Taxes Receivable

In accordance with State law [G.S. 105-347 and G.S. 159-13(a)], the Town levies ad valorem taxes on property other than motor vehicles on July 1st, the beginning of the fiscal year. The taxes are due on September 1st (lien date); however, interest does not accrue until the following January 6th. These taxes are based on the assessed values as of January 1, 2019. As allowed by state law, the Town has established a schedule of discounts that apply to taxes that are paid prior to the due date. In the Town's General Fund, ad valorem tax revenues are reported net of such discounts.

5. Allowances for Doubtful Accounts

All receivables that historically experience uncollectible accounts are shown net of an allowance for doubtful accounts. This amount is estimated by analyzing the percentage of receivables that were written off in prior years.

6. Inventory and Prepaid Items

The inventories of the ABC Board are valued at cost (last-in, first-out), which approximates market. The inventory of the ABC Board consists of products held for resale. The cost of the inventory is expensed when sold rather than when purchased.

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both government-wide and fund financial statements and expensed as the items are used.

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - continued

7. Capital Assets

Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than a certain cost and an estimated useful life in excess of two years. The minimum capitalization cost is \$1,000 for all assets of the governmental activities and \$5,000 for the business-type activities. Donated capital assets received prior to June 30, 2015, are recorded at their estimated fair value at the date of donation. Donated capital assets received after June 30, 2015 are recorded at acquisition value. All other purchased or constructed capital assets are reported at cost or estimated historical cost. General infrastructure assets acquired prior to July 1, 2003, consist of the road network and water and sewer system assets that were acquired or that received substantial improvements subsequent to July 1, 1980, and are reported at estimated historical cost using deflated replacement cost. The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets' lives are not capitalized.

Capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

	Estimated
Asset Class	Useful Lives
Infrastructure	30
Buildings and systems	40
Improvements	25
Vehicles and motorized equipment	5
Furniture and equipment	10
Computer equipment	3

Property and equipment of the ABC Board are depreciated over their useful lives on a straight-line basis as follows:

-	Estimated
Asset Class	Useful Lives
Furniture and equipment	5-10
Leasehold improvements	10

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - continued

8. Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *Deferred Outflows of Resources*, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period and so will not be recognized as an expense or expenditure until then. The Town has one item that meets this criterion, pension deferrals for the 2020 fiscal year. In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *Deferred Inflows of Resources*, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period and so will not be recognized as revenue until then. The Town has two items that meets the criterion for this category – property taxes receivable and pension deferrals.

9. Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements and proprietary fund type in the fund financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities, business-type activities, or proprietary fund type statement of net position.

10. Compensated Absences

The vacation policy of the Town provides for the accumulation of up to twenty-five days earned vacation leave with such leave being fully vested when earned. For the Town's government-wide and proprietary funds, an expense and a liability for compensated absences and the salary-related payments are recorded as the leave is earned. The Town has assumed a first-in, first-out method of using accumulated compensated time. The portion of that time that is estimated to be used in the next fiscal year has been designated as a current liability in the government-wide financial statements.

The Town's sick leave policy provides for an unlimited accumulation of earned sick leave. Sick leave does not vest, but any unused sick leave accumulated at the time of retirement may be used in the determination of length of service for retirement benefit purposes. Since the Town does not have any obligation for the accumulated sick leave until it is taken, no accrual for sick leave has been made.

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - continued

11. <u>Net Position/Fund Balances</u>

Net Position

Net position in government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements are classified as net investment in capital assets, restricted, and unrestricted. Restricted net position represents constraints on resources that are either externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or imposed by law through state statute.

Fund Balances

In the governmental fund financial statements, fund balance is composed of five classifications designed to disclose the hierarchy of constraints placed on how fund balance can be spent.

The governmental fund types classify fund balance as follows:

Nonspendable Fund Balance – This classification 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.

Restricted Fund Balance – This classification includes amounts that are restricted to specific purposes externally imposed by creditors or imposed by law.

Restricted for Stabilization by State statute - North Carolina G.S. 159-8 prohibits units of government from budgeting or spending a portion of their fund balance. This is one of several statutes enacted by the North Carolina State Legislature in the 1930's that were designed to improve and maintain the fiscal health of local government units. Restricted by State statute (RSS), is calculated at the end of each fiscal year for all annually budgeted funds. The calculation in G.S. 159-8(a) provides a formula for determining what portion of fund balance is available for appropriation. The amount of fund balance not available for appropriation is what is known as "restricted by State statute". Appropriated fund balance in any fund shall not exceed the sum of cash and investments minus the sum of liabilities, encumbrances, and deferred revenues arising from cash receipts, as those figures stand at the close of the fiscal year next preceding the budget. Per GASB guidance, RSS is considered a resource upon which a restriction is "imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation." RSS is reduced by inventories and prepaids as they are classified as nonspendable. Outstanding Encumbrances are included with RSS. RSS is included as a component of Restricted Net position and Restricted fund balance on the face of the balance sheet.

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - continued

11. Net Position/Fund Balances (continued)

Fund Balances (continued)

Restricted for Streets - Powell Bill portion of fund balance that is restricted by revenue source for street construction and maintenance expenditures. This amount represents the balance of the total unexpended Powell Bill funds.

Restricted for Public Safety - portion of fund balance restricted by revenue source for public safety purposes.

Committed Fund Balance – portion of fund balance that can only be used for specific purposes imposed by majority vote by quorum of the Town of Columbus' governing body (highest level of decision-making authority). The governing body can, by adoption of an ordinance prior to the end of the fiscal year, commit fund balance. Once adopted, the limitation imposed by the ordinance remains in place until a similar action is taken (the adoption of another ordinance) to remove or revise the limitation.

Assigned Fund Balance – portion of fund balance that the Town of Columbus governing board authorizes and intends to use for specific purposes.

Subsequent year's expenditures - portion of fund balance that is appropriated in the next year's budget that is not already classified as restricted or committed.

Unassigned Fund Balance – the portion of fund balance that has not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes or other funds.

The Town of Columbus has a revenue spending policy that provides guidance for programs with multiple revenue sources. The Finance Officer will use resources in the following hierarchy: bond proceeds, federal funds, state funds, local non-Town funds, Town funds. For purposes of fund balance classification expenditures are to be spent from restricted fund balance first, followed in-order by committed fund balance, assigned fund balance, and lastly unassigned fund balance. The Finance Officer has the authority to deviate from this policy if it is in the best interest of the Town.

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - continued

11. Net Position/Fund Balances (continued)

Fund Balances (continued)

The Town of Columbus has also adopted a minimum fund balance policy for the general fund which instructs management to conduct the business of the Town in such a manner that available fund balance is at least equal to or greater than 20% of budgeted expenditures. Any portion of the general fund balance in excess of 20% of budgeted expenditures may be appropriated for one-time expenditures and may not be used for any purpose that would obligate the Town in a future budget.

12. Defined Benefit Cost-Sharing Plans

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System (LGERS) and additions to/deductions from LGERS' fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by LGERS. For this purpose, plan member contributions are recognized in the period in which the contributions are due. The Town of Columbus' employer contributions are recognized when due and the Town of Columbus has a legal requirement to provide the contributions. Benefits and refunds are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of LGERS. Investments are reported at fair value.

Note 2 - Stewardship, Compliance, and Accountability

A. Excess of Expenditures over Appropriations

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, the expenditures made in the Town's General Fund exceeded the authorized appropriations made by the governing board for environmental protection activities by \$5,663. Management and the Board will more closely review the budget reports to ensure compliance in future years.

Note 3 - Detail Notes on All Funds

A. Assets

1. Deposits

All the deposits of the Town and the ABC Board are either insured or collateralized by using one of two methods. Under the Dedicated Method, all deposits that exceed the federal depository insurance coverage level are collateralized with securities held by the Town's or the ABC Board's agents in these units' names. Under the Pooling Method, which is a collateral pool, all uninsured deposits are collateralized with securities held by the State Treasurer's agent in the name of the State Treasurer. Since the State Treasurer is acting in a fiduciary capacity for the Town and the ABC Board, these deposits are considered to be held by the Town's and the ABC Board's agents in the entities names. The amount of the pledged collateral is based on an approved averaging method for non-interest bearing deposits and the actual current balance for interest-bearing deposits. Depositories using the Pooling Method report to the State Treasurer the adequacy of their pooled collateral covering uninsured deposits.

The State Treasurer does not confirm this information with the Town, the ABC Board, or the escrow agent. Because of the inability to measure the exact amounts of collateral pledged for the Town and the ABC Board under the Pooling Method, the potential exists for under-collateralization. This risk may increase in periods of high cash flows. However, the State Treasurer of North Carolina enforces strict standards of financial stability for each depository that collateralizes public deposits under the Pooling Method. The Town has no formal policy regarding custodial credit risk for deposits, but relies on the State Treasurer to enforce standards of minimum capitalization for all pooling method financial institutions and to monitor them for compliance. The Town complies with the provisions of G.S. 159-31 when designating official depositories and verifying that deposits are properly secured. The ABC Board has no formal policy regarding custodial credit risk for deposits.

At June 30, 2020, the Town's deposits had a carrying amount of \$1,767,367 and a bank balance of \$1,898,296. Of the bank balance, \$682,207 was covered by federal depository insurance and the remainder was covered by collateral held under the pooling method. The carrying amount of deposits for the ABC Board was \$86,524 and the bank balance was \$109,336. All of the bank balance was covered by federal depository insurance. At June 30, 2020, the Town's petty cash fund totaled \$230.

2. Investments

At June 30, 2020, the Town of Columbus had \$41,145 invested with the North Carolina Capital Management Trust's Government Portfolio which carried a credit rating of AAAm by Standard and Poor's. The Town has no policy regarding credit risk.

Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued

3. <u>Receivables - Allowances for Doubtful Accounts</u>

The amounts presented in the Balance Sheet and the Statement of Net Position for the year ended June 30, 2020, are net of the following allowances for doubtful accounts:

Fund	6/	30/2020
General Fund:		
Taxes receivable	\$	11,372

4. Capital Assets

Primary Government

Capital asset activity for the Primary Government for the year ended June 30, 2020, was as follows:

	Beginning				Ending
Governmental activities:	Balances	Increases	D	ecreases	Balances
Capital assets not being depreciated:					
Land	\$ 249,979				\$ 249,979
Total capital assets not being depreciated	\$ 249,979				\$ 249,979
Capital assets being depreciated:					
Buildings	\$ 584,921				\$ 584,921
Equipment and furniture	329,188	\$ 7,804			336,992
Vehicles and motorized equipment	555,646	91,976	\$	50,735	596,887
Infrastructure	573,760				573,760
Total capital assets being depreciated	\$2,043,515	\$ 99,780	\$	50,735	\$2,092,560
Less accumulated depreciation for:					
Buildings	\$ 145,902	\$ 18,395			\$ 164,297
Equipment and furniture	267,746	14,347			282,093
Vehicles and motorized equipment	443,969	48,452	\$	50,735	441,686
Infrastructure	312,701	29,161			341,862
Total accumulated depreciation	\$1,170,318	\$110,355	\$	50,735	\$1,229,938
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	\$ 873,197				\$ 862,622
Governmental activity capital assets, net	\$1,123,176				\$1,112,601

Note 3 - Detail Notes on All Funds - continued

4. Capital Assets (continued)

Depreciation expense was charged to functions/programs of the primary government as follows:

General government	\$ 14,946
Public safety	69,393
Transportation	 26,016
Total depreciation expense	\$ 110,355

	Beginning Balances Increases					Ending Balances
Business-type activities:						
Water and Sewer Fund						
Capital assets not being depreciated:						
Land	\$ 41,112			\$ 41,112		
Construction in progress	15,000	\$ 12,783		27,783		
Total capital assets not being depreciated	\$ 56,112	\$ 12,783		\$ 68,895		
Capital assets being depreciated:						
Building	\$ 278,457			\$ 278,457		
Water and sewer distribution systems	7,541,120	\$ 7,616		7,548,736		
Equipment and furniture	664,848	30,336		695,184		
Vehicles and motorized equipment	201,754	28,848		230,602		
Total capital assets being depreciated	\$ 8,686,179	\$ 66,800	\$ -	\$ 8,752,979		
Less accumulated depreciation for:	<u></u>					
Building	\$ 157,667	\$ 11,963		\$ 169,630		
Water and sewer distribution systems	2,009,292	191,318		2,200,610		
Equipment and furniture	557,136	13,746		570,882		
Vehicles and motorized equipment	163,319	17,405		180,724		
Total accumulated depreciation	\$ 2,887,414	\$ 234,432	\$ -	\$ 3,121,846		
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	\$ 5,798,765			\$ 5,631,133		
Water and Sewer fund capital assets, net	\$ 5,854,877			\$ 5,700,028		
Business-type activities capital assets, net	\$ 5,854,877			\$ 5,700,028		

Note 3 - Detail Notes on All Funds - continued

4. Capital Assets - continued

Discretely presented component unit

Activity for the ABC Board for the year ended June 30, 2020, was as follows:

	Be	eginning					F	Ending
	E	Balances	Ir	creases	De	creases	B	alances
Capital assets being depreciated:								
Leasehold improvements	\$	18,527					\$	18,527
Store equipment		31,580	\$	10,534	\$	1,188		40,926
Computer equipment		783				500		283
Total capital assets being depreciated	\$	50,890	\$	10,534	\$	1,688	\$	59,736
Less accumulated depreciation for:								
Leasehold improvements	\$	18,527					\$	18,527
Store equipment		26,481	\$	4,240	\$	1,188		29,533
Computer equipment		783				500		283
Total accumulated depreciation	\$	45,791	\$	4,240	\$	1,688	\$	48,343
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	\$	5,099					\$	11,393

B. Liabilities

1. Pension Plan and Postemployment Obligations

a. Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System

Plan Description. The Town of Columbus is a participating employer in the statewide Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System (LGERS), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the State of North Carolina. LGERS membership is comprised of general employees and local law enforcement officers (LEOs) of participating local governmental entities. Article 3 of G.S. Chapter 128 assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the North Carolina General Assembly. Management of the plan is vested in the LGERS Board of Trustees, which consists of thirteen members – nine appointed by the Governor, one appointed by the State Senate, one appointed by the State House of Representatives, and the State Treasurer and State Superintendent, who serve as ex-officio members. The Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System is included in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the State of North Carolina. The State's CAFR includes financial statements and required supplementary information for LGERS.

Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued

a. Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System - continued

That report may be obtained by writing to the Office of the State Controller, 1410 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1410, by calling (919) 981-5454, or at www.osc.nc.gov.

Benefits Provided. LGERS provides retirement and survivor benefits. Retirement benefits are determined as 1.85% of the member's average final compensation times the member's years of creditable service. A member's average final compensation is calculated as the average of a member's four highest consecutive years of compensation. Plan members are eligible to retire with full retirement benefits at age 65 with five years of creditable service, at age 60 with 25 years of creditable service, or at any age with 30 years of creditable service. Plan members are eligible to retire with partial retirement benefits at age 50 with 20 years of creditable service or at age 60 with five years of creditable service (age 55 for firefighters). Survivor benefits are available to eligible beneficiaries of members who die while in active service or within 180 days of their last day of service and who have either completed 20 years of creditable service regardless of age (15 years of creditable service for firefighters and rescue squad members who are killed in the line of duty) or have completed five years of service and have reached age 60. Eligible beneficiaries may elect to receive a monthly Survivor's Alternate Benefit for life or a return of the member's contributions. The plan does not provide for automatic postretirement benefit increases. Increases are contingent upon actuarial gains of the plan.

LGERS plan members who are LEOs are eligible to retire with full retirement benefits at age 55 with five years of creditable service as an officer, or at any age with 30 years of creditable service. LEO plan members are eligible to retire with partial retirement benefits at age 50 with 15 years of creditable service as an officer. Survivor benefits are available to eligible beneficiaries of LEO members who die while in active service or within 180 days of their last day of service and who also have either completed 20 years of creditable service regardless of age, or have completed 15 years of service as an LEO and have reached age 50, or have completed 15 years of creditable service as an LEO and have reached age 55, or have completed 15 years of creditable service as an LEO if killed in the line of duty. Eligible beneficiaries may elect to receive a monthly Survivor's Alternate Benefit for life or a return of the member's contributions.

Contributions. Contribution provisions are established by General Statute 128-30 and may be amended only by the North Carolina General Assembly. Town of Columbus employees are required to contribute 6% of their compensation.

Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued

a. Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System - continued

Employer contributions are actuarially determined and set annually by the LGERS Board of Trustees. The Town of Columbus' contractually required contribution rate for the year ended June 30, 2020, was 9.70% of compensation for law enforcement officers and 8.95% for general employees, actuarially determined as an amount that, when combined with employee contributions, is expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year. Contributions to the pension plan from the Town of Columbus were \$78,528 for the year ended June 30, 2020.

Refunds of Contributions – Town employees who have terminated service as a contributing member of LGERS, may file an application for a refund of their contributions. By state law, refunds to members with at least five years of service include 4% interest. State law requires a 60-day waiting period after service termination before the refund may be paid. The acceptance of a refund payment cancels the individual's right to employer contributions, or any other benefit provided by LGERS.

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

At June 30, 2020, the Town reported a liability of \$311,053 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2019. The total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2018. The total pension liability was then rolled forward to the measurement date of June 30, 2019, utilizing update procedures incorporating the actuarial assumptions. The Town's proportion of the net pension liability was based on a projection of the Town's long-term share of future payroll covered by the pension plan, relative to the projected future payroll covered by the pension plan of all participating LGERS employers, actuarially determined. At June 30, 2019 (measurement date), the Town's proportion was 0.01139%, which was a decrease of 0.00125% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2018.

For the year ended June 30, 2020, the Town recognized pension expense of \$129,633. At June 30, 2020, the Town reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

Note 3 - Detail Notes on All Funds - continued

a. Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System - continued

		eferred Outflows of Resources		erred Inflov Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$	53,260		
Changes of assumptions		50,696		
Net difference between projected and actual earnings of	n			
pension plan investments		7,588		
Changes in proportion and differences between Town				
contributions and proportionate share of contribution	5		\$	18,579
Town contributions subsequent to the measurement da	te	78,528		
Total	\$	190,072	\$	18,579

\$78,528 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from Town contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a decrease of the net pension liability in the year ended June 30, 2021. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ended		
June 30	P	rincipal
2020	\$	48,699
2021		12,532
2022		26,078
2023		5,656
Total	\$	92,965

Actuarial Assumptions. The total pension liability in the December 31, 2018, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	3.0 percent
Salary increases	3.50 to 8.10 percent, including
	inflation and productivity factor
Investment rate of return	7.00 percent, net of pension plan
	investment expense, including
	inflation

Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued

a. Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System - continued

The plan currently uses mortality tables that vary by age, gender, employee group (i.e. general, law enforcement officer) and health status (i.e. disabled and healthy). The current mortality rates are based on published tables and based on studies that cover significant portions of the U.S. population. The healthy mortality rates also contain a provision to reflect future mortality improvements.

The actuarial assumptions used in the December 31, 2018, valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2014.

Future ad hoc COLA amounts are not considered to be substantively automatic and are therefore not included in the measurement.

The projected long-term investment returns and inflation assumptions are developed through review of current and historical capital markets data, sell-side investment research, consultant whitepapers, and historical performance of investment strategies. Fixed income return projections reflect current yields across the U.S. Treasury yield curve and market expectations of forward yields projected and interpolated for multiple tenors and over multiple year horizons. Global public equity return projections are established through analysis of the equity risk premium and the fixed income return projections. Other asset categories and strategies' return projections reflect the foregoing and historical data analysis. These projections are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class as of June 30, 2019, are summarized in the following table:

	Target	Long Term Expected
Asset Class	Allocation	Real Rate of Return
Fixed Income	29.0%	1.4%
Global Equity	42.0%	5.3%
Real Estate	8.0%	4.3%
Alternatives	8.0%	8.9%
Credit	7.0%	6.0%
Inflation Protection	6.0%	4.0%
Total	100%	

Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued

a. Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System - continued

The information above is based on 30 year expectations developed with the consulting actuary for the 2018 asset, liability, and investment policy study for the North Carolina Retirement Systems, including LGERS. The long-term nominal rates of return underlying the real rates of return are arithmetic annualized figures. The real rates of return are calculated from nominal rates by multiplicatively subtracting a long-term inflation assumption of 3.00%. All rates of return and inflation are annualized.

Discount rate. The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00%. 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 employers will be made at statutorily required rates, actuarially determined. Based on these assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of the 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.

Sensitivity of the Town's proportionate share of the net pension liability to changes in the discount rate. The following presents the Town's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.00 percent, as well as what the Town's proportionate share of the net pension asset or net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00 percent) or one percentage point higher (8.00 percent) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	1% Increase
	(6.00%)	(7.00%)	(8.00%)
Proportionate share of the			
net pension liability (asset)	\$ 711,433	\$ 311,053	\$ (21,746)

Pension plan fiduciary net position. Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the State of North Carolina.

Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued

b. Law Enforcement Officers Special Separation Allowance

1. Plan Description.

The Town of Columbus administers a public employee retirement system (the *Separation Allowance*), a single-employer defined benefit pension plan that provides retirement benefits to the Town's qualified sworn law enforcement officers under the age of 62 who have completed at least 30 years of creditable service or have attained 55 years of age and have completed five or more years of creditable service. The Separation Allowance is equal to 0.85 percent of the annual equivalent of the base rate of compensation most recently applicable to the officer for each year of creditable service. The retirement benefits are not subject to any increases in salary or retirement allowances that may be authorized by the General Assembly. Article 12D of G.S. Chapter 143 assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the North Carolina General Assembly.

All full time law enforcement officers of the Town are covered by the Separation Allowance. At December 31, 2018, the Separation Allowance's membership consisted of:

Retirees receiving benefits	-
Terminated plan members entitled	
to but not yet receiving benefits	-
Active plan members	8
Total	8

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:

Basis of Accounting. The Town has chosen to fund the Separation Allowance on a pay as you go basis. Pension expenditures are made from the General Fund, which is maintained on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Benefits are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the plan.

The Separation Allowance has no assets accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria which are outlined in GASB Statement 73.

Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued

b. Law Enforcement Officers Special Separation Allowance - continued

3. Actuarial Assumptions

The entry age actuarial cost method was used in the December 31, 2018, valuation. The total pension liability in the December 31, 2018, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.50 percent
Salary increases	3.50 - 7.35 percent, including
	inflation and productivity
Discount rate	3.26 percent

The discount rate is based on the yield of the S&P Municipal Bond 20-year High Grade Rate Index determined as of December 31, 2018.

Mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Mortality tables with adjustments for mortality improvements based on MP-2015.

4. Contributions.

The Town is required by Article 12D of G.S. Chapter 143 to provide these retirement benefits and has chosen to fund the amounts necessary to cover the benefits earned on a pay as you go basis through appropriations made in the General Fund operating budget. There were no contributions made by employees. The Town's obligation to contribute to this plan is established and may be amended by the North Carolina General Assembly. Administration costs of the Separation Allowance are financed through investment earnings. No benefits were due to be paid for the reporting period.

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

At June 30, 2020, the Town reported a total pension liability of \$46,648. The total pension liability was measured as of December 31, 2019, based on a December 31, 2018 actuarial valuation. The total pension liability was then rolled forward to the measurement date of December 31, 2019 utilizing update procedures incorporating the actuarial assumptions. For the year ended June 30, 2020, the Town recognized pension expense of (\$10,294).

Note 3 - Detail Notes on All Funds - continued

b. Law Enforcement Officers Special Separation Allowance - continued

	Deferred Outflows of		Deferred Inflows of
	Re	sources	Resources
Differences between expected and actual			-
experience	\$	3,269	\$133,864
Changes of assumptions and other inputs		5,831	5,406
Benefit payments and plan administrative			
expenses subsequent to the measurement date		-	-
Total	\$	9,100	\$139,270

Amounts reported as deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

\$ (24,703)
(24,703)
(23,875)
(20,924)
(20,797)
(15,168)
\$ (130,170)

Sensitivity of the Town's total pension liability to change in the discount rate. The following presents the Town's total pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 3.26 percent, as well as what the Town's total pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (2.26 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (4.26 percent) than the current rate:

Note 3 - Detail Notes on All Funds - continued

b. Law Enforcement Officers Special Separation Allowance - continued

	1%	Current Discount	1%
	Decrease (2.26%)	Rate (3.26%)	Increase (4.26%)
Total Pension Liability	\$ 52,403	\$ 46,648	\$ 41,574

Schedule of Changes in Total Pension Liability Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance

Beginning balance	\$ 172,433
Service cost at end of year	7,780
Interest on the total pension liability	6,277
Changes of benefit terms	-
Difference between expected and actual experience	(141,847)
Changes of assumptions and other inputs	2,005
Benefit payments	-
Other changes	 -
Ending balance of the total pension liability	\$ 46,648

The plan currently uses mortality tables that vary by age, and health status (i.e. disabled and healthy). The current mortality rates are based on published tables and based on studies that cover significant portions of the U.S. population. The healthy mortality rates also contain a provision to reflect future mortality improvements.

The actuarial assumptions used in the December 31, 2018, valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2014.

Note 3 - Detail Notes on All Funds - continued

Total Expense, Liabilities, and Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources of Related to Pensions

Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense for all pension plans:

	LGERS	LEOSSA	Total
Pension Expense	\$129,633	\$(10,294)	\$119,339
Pension Liability	311,053	46,648	357,701
Proportionare share of the net pension liability	0.01139%	n/a	
Deferred Outflows of Resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	53,260	3,269	56,529
Changes of assumptions	50,696	5,831	56,527
Net difference between projected and actual earnings			
on plan investments	7,588	-	7,588
Changes in proportion and differences between			
contributions and proportionate share of contributions	-	-	-
Benefit payments and administrative costs paid			
subsequent to the measurement date	78,528	-	78,528
Deferred Inflows of Resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	-	133,864	133,864
Changes of assumptions	-	5,406	5,406
Net difference between projected and actual earnings			
on plan investments	-	-	-
Changes in proportion and differences between			
contributions and proportionate share of contributions	18,579	-	18,579

c. Supplemental Retirement Income Plan for Law Enforcement Officers

Plan Description. The Town contributes to the Supplemental Retirement Income Plan (Plan), a defined contribution pension plan administered by the Department of State Treasurer and a Board of Trustees. The Plan provides retirement benefits to law enforcement officers employed by the Town. Article 5 of G.S. Chapter 135 assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the North Carolina General Assembly. The Supplemental Retirement Income Plan for Law Enforcement Officers is included in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the State of North Carolina. The State's CAFR includes the pension trust fund financial statements for the Internal Revenue Code Section 401(k) plan that includes the Supplemental Retirement Income Plan for Law Enforcement Officers. That report may be obtained by writing to the Office of the State Controller, 1410 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1410, or by calling (919) 981-5454.

Note 3 - Detail Notes on All Funds - continued

c. Supplemental Retirement Income Plan for Law Enforcement Officers (continued)

Funding Policy. Article 12E of G.S. Chapter 143 requires the Town to contribute each month an amount equal to five percent of each officer's salary, and all amounts contributed are vested immediately. The law enforcement officers may make voluntary contributions to the plan.

The Town made contributions of \$20,862 for the operating year. No amounts were forfeited.

2. Other Employment Benefits

The Town has elected to provide death benefits to employees through the Death Benefit Plan for members of the Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System (Death Benefit Plan), a multiple-employer, state-administered, cost-sharing plan funded on a one-year term cost basis. The beneficiaries of those employees who die in active service after one year of contributing membership in the System, or who die within 180 days after retirement or termination of service and have at least one year of contributing membership service in the System at the time of death are eligible for death benefits. Lump sum death benefit payments to beneficiaries are equal to the employee's 12 highest months' salary in a row during the 24 months prior to the employee's death, but the benefit may not exceed \$50,000 or be less than \$25,000. Because all death benefit payments are made from the Death Benefit Plan and not by the Town, the Town does not determine the number of eligible participants. The Town has no liability beyond the payment of monthly contributions. The contributions to the Death Benefit Plan cannot be separated between the post-employment benefit amount and the other benefit amount. Contributions are determined as a percentage of monthly payroll based upon rates established annually by the state. Separate rates are set for employees not engaged in law enforcement and for law enforcement officers. The Town considers these contributions to be immaterial.

Note 3 - Detail Notes on All Funds - continued

3. Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources

Deferred outflows of resources on the Statement of Net Position is comprised of the following:

Contributions to pension plan in current fiscal year	\$ 78,528
Differences between expected and actual experience	56,529
Changes of assumptions	56,527
Net difference between projected and actual	
earnings on pension plan investments	7,588
Changes in proportion and differences between	
employer contributions and proportionate share	
of contributions	
Total	\$ 199,172

Deferred inflows of resources at year-end is comprised of the following:

	~ •	atement of et Position	 eral Fund nce Sheet
Taxes receivable, less penalties (General Fund) Differences between expected and actual experience Changes of assumptions and inputs Changes in proportion and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of	\$	133,864 5,406	\$ 5,278
contributions		18,579	
Total	\$	157,849	\$ 5,278

4. Risk Management

The Town is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The Town carries commercial insurance to cover property, general liability, and auto liability coverage of \$1,000,000 per occurrence and workmen's compensation coverage of \$100,000 per accident. There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage from the prior year and settled claims have not exceeded coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

The Town of Columbus is not in a flood plain and does not carry flood insurance.

Note 3 - Detail Notes on All Funds - continued

4. <u>Risk Management (continued)</u>

In accordance with G.S. 159-29, the Town's employees that have access to \$100 or more at any given time of the Town's funds are performance bonded through a commercial surety bond. The finance officer is bonded for \$50,000. The Town's employees that have access to funds are also bonded under a blanket bond for \$100,000.

5. Claims, Judgments and Contingent Liabilities

In March 2018 the Town entered a settlement agreement with the plaintiff in a case which was pending with the North Carolina Supreme Court. The case was related to a dispute in regards to the billing of water and sewer fees by the Town to the plaintiff. In consideration of the compromise of the released claims, the parties agreed to resolve the litigation and appeal for a total settlement of \$947,813. The settlement required payment by the Town of \$250,000 at the execution of the settlement agreement with the remaining balance due in monthly installments for a period of twenty-four consecutive months beginning in April 2018, the final payment was made in March 2020.

6. <u>Long-Term Obligations</u>

a. Installment Purchases

All installment purchases for the Town of Columbus are secured solely by the specific assets purchased with the proceeds of the debt issuance.

On January 18, 2008, the Town executed an installment purchase with a local bank to purchase equipment and for a water/sewer line project. The \$700,000 financing arrangement requires semi-annual payments of \$26,176 with interest at 3.97%, maturing on January 1, 2023.

On August 14, 2008, the Town executed an installment purchase with a local bank for building renovations and construction of a new building. The \$163,969 financing arrangement requires annual principal payments of \$10,931 with interest at 4.18%, maturing on August 14, 2023.

On May 5, 2009, the Town executed a revolving loan with funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) for sewer rehabilitation and manhole replacement. The \$150,146 financing arrangement, half of which was forgiven, requires annual payments of \$3,740 with interest at 0.0% maturing May 1, 2030.

<u>Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued</u>

a. Installment Purchases - continued

On May 19, 2010, the Town, along with the towns of Tryon and Saluda, executed a revolving loan with the North Carolina Rural Center for the Tryon/Saluda/Columbus joint waterline. Due to construction delays, the first draw on the loan did not take place until September 9, 2010. The \$1,430,001 financing arrangement which is shared equally by the Town of Tryon, the Town of Saluda, and the Town of Columbus, requires annual principal payments of \$70,488 with interest at 2.5% maturing May 1, 2031.

On February 21, 2013, the Town passed an ordinance to enter into a revolving loan agreement with the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources for the purpose of construction of a wastewater treatment plant upgrade. The final draw on the loan took place in May 2015. The \$3,000,000 financing arrangement requires annual payments of \$150,000 beginning in May 2015 with interest at 0.0% maturing May 1, 2034.

On August 2, 2015, the Town executed an installment purchase with a local bank to acquire vehicles. The \$109,783 financing arrangement requires annual payments of \$29,042 with interest at 2.30%, maturing on August 5, 2019.

On July 15, 2016, the Town executed an installment purchase with a local bank to finance a capital improvement project at the Police Department. The \$200,000 financing arrangement requires annual payments of \$22,287 with an interest rate at 1.99%, maturing on July 15, 2026.

On August 15, 2019, the Town executed an installment purchase with a local bank to acquire vehicles. The \$118,867 financing arrangement requires annual payments of \$31,657 with interest at 2.58%, maturing on August 15, 2023.

Note 3 - Detail Notes on All Funds - continued

a. Installment Purchases - continued

Annual debt service requirements to maturity for installment obligations are as follows:

	(Bovernmen	tal Ac	tivities		Business-t	ype	Act	ivities
Year Ended									
June 30	Pı	rincipal]	nterest		Principal		I	nterest
2021	\$	43,697	\$	5,702		\$ 239,184	-	\$	13,895
2022		44,645		4,625		241,252			10,914
2023		45,606		3,533		243,401			7,851
2024		47,462		2,418		191,892			5,225
2025		20,729		1,284		177,236			4,112
Next 5 Years		42,730		1,297		736,182			11,748
Thereafter						773,494			587
Total	\$	244,869	\$	18,859	_	\$2,602,641	-	\$	54,332

The Town's legal debt limit is 8% of the Town's assessed value of taxable property. At June 30, 2020, the Town had a legal debt margin of \$10,037,233.

b. Emergency Loan Payable

The Town received an emergency loan from the state to expand and replace the current sewer system. The construction was completed during the year ended June 30, 2006. The loan is payable in the amount of \$88,388 each May 1 and interest at 2.36% is payable each November 1 and May 1 through May 1, 2025. Annual debt service requirements to maturity are as follows:

		Business-type Activities				
Year Ended						
June 30	P	rincipal	I	nterest		
2021	\$	88,388	\$	10,430		
2022		88,388		8,344		
2023		88,388		6,258		
2024		88,388		4,172		
2025		88,388		2,086		
Next 5 Years						
Total	\$	441,940	\$	31,290		

Note 3 - Detail Notes on All Funds - continued

c. Changes in Long-Term Liabilities

Changes in long-term liabilities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, were as follows:

	Balance July 1, 2019	Increases	Decreases	Balance June 30, 2020	Current Portion of Balance
Governmental activities:	<u> </u>	<u> </u>			
Installment purchase	\$ 193,541	\$ 90,019	\$ 38,691	\$ 244,869	\$ 43,697
Compensated absences	30,149	7,289	663	36,775	12,580
Net pension liability (LGERS)	188,280	6,476		194,756	
Net pension obligation (LEO)	172,433		125,785	46,648	
Governmental activity					
long-term liabilities	\$ 584,403	\$ 103,784	<u>\$ 165,139</u>	\$ 523,048	\$ 56,277
Business-type activities:					
Installment purchases	\$ 2,815,349	\$ 28,848	\$ 241,556	\$ 2,602,641	\$ 239,184
Refund settlment obligation	261,680		261,680	-	
State emergency loan fund	530,328		88,388	441,940	88,388
Net pension liability (LGERS)	111,584	4,713		116,297	
Compensated absences	13,604	12,568	1,166	25,006	5,278
Business-type activity		· · · · · ·			
long-term liabilities	\$ 3,732,545	\$ 46,129	\$ 592,790	\$ 3,185,884	\$ 332,850

Compensated absences for governmental activities have typically been liquidated by the General Fund and for business-type activities by the Water and Sewer Fund.

d. Net Investment in Capital Assets

	Gov	vernmental	Business-type
Capital Assets Less: long-term debt	\$ 1	,112,601 244,869	\$ 5,700,028 3,044,581
Net investment in capital assets	\$	867,732	\$ 2,655,447

Note 3 - Detail Notes on All Funds - continued

e. Fund Balance

The following schedule provides management and citizens with information on the portion of General fund balance that is available for appropriation:

Total fund balance-General Fund	\$ 875,475
Less:	
Stabilization by State Statute	\$ 103,141
Streets-Powell Bill	110,946
Public Safety	48,251
Appropriated Fund Balance in 2021 budget	52,070
Working Capital/Fund Balance Policy	275,965
Remaining Fund Balance	285,102
	\$ 875,475

The Town of Columbus has adopted a minimum fund balance policy for the General Fund which instructs management to conduct the business of the Town in such a manner that available fund balance is at least equal to or greater than 20% of budgeted expenditures.

Note 4 – Summary Disclosure of Significant Contingencies

Federal and State Assisted Programs

The Town has received proceeds from several federal and state grants. Periodic audits of these grants are required and certain costs may be questioned as not being appropriate expenditures under the grant agreements. Such audits could result in the refund of grant moneys to the grantor agencies. Management believes that any required refunds will be immaterial. No provision has been made in the accompanying financial statements for the refund of grant moneys.

Note 5 – Subsequent Events

Subsequent events have been evaluated through November 19, 2020, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

The outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, which began locally in March 2020, continues to cause a disruption to the regular operations of the Town, its service providers, volunteers, and citizens. While this continuing disruption is expected to be temporary, there is considerable uncertainty around the overall duration, the financial impact cannot be reasonably estimated at this time.

<u>Note 6 – Restatement</u>

Prior Period Adjustment

During the year ended June 30, 2020, the Town determined that revenue from a litigation settlement related to the Tryon/Saluda/Columbus joint waterline had been received in a prior year by the Town of Tryon, including amounts allocable to the Town of Columbus, and had not been recorded in the Town's Water and Sewer Fund. Therefore, an adjustment to beginning net position has been recorded, the net effect of which increased beginning net position by \$57,754.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL DATA

This section contains additional statements required by generally accepted accounting principles

- Local Government Employees' Retirement System Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability (Asset)
- Local Government Employees' Retirement System Schedule of Contributions
- Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance Schedule of Changes in Total Pension Liability
- Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance Schedule of Total Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll

TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY (ASSET) LAST SEVEN FISCAL YEARS

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Proportion of net pension liability (asset) (%)	0.01139%	0.01264%	0.01287%	0.01293%	0.01404%	0.01456%	0.01290%
Proportion of net pension liability (asset) (\$)	\$311,053	\$299,864	\$196,619	\$274,419	\$ 63,011	\$(85,868)	\$ 155,495
Covered payroll	\$731,245	\$748,075	\$751,002	\$756,457	\$718,671	\$710,268	\$671,257
Proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) as a percentage of covered payroll	42.54%	40.08%	26.18%	36.28%	8.77%	(12.09%)	23.16%
Plan fudiciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	91.63%	94.18%	91.47%	98.09%	99.07%	102.64%	94.35%

Notes to the schedule:

This schedule will not present ten year information until fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS LAST SEVEN FISCAL YEARS

	2020 2019 2		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	
Contractually required contribution	\$ 78,528	\$ 59,184	\$ 58,883	\$ 57,294	\$ 48,706	\$ 49,131	\$ 48,504	
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	78,528	59,184	58,883	57,294	48,706	49,131	48,504	
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u> </u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$</u> -	
Covered payroll	\$845,030	\$731,245	\$748,075	\$751,002	\$756,457	\$718,671	\$ 710,268	
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	9.29%	8.09%	7.87%	7.63%	6.44%	6.84%	6.83%	

Notes to the schedule:

This schedule will not present ten year information until fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' SPECIAL SEPARATION ALLOWANCE SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN TOTAL PENSION LIABILITY JUNE 30, 2020

	2020	2019	2018	2017
Beginning balance	\$172,433	\$157,179	\$160,362	\$ 150,033
Service cost	7,780	11,175	9,140	8,904
Interest on the total pension liability	6,277	4,967	6,190	5,356
Changes of benefit terms	-	-	-	-
Differences between expected and actual experience				
in the measurement of the total pension liability	(141,847)	4,861	(27,026)	-
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	2,005	(5,749)	8,513	(3,931)
Benefit payments	-	-	-	-
Other changes	-	-	-	-
Ending balance of the total pension liability	\$ 46,648	\$172,433	\$157,179	\$ 160,362

Notes to the schedule:

The amounts presented for the fiscal year were determined as of the prior fiscal year ending December 31.

This schedule will not present ten year information until fiscal year ending June 30, 2026.

TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' SPECIAL SEPARATION ALLOWANCE SCHEDULE OF TOTAL PENSION LIABILITY AS A PERCENTAGE OF COVERED PAYROLL JUNE 30, 2020

	2020	2019	2018	2017	
Total pension liability	\$ 46,648	\$ 172,433	\$ 157,179	\$ 160,362	
Covered payroll	315,110	400,979	415,880	402,997	
Total pension liabiity as a percentage of covered payroll	14.80%	43.00%	37.79%	39.79%	

Notes to the schedule:

The Town of Columbus has no assets accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria in paragraph 4 of GASB Statement 73 to pay related benefits.

This schedule will not present ten year information until fiscal year ending June 30, 2026.

INDIVIDUAL FUND STATEMENTS AND SCHEDULES

This section contains additional statements required by the Local Government Commission in North Carolina.

TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL FUND -- SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE -- BUDGET AND ACTUAL FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

			Variance Favorable
Revenues	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)
Ad valorem taxes:	¢ 700.400	ф. <u>сосо</u> до	¢ (1.400)
Taxes	\$ 588,400	\$ 586,978	\$ (1,422)
Penalties and interest	¢ 588.400	2,493	<u>2,493</u> \$ 1,071
Total	\$ 588,400	\$ 589,471	5 1,071
Other taxes and licenses:			
Solid waste fee	\$ 600	\$ 794	\$ 194
Gross receipts tax on short-term			
rental property	18,000	20,500	2,500
Total	\$ 18,600	\$ 21,294	\$ 2,694
Unrestricted intergovernmental:			
Local option sales tax	\$ 298,000	\$ 295,505	\$ (2,495)
Telecommunications sales tax	100,000	10,432	(89,568)
Utilities sales tax		75,024	75,024
Piped natural gas sales tax		4,910	4,910
Video franchise fee		7,270	7,270
Beer and wine tax	4,400	4,318	(82)
ABC profit distributions	7,000	8,044	1,044
Total	\$ 409,400	\$ 405,503	\$ (3,897)
Restricted intergovernmental:			
Powell Bill allocation	\$ 32,700	\$ 33,190	\$ 490
Drug seizure revenue		6,891	6,891
Controlled substance tax	1,000	2,663	1,663
Total	\$ 33,700	\$ 42,744	\$ 9,044
Permits fees, and other receipts:			
Court fees	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,739	\$ 739
Sanitation fees	67,000	68,231	1,231
Zoning	3,000	2,615	(385)
Other	28,665	33,729	5,064
Total	\$ 101,665	\$ 108,314	\$ 6,649
Grants:			
Governor's Highway Safety Program	\$ 10,340	\$ 10,339	\$ (1)
Total	\$ 10,340	\$ 10,339	\$ (1)
Investment earnings:			
Interest-unrestricted	\$ 500	\$ 1,719	\$ 1,219
Interest-restricted	55	143	88
Total	\$ 555	\$ 1,862	\$ 1,307
Total revenues	\$ 1,162,660	\$ 1,179,527	\$ 16,867

TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL FUND -- SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE -- BUDGET AND ACTUAL FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

			Variance Favorable
Expenditures	Budget	Actual	(Unfavorable)
General government:			
Salaries and employee benefits	\$ 10,765	\$ 10,765	
Other operating expenditures	6,450	6,228	\$ 222
Capital outlay	7,500	3,902	3,598
Total	\$ 24,715	\$ 20,895	\$ 3,820
Administration:			
Salaries and employee benefits	\$ 63,365	\$ 60,987	\$ 2,378
Other operating expenditures	154,155	138,864	15,291
Total	\$ 217,520	\$ 199,851	\$ 17,669
Total general government	\$ 242,235	\$ 220,746	\$ 21,489
Public Safety:			
Police:			
Salaries and employee benefits	\$ 603,360	\$ 578,959	\$ 24,401
Other operating expenditures	104,110	99,129	4,981
Capital outlay	97,200	95,878	1,322
Total	\$ 804,670	\$ 773,966	\$ 30,704
Fire:			
Contracted services	\$ 110,310	\$ 110,310	
Total public safety	\$ 914,980	\$ 884,276	\$ 30,704
Transportation:			
Salaries and employee benefits	\$ 27,740	\$ 28,793	\$ (1,053)
Other operating expenditures	86,950	75,360	11,590
Total transportation	\$ 114,690	\$ 104,153	\$ 10,537
Environmental Protection:			
Contracted services	\$ 64,930	\$ 70,593	\$ (5,663)
Debt service:			
Principal retirement	\$ 38,695	\$ 38,691	\$ 4
Interest and other charges	4,295	4,292	3
Total debt service	\$ 42,990	\$ 42,983	\$ 7
Total expenditures	\$ 1,379,825	\$ 1,322,751	\$ 57,074

TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL FUND -- SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE -- BUDGET AND ACTUAL FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

	Budget	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)		
Revenues over (under) expenditures	\$ (217,165)	\$ (143,224)	\$ 73,941	
Other financing sources:				
Sale of capital assets	\$ 7,300	\$ 7,300		
Installment purchase obligations issued	93,200	90,019	\$ (3,181)	
Total other financing sources	\$ 100,500	\$ 97,319	\$ (3,181)	
Fund balance appropriated	\$ 116,665		\$ (116,665)	
Net change in fund balance	<u>\$</u>	\$ (45,905)	\$ (45,905)	
Fund balance, beginning as previously reported		921,380		
Fund balance, ending		<u>\$ 875,475</u>		

TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA WATER AND SEWER FUND -- SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON GAAP) FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

		Budget		Actual	Fa	/ariance avorable favorable)_	
Revenues:							
Water sales:							
Charges for services	\$	666,749	\$	660,087	\$	(6,662)	
Municipal usage		38,000		38,882		882	
Total	\$	704,749		698,969	\$	(5,780)	
Sewer charges:					<u>,</u>	(222)	
Charges for services	\$	605,031		604,151	\$	(880)	
Water and sewer taps	\$	21,200		21,200			
Total operating revenues	\$	1,330,980	_\$	1,324,320		(6,660)	
Non-operating revenues:							
Interest earnings	\$	4,200	\$	7,449	\$	3,249	
-							
Total revenues	\$	1,335,180	\$	1,331,769		(3,411)	
Expenditures:							
Water and sewer administration:							
Salaries and employee benefits	\$	531,800	\$	502,380	\$	29,420	
Outside services		84,000		52,817		31,183	
Utilities		88,000		84,377		3,623	
Telephone		3,600		2,458		1,142	
Repairs and maintenance		132,757		93,621		39,136	
Equipment rental		100		156		(56)	
Materials and supplies		31,500		23,774		7,726	
Office supplies and postage		7,500		15,562		(8,062)	
Advertising		650		1,472		(822)	
Uniforms		3,000		1,306		1,694	
Staff development		1,500		365		1,135	
Professional services		41,650		43,486		(1,836)	
Safety program and equipment		2,000		1,544		456	
Insurance		15,590		15,759		(169)	
Total water and sewer administration	\$	943,647	\$	839,077	\$	104,570	
Debt service:							
Interest and other charges	\$	28,884	\$	28,884			
Principal retirement	÷	329,949	*	329,944	\$	5	
Total debt service	\$	358,833	\$	358,828	\$	5	
Capital outlay	\$	61,550	\$	79,583	\$	(18,033)	
Total expenditures	\$	1,364,030	\$	1,277,488	\$	86,542	

TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA WATER AND SEWER FUND -- SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON GAAP) FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

		Budget	 Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)		
Revenues over (under) expenditures	\$	(28,850)	\$ 54,281	\$	83,131	
Other financing sources: Installment purchase obligations issued	\$	28,850	\$ 28,848	\$	(2)	
Revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures	\$	-	\$ 83,129	\$	83,129	
Reconciliation from budgetary basis (modified accrual) to full accrual: Revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures			\$ 83,129			
Reconciling items: Installment purchase obligations issued Principal retirement Capital outlay Depreciation (Increase) in compensated absences (Decrease) in deferred outflows of resource (Increase) in net pension liability (Increase) in deferred inflows of resource	-		\$ (28,848) 329,944 79,583 (234,432) (11,401) (15,211) (4,713) (1,604)			
Total reconciling items			\$ 113,318			
Change in net position		\$ 196,447				

OTHER SCHEDULES

This section contains additional statements required on property taxes.

- Schedule of Ad Valorem Taxes Receivable
- Analysis of Current Tax Levy Town-Wide Levy

TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA SCHEDULE OF AD VALOREM TAXES RECEIVABLE JUNE 30, 2020

Fiscal Year	Uncollected Balance July 1, 2019	Additions	Collections and Credits	E	collected Balance e 30, 2020
2019-2020		\$595,459	\$590,913	\$	4,546
2018-2019	\$ 3,196		1,570		1,626
2017-2018	2,439		151		2,288
2016-2017	870		265		605
2015-2016	602				602
2014-2015	662				662
2013-2014	9				9
2012-2013	923				923
2011-2012	2,163				2,163
2010-2011	3,226				3,226
2009-2010	3,648		3,648		
Totals	\$ 17,738	\$595,459	\$596,547	\$	16,650
	Less: Allowand	e for uncollectib	ble accounts		11,372
	Ad Valorem tax	xes receivable	net	\$	5,278
	Ad	conciliation to re l valorem taxes -		\$	589,471
		conciling items: Interest collected	l		(2,493)
		Discounts allowe			5,977 3,592
	\$	596,547			

TOWN OF COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA ANALYSIS OF CURRENT TAX LEVY -- TOWN-WIDE LEVY JUNE 30, 2020

				Total	Levy
	Property Valuation	Rate	Total Levy	Property Excluding Registered Motor Vehicles	Registered Motor Vehicles
Original levy: Property taxed at current year's rate	\$ 125,895,500	0.4746	\$ 597,500	\$ 559,037	\$ 38,463
Discoveries: Current year	1,647,455	0.4746	7,819	7,819	
Releases	(2,077,539)	0.4746	(9,860)	(9,860)	<u> </u>
Total property valuation	\$ 125,465,416				
Net levy			\$ 595,459	\$ 556,996	\$ 38,463
Uncollected taxes at June 30, 2020			4,546	4,546	
Current year's taxes collected			\$ 590,913	\$ 552,450	\$ 38,463
Current levy collection percentage			99.24%	99.18%	100.00%

STATISTICAL SECTION

This part of the Town of Columbus' comprehensive annual financial report presents detailed information as a context for understanding what the information in the financial statements, note disclosures, and required supplementary information say about the Town's overall financial condition. The schedules included in this section can be categorized as follows:

Financial Trends

These schedules contain trend information to help the reader understand how the government's financial performance and well-being have changed over time.

Revenue Capacity

These schedules contain information to help the reader assess the government's most significant local revenue source, the property tax.

Debt Capacity

These schedules present information to help the reader assess the affordability of the government's current levels of outstanding debt and the government's ability to issue additional debt in the future.

Demographic and Economic Information

These schedules offer demographic and economic indicators to help the reader understand the environment within which the government's financial activities take place.

Operating Information

These schedules contain service and infrastructure data to help the reader understand how the information in the government's financial report relates to the services the government provides and the activities it performs.

Sources: Unless otherwise noted, the information in these schedules is derived from the Town's annual financial report for the current year.

Net Position by Category

	Governmental Activities					Business-Type Activities				s	
Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Net investment in capital assets		Restricted	Unrestricted	tricted Total			investment in apital assets	Unrestricted		Total
2011	\$	769,999	\$ 54,681	\$ 459,130	\$	1,283,810	\$	1,497,576	\$ 956,850	\$	2,454,426
2012		830,079	83,797	469,891		1,383,767		1,718,712	943,857		2,662,569
2013		812,107	188,274	498,091		1,498,472		2,170,311	696,561		2,866,872
2014		805,603	276,768	502,199		1,584,570		1,647,092	1,452,848		3,099,940
2015		789,041	274,761	503,565		1,567,367		1,899,294	1,551,112		3,450,406
2016		734,472	316,941	520,226		1,571,639		1,995,520	1,798,939		3,794,459
2017		869,877	324,308	358,238		1,552,423		2,218,265	1,842,439		4,060,704
2018		962,087	280,669	364,345		1,607,101		2,317,136	899,615		3,216,751
2019		929,636	254,477	407,534		1,591,647		2,509,200	882,389		3,391,589
2020		867,732	262,338	324,858		1,454,928		2,655,447	990,343		3,645,790

Net Position by Category

 Primary Government											
Net investment in capital assets		Restricted		Inrestricted	Total						
\$ 2,267,575	\$	54,681	\$	1,415,980	\$	3,738,236					
2,548,791		83,797		1,413,748		4,046,336					
2,982,418		188,274		1,194,652		4,365,344					
2,452,695		276,768		1,955,047		4,684,510					
2,688,335		274,761		2,054,677		5,017,773					
2,729,992		316,941		2,319,165		5,366,098					
3,088,142		324,308		2,200,677		5,613,127					
3,279,223		280,669		1,263,960		4,823,852					
3,438,836		254,477		1,289,923		4,983,236					
3,523,179		262,338		1,315,201		5,100,718					
, <u>c</u> a	 capital assets \$ 2,267,575 2,548,791 2,982,418 2,452,695 2,688,335 2,729,992 3,088,142 3,279,223 3,438,836 	capital assets R \$ 2,267,575 \$ 2,548,791 2,982,418 2,452,695 2,688,335 2,729,992 3,088,142 3,279,223 3,438,836	Net investment in capital assets Restricted \$ 2,267,575 \$ 54,681 2,548,791 83,797 2,982,418 188,274 2,452,695 276,768 2,688,335 274,761 2,729,992 316,941 3,088,142 324,308 3,279,223 280,669 3,438,836 254,477	Net investment in capital assets Restricted U \$ 2,267,575 \$ 54,681 \$ 2,548,791 \$ 83,797 2,982,418 188,274 \$ 2,452,695 \$ 276,768 2,688,335 274,761 \$ 2,729,992 \$ 316,941 3,088,142 324,308 \$ 3,279,223 \$ 280,669 3,438,836 254,477 \$	Net investment in capital assets Restricted Unrestricted \$ 2,267,575 \$ 54,681 \$ 1,415,980 2,548,791 83,797 1,413,748 2,982,418 188,274 1,194,652 2,452,695 276,768 1,955,047 2,688,335 274,761 2,054,677 2,729,992 316,941 2,319,165 3,088,142 324,308 2,200,677 3,279,223 280,669 1,263,960 3,438,836 254,477 1,289,923	Net investment in capital assets Restricted Unrestricted \$ 2,267,575 \$ 54,681 \$ 1,415,980 \$ 2,548,791 \$ 83,797 \$ 1,413,748 2,982,418 188,274 1,194,652 \$ 2,452,695 276,768 1,955,047 2,688,335 274,761 2,054,677 \$ 2,729,992 316,941 2,319,165 3,088,142 324,308 2,200,677 \$ 3,279,223 280,669 1,263,960 3,438,836 254,477 1,289,923 \$ \$					

Revenues - Primary Government

-					G	overn	mental Acti	ivitie	S				
Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Charges for services	Operating grants and contributions		Capital grants and contributions		Property taxes		Other taxes		Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs		Other	
2011	\$ 186,755	\$	32,127	\$	96,000	\$	469,176	\$	221,727	\$	87,646	\$	1,662
2012	93.631	Ψ	36.280	Ψ	95,715	Ψ	467,102	Ψ	218,824	Ψ	86,700	Ψ	16,806
2013	93,497		142,801		54,999		492,749		210,706		105,345		2,399
2014	150,671		77,124		80,554		499,784		243,308		90,147		492
2015	192,779		36,800		16,078		513,108		231,146		111,649		445
2016	190,959		52,623		30		515,545		240,960		109,303		5,984
2017	226,582		38,310		17,500		528,707		278,048		113,838		592
2018	74,247		52,754		17,500		512,581		403,884		127,220		571
2019	77,041		47,840		-		548,764		436,698		43,449		1,548
2020	74,585		61,127		-		586,115		418,753		41,029		1,863

Revenues - Primary Government

		Bu	siness-Typ	e Act	ivities		
Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Charges for services	8					
2011 2012 2013	\$ 1,074,453 1,112,520 1,101,708	\$	79,982 8,680 84,900	\$	3,542 2,559 980	\$ 2,253,070 2,138,817 2,290,084	
2014 2015	1,099,967 1,270,771		-		218	2,242,265 2,372,776	
2016 2017 2018	1,264,412 1,265,743		-		- - 1,702	2,379,816 2,469,320 2,423,483	
2018 2019 2020	1,233,024 1,326,927 1,324,320		-		6,458 7,449	2,425,485 2,488,725 2,515,241	

Expenses - Primary Government

			Go	vernn	nental Activ	rities	. <u>-</u>			
Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	General government				asportation		ironmental rotection	Interest on long-term debt		
2011	\$	236,374	\$ 476,222	\$	168,017	\$	109,445	\$	5,358	
2012		231,279	506,621		111,897		60,970		4,334	
2013		227,768	606,841		88,031		61,026		4,125	
2014		214,882	693,737		80,928		62,904		3,531	
2015		203,782	715,940		73,275		61,214		2,078	
2016		159,089	751,609		136,837		61,080		2,517	
2017		198,721	827,449		81,076		62,516		4,456	
2018		195,625	782,966		90,291		61,025		4,172	
2019		205,555	779,898		111,694		68,173		5,474	
2020		235,841	876,671		132,794		70,593		4,292	

Expenses - Primary Government

Last Ten Fiscal Years

Business-Type Activities

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Wat	er & sewer	Total Primary Government					
2011	\$	963,785	\$	1,959,201				
2012		915,616		1,830,717				
2013		983,285		1,971,076				
2014		867,117		1,923,099				
2015		876,236		1,932,525				
2016		920,359		2,031,491				
2017		999,498		2,173,716				
2018		2,078,679		3,212,758				
2019		1,158,547		2,329,341				
2020		1,135,322		2,455,513				

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									(a	Changes in Last Ten I ccrual basis	Fisca s of a	al Years accounting)								
		2011		2012		2012		2014		Fisca	al Ye			2017		2018		2019		2020
F		<u>2011</u>		2012		<u>2013</u>		2014		<u>2015</u>		<u>2016</u>		<u>2017</u>		2018		2019		2020
Expenses Governmental activities:																				
General government	\$	236,364	¢	231,279	\$	227,768	\$	214,882	\$	203,782	\$	159,089	\$	198,721	\$	195,625	\$	205,555	\$	235,841
Public safety	φ	476,222	Ψ	506,621	Ψ	606,841	Ψ	693,737	Ψ	715,940	Ψ	751,609	Ψ	827,449	Ψ	782,966	Ψ	779,898	Ψ	876,671
Transportation		168,017		111,897		88,031		80,928		73,275		136,837		81,076		90,291		111,694		132,794
Environmental protection		109,455		60,970		61,026		62,904		61,214		61,080		62,516		61,025		68,173		70,593
Interest on long-term debt		5,358		4,334		4,125		3,531		2,078		2,517		4,456		4,172		5,474		4,292
Total governmental activities expenses	\$	995,416	\$	915,101	<u>\$</u>	987,791	<u>\$</u>	1,055,982	<u>\$</u>	1,056,289	\$	1,111,132	\$	1,174,218	\$	1,134,079	\$	1,170,794	\$	1,320,191
Business-type activities:																				
Water and sewer	\$	963,785	\$	915,616	\$	983,285	\$	867,117	\$	876,236	\$	920,359	\$	999,498	\$	2,078,679	\$	1,158,547	\$	1,135,322
Total business-type activities	¢	963,785	<u>\$</u> \$	915,616	<u> </u>	983,285	<u>\$</u>	867,117	-	876,236	<u> </u>	920,359	÷	999,498	<u> </u>	2,078,679	÷		<u> </u>	1,135,322
	<u>ي</u>	1,959,201	<u>\$</u>			1,971,076	<u>\$</u> \$	1,923,099	<u>\$</u>	1,932,525	<u>\$</u> \$	2,031,491	<u>*</u>	2,173,716	\$	3,212,758	<u>≁</u>		\$	2,455,513
Total primary governmental expenses	<u>⊅</u>	1,939,201	<u>></u>	1,830,717	<u>\$</u>	1,971,070	<u>ə</u>	1,923,099	<u>></u>	1,932,323	<u>⊅</u>	2,031,491	5	2,173,710	<u>.</u>	5,212,758	<u>ф</u>	2,329,341	<u> </u>	2,435,515
Program Revenues																				
Governmental activities:																				
Charges for services:							_										_		<u>^</u>	() * 1
General government	\$	123,185	\$	29,758	\$	29,189	\$	86,280	\$	127,189	\$	126,241	\$	161,143	\$	8,303	\$	8,974	\$	6,354
Public safety		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-
Transportation		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-
Environmental protection		63,570		63,873		64,308		64,391		65,590		64,718		65,439		65,944 52,754		68,067		68,231
Operating grants and contributions		32,137		36,280		142,801		77,124		36,800		52,623 30		38,310		52,754 17,500		47,840		61,127
Capital grants and contributions		96,000		95,715		54,999	_	80,554		16,078				17,500	. <u> </u>					125 712
Total governmental activities program revenues	<u>\$</u>	314,882	<u>\$</u>	225,626	<u>\$</u>	291,297	<u>\$</u>	308,349	<u>\$</u>	245,657	\$	243,612	\$	282,392	\$	144,501	<u>\$</u>	124,881	<u> </u>	135,712
Business-type activities:																				
Charges for services:													<u>^</u>	1.0/5.040	•	1 000 004	•	1 226 027	¢	1 224 222
Water and sewer	\$	1,074,453	\$	1,112,520	\$	1,101,708	\$	1,099,967	\$	1,270,771	\$	1,264,412	\$	1,265,743	\$	1,233,024	\$	1,326,927	3	1,324,320
Operating grants and contributions		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-
Capital grants and contributions		79,982		8,680		84,900	_			-				-				-		
Total business-type activites program revenues	<u>\$</u>	1,154,435	<u>\$</u>	1,121,200	<u>\$</u>	1,186,608	<u>\$</u>	1,099,967	<u>\$</u>	1,270,771	\$	1,264,412	\$	1,265,743	<u>\$</u>	1,233,024	<u>\$</u>	1,326,927	<u>\$</u>	1,324,320
Total primary government program revenues	<u>\$</u>	1,469,317	<u>\$</u>	1,346,826	<u>\$</u>	1,477,905	<u>\$</u>	1,408,316	<u>\$</u>	1,516,428	\$	1,508,024	<u>\$</u>	1,548,135	<u>\$</u>	1,377,525	<u>\$</u>	1,451,808	<u>\$</u>	1,460,032
Net (expense) revenue																				
Governmental activities	\$	(680,534)	\$	(689,475)	\$	(696,494)	\$	(747,633)	\$	(810,632)	\$	(867,520)	\$	(891,826)	\$	(989,578)	\$	(1,045,913)	\$	(1,184,479)
Business-type activities		190,650		205,584		203,323		232,850		394,535		344,053		266,245		(845,655)		168,380		188,998
Total primary government net expense	<u>\$</u>	(489,884)	<u>\$</u>	(483,891)	<u>\$</u>	(493,171)	<u>\$</u>	(514,783)	<u>\$</u>	(416,097)	<u>\$</u>	(523,467)	<u>\$</u>	(625,581)	<u>\$</u>	(1,835,233)	<u>\$</u>	(877,533)	<u>\$</u>	(995,481)

									(a	Last Ten accrual basi Fiso	Fis s o	let Position scal Years f accounting) Year								
		<u>2011</u>		<u>2012</u>		<u>2013</u>		<u>2014</u>		<u>2015</u>		<u>2016</u>		2017		<u>2018</u>		<u>2019</u>		<u>2020</u>
General Revenues and Other Changes																				
in Net Position																				
Governmental activities:																				
Taxes																				
Property taxes	\$	469,176	\$	467,102	\$	492,749	\$,	\$	513,108		\$ 515,545	\$	528,707		512581	\$	548,764	\$	586,115
Local option sales tax		177,842		173,504		170,717		211,303		203,124		214,071		249,002		265,093		296,250		295,505
Other taxes		43,885		45,320		39,989		32,005		28,022		26,889		29,046		138,791		140,448		123,248
Unrestricted grants and contributions		87,646		86,700		105,345		90,147		111,649		109,303		113,838		127,220		43,449		41,029
Investment earnings		1,662		1,125		659		492		445		526		541		571		1,548		1,863
Miscellaneous		-		15,681		1,740		-				5,458		51				<u> </u>		
Total governmental activities	<u>\$</u>		\$	789,432	\$	811,199	<u>\$</u>	833,731	<u>\$</u>	856,348	5	<u>\$ 871.792</u>	_\$	921,185	<u>\$</u>	1,044,256	<u>\$</u>	1,030,459	<u>\$</u>	1,047,760
Business-type activities:																				
Investment earnings	\$	3,542	\$	2,559	\$	980	\$	218	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	1,702	\$	6,458	\$	7,449
Miscellaneous		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-
Transfers																<u> </u>		-		
Total business-type activities	\$	3,542	\$	2,559	\$	980	\$	218	\$	-	\$		\$	-	<u>\$</u>	1,702	\$	6,458	\$	7,449
Total primary government	\$	783,753	<u>\$</u>	791,991	<u>\$</u>	812,179	<u>\$</u>	833,949	\$	856,348		<u>\$ 871,792</u>	<u>\$</u>	921,185	9	<u>1,045,958</u>	\$	1,036,917	\$	1,055,209
Change in Net Position																				
Governmental activities	\$	99,677	\$	99,957	\$	114,705	\$	86,098	\$	45,716	\$	4,272	\$	29,359	\$	54,678	\$	(15,454)	\$	(136,719)
Business-type activities		194,192		208,143		204,303		233,068		394,535		344,053		266,245		(843,953)		174,838		196,447
Total primary government	<u>\$</u>	293,869	\$	308,100	\$	319,008	\$	319,166	\$	440,251	\$	348,325	\$	295,604	\$	(789,275)	\$	159,834	\$	59,728

Fund Balances - Governmental Funds

					Gener	ral Fund			
Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Nons	pendable	Re	estricted	A	ssigned	U	nassigned	Total Fund Balance
2011			\$	54,681			\$	505,867	\$ 560,548
2012	\$	3,488		83,797				532,233	619,518
2013				188,274				574,041	762,315
2014				276,768				592,781	869,549
2015				274,761				640,878	915,639
2016				316,941	\$	449		667,074	984,464
2017		568		324,308		22,013		553,009	899,898
2018				280,669		27,013		565,091	872,773
2019				254,477		69,500		597,403	921,380
2020				262,338		52,070		561,067	875,475

Revenues - Governmental Funds

Fiscal Year			II	nter-						
Ending June 30,	Property taxes	Other taxes and licenses	0	mmental ibutions	 ricted Inter- ernmental	Per	mits, fees, other	estment rnings	-	Total
2011	\$ 449,257	\$ 221,727	\$	87,646	\$ 32,127	\$	186,755	\$ 1,662	\$	979,174
2012	475,586	218,824		86,700	127,256		98,001	1,495		1,007,862
2013	496,835	210,707		105,345	197,035		93,497	1,424		1,104,843
2014	502,120	26,903		306,552	153,290		154,316	1,235		1,144,416
2015	511,289	26,789		314,773	52,790		194,012	535		1,100,188
2016	519,646	26,889		323,374	52,559		190,959	623		1,114,050
2017	531,636	29,046		368,125	38,310		238,797	541		1,206,455
2018	511,638	31,482		377,402	47,754		218,967	571		1,187,814
2019	552,286	33,387		410,811	37,827		111,702	1,548		1,147,561
2020	589,471	21,294		405,503	42,744		118,653	1,862		1,179,527

Expenditures-Governmental Funds

Fiscal Year Ending	r General	Public		Environmental	Capital	Debt Se	ervice		Debt service as a % of non-capital
June 30,	government	safety	Transportation	protection	outlay	Principal	Interest	Total	expenditures
2011	\$ 115,163	\$ 372,200	\$ 115,951	\$ 109,445	\$ 175,608	\$ 32,178	\$ 5,358	\$ 925,903	5.00
2012	201,696	467,411	92,731	60,970	120,042	39,726	4,334	986,910	5.08
2013	201,269	548,667	69,804	61,026	45,875	33,020	4,125	963,786	4.05
2014	190,485	625,182	63,652	61,296	55,550	41,336	3,531	1,041,032	4.55
2015	184,547	669,821	55,587	61,214	100,305	28,431	2,078	1,101,983	3.05
2016	199,132	673,581	55,168	61,080	146,646	22,342	2,517	1,160,466	2.45
2017	170,588	743,030	58,310	62,516	410,809	41,462	4,456	1,491,171	4.25
2018	176,585	710,666	61,906	61,025	148,803	51,782	4,172	1,214,939	5.25
2019	186,599	683,246	79,918	68,173	36,495	50,350	5,474	1,110,255	5.20
2020	216,844	788,398	104,153	70,593	99,780	38,691	4,292	1,322,751	3.51

Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Total revenues	Total expenditures	Other financing sources (uses)	Net change
2011	\$ 979,174	\$ 925,903	\$ 19,080	\$ 72,351
2012	1,007,862	986,910	38,018	58,970
2013	1,104,843	963,786	1,740	142,797
2014	1,144,416	1,041,032	3,850	107,234
2015	1,100,188	1,101,983	47,885	46,090
2016	1,114,050	1,160,466	115,241	68,825
2017	1,206,455	1,491,171	200,150	(84,566)
2018	1,187,814	1,214,939	-	(27,125)
2019	1,147,561	1,110,255	11,301	48,607
2020	1,179,527	1,322,751	97,319	(45,905)

Assessed Value and Estimated Actual Value of Taxable Property

Last Ten Fiscal Years
(in thousands)

					(
Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Co	Assessed R mmercial roperty	Re	operty sidential roperty	Mot Vehi	or	oth		Ta	y xable 'alue		Total Direct Tax Rate	Estimated Actual Tax Value	Assessed Value as a Percentage of Actual Value
2011	\$	34,421	\$	76,019	\$5,	771	\$ 11.	324	\$ 1	27,535		.3900	\$ 143,993	88.57
2011	Ψ	34,680	Ψ	73,533		629		301		24,143	*	.3900	142,350	87.21
2012		34,795		74,273	,	284		702		24,054		.4000	143,690	86.33
2014		34,920		75,198		180		510		26,808		.4000	147,434	86.01
2015		35,185		74,769		556		,299	1	24,809		.4150	146,112	85.42
2016		35,148		72,943		086	9	,687	1	24,864		.4150	150,783	82.81
2017		36,179		71,683	8,	257	10	,103	1	26,222		.4200	154,819	81.53
2018		37,108		67,770	7,	833	9	,864	1	22,575		.4246	124,803	98.21
2019		38,021		68,120	7,	828	9	,753	1	23,722		.4446	131,703	93.94
2020		46,790		60,267	8,	205	7	,522	1	22,784		.4746	126,326	97.20

Source: Polk County Tax Assessor's Office.

Estimated actual tax value based on County Assessor's sale ratio studies.

Note: Property in the Town was last reassessed for fiscal year 2018. Tax rates are per \$100 of assessed value.

*Decline in 2012 due to valuation appeal from Tryon/Columbus Retirement Assn.(Laurel Hurst/Laurel Woods).

Direct and Overlapping Tax Rate

Last Ten Fiscal Years

Fiscal	D	irect Town			
Year				Polk	
Ending				County	
June 30,	Town	Fire	Total	Total Rate	Total Rate
2011	.350	.0400	.3900	.5200	.9100
2012	.350	.0400	.3900	.5200	.9100
2013	.350	.0500	.4000	.5200	.9200
2014	.350	.0500	.4000	.5175	.9175
2015	.350	.0650	.4150	.5175	.9325
2016	.350	.0650	.4150	.5175	.9325
2017	.350	.0700	.4200	.5375	.9575
2018	.350	.0746	.4246	.5294	.9540
2019	.370	.0746	.4446	.5494	.9940
2020	.370	.1046	.4746	.5494	1.024

The last Countywide revaluation was effective January 1, 2017 Tax rates are per \$100 of assessed value.

The same tax rate is applied to all classifications of property --real, business personal, vehicles, and utilities.

Source: Polk County Tax Department and Town of Columbus annual budget ordinances

Principal Property Taxpayers

Current Year and Ten Years Ago

	2	.020		2010		
Taxpayer	Taxable assessed value	Percentage of total town taxable assessed value	Taxpayer	Taxable assessed value	Percentage of total town taxable assessed value	
CSL Laurelhurst NC, LLC	\$ 6,208,575	4.95%	Tryon/Columbus Retirement	\$ 7,905,565	6.13%	
Duke Energy Corp	3,419,483	2.73%	AZJ Promotory	5,725,660	4.44%	
St Luke's Professional	3,039,905	2.42%	Columbus Plaza	3,163,616	2.45%	
Columbus Plaza Associates, LLC	2,981,801	2.38%	Feagan Family 1, LLC	2,696,612	2.09%	
Dry Pond Partners	2,257,500	1.80%	Dunn's Solution Unlimited	2,560,533	1.98%	
Bhakta Prakashbbai	2,155,704	1.72%	Gore Brothers Inc.	2,177,510	1.69%	
Woodstock Station LLC	1,977,467	1.58%	Day's Inn	1,860,948	1.44%	
Feagan Family 1, LLC	1,968,932	1.57%	Karaman Properties	1,559,042	1.21%	
State Employees Credit Union	1,767,987	1.41%	Woodstock Station, LLC	1,357,601	1.05%	
National Retail Properties	1,738,862	1.39%	Thermal Belt Outreach Min.	1,227,770	0.95%	
Total	\$ 27,516,216	21.95%	Total	\$ 30,234,857	23.43%	

Source: Polk County Tax Assessor's Office

Property Tax Levies and Collections

Last Ten Fiscal Years

		Collected within the fiscal year of the levy						Total collec	tions to date	
Taxes levied for the fiscal year		Amount	Percentage of levy	Current uncollected balance		Collection in subsequent years		Amount	Percentage of levy	
\$	497,386	\$477,121	95.83	\$	3,226	\$	17,039	\$494,160	99.35	
	484,158	469,418	96.96		2,163		12,577	481,995	99.55	
	496,215	486,408	98.02		923		8,884	495,292	99.81	
	507,231	500,749	98.72		9		6,473	507,222	100.00	
	517,959	509,650	98.40		662		7,647	517,297	99.87	
	518,184	513,857	99.16		602		3,725	517,582	99.88	
	530,131	525,435	99.11		870		4,091	529,526	99.89	
	520,454	513,368	98.64		2,439		4,798	518,166	99.56	
	550,068	546,872	99.42		3,196		1,570	548,442	99.70	
	595,459	590,913	99.24		4,546		-	590,913	99.24	
	for	for the fiscal year \$ 497,386 484,158 496,215 507,231 517,959 518,184 530,131 520,454 550,068	Taxes levied for the fiscal year Amount \$ 497,386 \$477,121 484,158 469,418 496,215 486,408 507,231 500,749 517,959 509,650 518,184 513,857 530,131 525,435 520,454 513,368 550,068 546,872	Taxes levied for the fiscal year Percentage of levy \$ 497,386 \$477,121 95.83 \$ 497,386 \$477,121 95.83 \$ 497,386 \$477,121 95.83 \$ 496,215 486,408 98.02 \$ 507,231 500,749 98.72 \$ 517,959 509,650 98.40 \$ 518,184 \$13,857 99.16 \$ 530,131 \$25,435 99.11 \$ 520,454 \$13,368 98.64 \$ 550,068 \$46,872 \$9.42	Taxes levied C for the fiscal Percentage unc year Amount of levy b \$ 497,386 \$477,121 95.83 \$ \$ 497,386 \$477,121 95.83 \$ \$ 496,215 486,408 98.02 \$ \$ 507,231 500,749 98.72 \$ \$ 517,959 509,650 98.40 \$ \$ 518,184 \$13,857 99.16 \$ \$ 530,131 \$25,435 \$ 99.11 \$ 520,454 \$13,368 \$ \$ \$ 550,068 \$46,872 \$ \$	Taxes levied for the fiscal yearCurrent Percentage of levyCurrent uncollected balance\$ 497,386\$477,12195.83\$ 3,226484,158469,41896.962,163496,215486,40898.02923507,231500,74998.729517,959509,65098.40662518,184513,85799.16602530,131525,43599.11870520,454513,36898.642,439550,068546,87299.423,196	Taxes levied for the fiscal yearCurrent Percentage of levyCurrent uncollected balanceCol sul sul $\$$ 497,386\$477,12195.83\$3,226\$ $\$$ 497,386\$477,12195.83\$3,226\$ $484,158$ 469,41896.962,163 $496,215$ 486,40898.02923 $507,231$ $500,749$ 98.729 $517,959$ $509,650$ 98.40662 $518,184$ $513,857$ 99.16602 $530,131$ $525,435$ 99.11870 $520,454$ $513,368$ 98.642,439 $550,068$ $546,872$ 99.423,196	Taxes levied for the fiscal yearAmountPercentage of levyCurrent uncollected balanceCollection in subsequent years $\$$ 497,386\$477,12195.83\$3,226\$17,039 $\$$ 484,158469,41896.962,16312,577496,215486,40898.029238,884507,231500,74998.7296,473517,959509,65098.406627,647518,184513,85799.166023,725530,131525,43599.118704,091520,454513,36898.642,4394,798550,068546,87299.423,1961,570	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	

Source: Polk County Tax Department and Town of Columbus Financial Statements

Ratios of Outstanding Debt by Type

Last Ten Fiscal Years

	Governmental Activities		Business T	ype Activities			
Fiscal Year Ended June 30,	In	stallment loans	Installment loans	State emergency loan	Total Primary Government	Per capita (a)	Percentage of Personal Income (a)
2011	\$	155,951	\$1,304,330	\$ 1,237,425	\$ 2,697,706	\$ 2,700	13.57
2012		138,563	1,202,301	1,149,037	2,489,901	2,525	12.16
2013		105,543	1,100,423	1,060,650	2,266,516	2,337	12.78
2014		64,207	3,590,426	972,265	4,626,898	4,770	25.58
2015		83,661	3,752,690	883,878	4,720,229	4,792	25.42
2016		171,102	3,507,209	795,490	4,473,801	4,556	23.28
2017		329,640	3,259,311	707,103	4,296,054	4,388	N/A
2018		243,890	3,055,154	618,715	3,917,759	3,902	N/A
2019		193,540	2,815,349	530,328	3,539,217	3,525	N/A
2020		244,869	2,602,641	441,940	3,289,450	3,250	N/A

Note: Details regarding the Town's outstanding debt can be found in the notes to the financial statements. (a) See Demographics and Economic Statistics on page 94 for population and income data.

Legal Debt Margin Information

Last Ten Fiscal Years

Fiscal Year Ended June 30,	Debt limit	Total debt applicable to limit	Legal debt margin	Total debt applicable to the limit as a percentage of debt limit
2011	\$ 10,202,790	-	\$ 10,202,790	0.00
2012	9,931,452	-	9,931,452	0.00
2013	9,924,310	-	9,924,310	0.00
2014	10,144,620	-	10,144,620	0.00
2015	9,984,740	-	9,984,740	0.00
2016	9,989,095	-	9,989,095	0.00
2017	10,097,737	-	10,097,737	0.00
2018	9,806,028	-	9,806,028	0.00
2019	9,897,778	-	9,897,778	0.00
2020	10,037,233	-	10,037,233	0.00

Legal Debt Margin Calculation for Fiscal Year 2020

Assessed value	\$ 125,465,416		
Debt limit (8% of assessed value)	\$ 10,037,233		
Debt applicable to limit:			
Less General obligation bonds			
Legal debt margin	\$ 10,037,233		

Direct and Overlapping Governmental Activities Debt

As of June 30, 2020

Governmenal Unit	Debt Outstanding	Estimated Percentage Applicable (2)		stimated Share of verlapping Debt
Polk County (1)	\$ 13,909,760	3.47%	\$	482,669
Town of Columbus Direct				244,869
Total Direct and Overlapping Debt			<u>\$</u>	727,538

Sources:

(1) Polk County Finance Department

(2) The percentage of overlapping debt is estimated using taxable assessed property values. The Town of Columbus represents 3.47% of the total Polk County assessed valuation per the Polk County Tax Assessor.

Town of Columbus, North Carolina

Water Rates Last Ten Fiscal Years

	2010	2011,2012,2013	2014	2015,2016,2017	2018,2019
Residential(1) Inside (3)	\$16.65 Minimum/ \$2.43 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$16.65 Minimum/ \$2.43 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$18.32 Minimum/ \$2.67 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$18.32 Minimum/ \$2.67 3,001-10,000 \$3.67 10,001+ Gallons	\$19.24 Minimum/ \$2.80 3,001-10,000 \$3.67 10,001+ Gallons
Residential (1) Outside (4)	\$32.17 Minimum/ \$4.84 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$32.17 Minimum/ \$4.84 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$35.59 Minimum/ \$5.32 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$36.64 Minimum/ \$5.34 3,001-10,000 \$7.34 10,001+ Gallons	\$38.47 Minimum/ \$5.61 3,001-10,000 \$7.71 10,001+ Gallons
Commercial(2) Inside(3)	\$26.99 Minimum/ \$2.43 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$26.99 Minimum/ \$2.43 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$29.69 Minimum/ \$2.67 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$29.69 Minimum/ \$2.67 5,001-10,000 \$3.67 10,001-100,000 \$4.67 100,001-500,000 \$5.67 500,001+ Gallons	\$31.17 Minimum/ \$2.80 5,001-10,000 \$3.85 10,001-100,000 \$4.90 100,001-500,000 \$5.95 500,001+ Gallons
Commercial(2) Outside (4)	\$52.86 Minimum/ \$4.84 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$52.86 Minimum/ \$4.84 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$58.15 Minimum/ \$5.32 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$59.38 Minimum/ \$5.34 5,001-10,000 \$7.34 10,001-100,000 \$9.34 100,001-500,000 \$11.34 500,001+ Gallons	\$62.35 Minimum/ \$5.61 5,001-10,000 \$7.71 10,001-100,000 \$9.81 100,001-500,000 \$11.91 500,001+ Gallons

All rates after the minimum are per 1,000 gallons of usage

(1) All residential minimums are based on 3,000 gallons

(2) All commercial minimums are based on 5,000 gallons

(3) Inside--Inside the Town Limits of Columbus

(4) Outside--Outside the Town Limits of Columbus

Town of Columbus, North Carolina

Sewer Rates Last Ten Fiscal Years

	2010	2011,2012,2013	2014	2015, 2016, 2017	2018,2019
Residential(1) Inside (3)	\$21.91 Minimum/ \$3.29 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$24.10 Minimum/ \$3.62 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$26.51 Minimum \$3.98 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$26.51 Minimum/ \$3.98 3,001-10,000 \$4.98 10,001+ Gallons	\$27.84 Minimum/ \$4.18 3,001-10,000 \$5.23 10,001+ Gallons
Residential (1) Outside (4)	\$42.56 Minimum/ \$6.44 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$46.82 Minimum/ \$7.08 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$51.50 Minimum/ \$7.79 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$53.02 Minimum/ \$7.96 3,001-10,000 \$9.96 10,001+ Gallons	\$55.67 Minimum/ \$8.36 3,001-10,000 \$10.46 10,001+ Gallons
Commercial(2) Inside(3)	\$35.64 Minimum/ \$3.29 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$39.20 Minimum \$3.62 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$43.12 Minimum/ \$3.98 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$43.12 Minimum/ \$3.98 5,001-10,000 \$4.98 10,001-100,000 \$5.98 100,001-500,000 \$6.98 500,001+ Gallons	\$45.28 Minimum/ \$4.18 5,001-10,000 \$5.23 10,001-100,000 \$6.28 100,001-500,000 \$7.33 500,001+ Gallons
Commercial(2) Outside (4)	\$68.80 Minimum \$6.44 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$75.86 Minimum/ \$7.08 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$83.25 Minimum/ \$7.79 per 1,000 Gallons Thereafter	\$86.24 Minimum/ \$7.96 5,001-10,000 \$9.96 10,001-100,000 \$11.96 100,001-500,000 \$13.96 500,001+ Gallons	\$90.55 Minimum/ \$8.36 5,001-10,000 \$10.46 10,001-100,000 \$12.56 100,001-500,000 \$14.66 500,001+ Gallons

All rates after the minimum are per 1,000 gallons of usage

(1) All residential minimums are based on 3,000 gallons

(2) All commercial minimums are based on 5,000 gallons

(3) Inside--Inside the Town Limits of Columbus

(4) Outside--Outside the Town Limits of Columbus

Top Ten Water Customers

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Customer Name	Total Gallons Billed	% of Total Town Billing
Acts, Inc.	12,114,000	15.60%
St. Luke's Hospital	5,521,000	7.11%
Milliken Hatch Plant	4,468,000	5.75%
CSL Laurelhurst NC LLC	2,520,700	3.25%
Columbus Launderette	1,717,400	2.21%
DOT Welcome Center	1,036,400	1.33%
The Sanctuary at Tryon	864,000	1.11%
Bubbles Car Wash	804,300	1.04%
Donna Boyd	626,690	0.81%
Days Inn - Columbus	617,900	0.80%
Total	30,290,390	39.01%

Demographic and Economic Statistics

Last Ten Fiscal Years

Fiscal Year Ended June 30,	(Town) Population (1)	Pers	onal Income (2)	Pe	r capita personal income (2)	(County) Median Age (1)	(County) school enrollment (3)	(County) unemployment rate (4)
2011	999	\$	19,873,107	\$	19,893	52.51	2,385	7.7%
2012	986		20,469,300		20,760	49.50	2,355	8.0%
2013	970		17,735,480		18,284	49.58	2,293	6.1%
2014	970		18,090,189		18,650	51.52	2,294	5.4%
2015	985		18,568,500		18,851	52.01	2,246	5.8%
2016	982		19,220,801		19,573	52.25	2,276	4.9%
2017	979		N/A		N/A	51.06	2,167	4.0%
2018	1,004		N/A		N/A	51.29	2,147	4.1%
2019	1,004		N/A		N/A	51.55	2,099	4.5%
2020	1,012		N/A		N/A	52.00	2,117	6.3%

Sources:

(1) N.C. State Data Center

(2) www.city-data.com

(3) N.C. Department of Public Instruction, First Month Average Daily Membership (4) N.C. Employment Security Commission, June

N/A - Information not available

Principal Employers

Current Year and Nine Years Ago*

	2	2020	2011			
Employer	Employees (1)	Percentage of total county employment (2)	Employees (1)	Percentage of total county employment (2)		
Polk County Public Schools	250-499	2.8%-5.6%	250-499	2.8%-5.6%		
ACTS, Inc.	250-499	2.8%-5.6%	250-499	2.8%-5.6%		
St. Luke's Hospital	250-499	2.8%-5.6%	250-499	2.8%-5.6%		
Polk County Government	250-499	2.8%-5.6%	250-499	2.8%-5.6%		
Cooper Riis	100-249	1.1%-2.8%	100-249	1.1%-2.8%		
Tryon International Equestrian Ctr	100-249	1.1%-2.8%	N/A	N/A		
White Oak Management, Inc.	100-249	1.1%-2.8%	100-249	1.1%-2.8%		
Pavillion International	100-249	1.1%-2.8%	50-99	.6%-1.0%		
Pure Country	50-99	.06%-1.0%	50-99	.6%-1.0%		
Polk Vocational Services	50-99	.06%-1.0%	N/A	N/A		
Community Choices, Inc.	50-99	.06%-1.0%	50-99	.6%-1.0%		
Autumn Corporation	50-99	.06%-1.0%	100-249	.6%-1.0%		
Total	1600-3388	15.6%-37.6%	1450-3040	14.7%-32.0%		

Due to the size of Columbus statistics are not available for the Town. The above information is for Polk County as a whole and is provided to the reader for a better understanding of the economic climate for Columbus, which is the County seat.

Source:

- (1) d4nccommerce.com
- (2) Percentages based on a workforce of 9,002 and 8,474 for 2020 and 2011, respectively, per the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina.

N/A--company not in business in Polk County in 2011 or 2020. .

Full-time Equivalent Town Government Employees by Function/Program

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Function/program										
General government	3.4	3.4	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	2.6
Planning	1.0	.40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.4
Police	6.0	7.0	7.6	9.6	9.6	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0	10.0
Streets/Water	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	4.5
Wastewater	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.5
Recycling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	16.4	16.8	16.8	18.8	18.8	19.6	18.6	18.6	18.6	19.0

Last Ten Fiscal Years

Source: Various Town Departments

Operating Indicators by Function/Program

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Function/program			2010							
Building Permits: (1)										
Commercial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Residential	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Electrical	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plumbing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mechanical	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sign	10	6	12	8	9	8	8	5	12	9
Demolition	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fire Sprinkler	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Police Department:							. = 0	100		
Arrests	211	230	254	268	297	206	178	138	263	259
Accidents	129	133	108	121	137	129	89	102	85	80
Citations	622	1308	2446	2617	2209	1659	1695	2167	2661	2605
Water Department:										
Customers Count	923	949	957	960	961	959	962	970	974	980
Annual Production	, 20									
(millions of gallons)	134	95	77	75	88	87	85	86	84.2	90.7
Sewer Department:										
Customer Count	511	539	547	543	549	547	551	558	561	559
Annual Flow	511		2.17	0.0	2.7	5.1			001	
(millions of gallons)	57.3	52.5	55.1	53.0	59.0	62.0	49.3	57.0	56.3	54.6
,										

Last Ten Fiscal Years

 The Town of Columbus began issuing permits in fiscal year 2007/08 when the Planning Department was established. Prior to that date, all permits were issued by Polk County. In December, 2009 all permitting and inspection activity was turned back over to Polk County.

Source: Various Town Departments

Capital Asset and Infrastructure Statistics by Function/Program

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Function/program										
General government:										
Buildings-Town Hall	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Vehicles	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Police:										
Buildings-Stations	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Vehicles	6	7	7	7	9	11	12	12	12	12
Utility Trailer	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Motorcycles	-	-	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Water/Sewer:										
Buildings-storage barn	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Water Wells	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Treatment Plants	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Sewer Lift Stations	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Vehicles	4	4	4	4	5	6	6	6	6	6
Backhoes	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	2
Sewer Jet	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Sanitary Sewer miles	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
Streets:										
Number of street lights	167	179	179	179	179	179	179	179	179	179
Miles (1)	7.32	7.32	7.32	7.32	7.32	7.32	7.32	7.32	7.32	7.32

Last Ten Fiscal Years

(1) Miles are per annual Powell Bill reports.

Source: Various Town Departments