Financial Statements and Supplementary Information

Year Ended June 30, 2020

and Independent Auditors' Report

Financial Report

Year Ended June 30, 2020

Board of Aldermen
John L. Chandler, Mayor
Larry Davis
Stuart Jolley
Nicholas Honeycutt
Robert W. Zink

Administrative and Financial Staff
Nathan Bennett, Town Manager
Robert W. Zink, Finance Officer

## Table of Contents

Financial Section:	<u>Page</u>
Independent Auditors' Report	1–3
Management's Discussion and Analysis	5–14
Basic Financial Statements:	
Government-wide Financial Statements:	
Statement of Net Position	15
Statement of Activities	16
Fund Financial Statements:	
Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds	17
Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position	17
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances Governmental Fund Type	18
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Fund Type to the Statement of Activities	19
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances Annual Budget and Actual – General Fund	20
Statement of Fund Net Position – Proprietary Fund	21
Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Net Position Proprietary Fund	22
Statement of Cash Flows – Proprietary Fund	23
Notes to the Financial Statements	25–55

## Table of Contents - continued

Required Supplementary Financial Data:	<u>Page</u>
Schedule of the Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) – Local Government Employees' Retirement System	57
Schedule of Contributions – Local Government Employees' Retirement System	58
Schedule of the Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability – Firefighters' and Rescue Squad Workers' Pension	59
Schedule of Changes in Total Pension Liability – Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance	60
Schedule of Total Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll – Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance	61
Individual Fund Statements and Schedules:	
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance Budget and Actual – General Fund	63–69
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance Budget and Actual – Capital Projects Fund	71
Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures Budget and Actual: (Non-GAAP) – Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund	73
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance Budget and Actual: (Non-GAAP) – Water and Sewer Improvements – Enterprise Capital Projects Fund	74
Other Schedules:	
Schedule of Ad Valorem Taxes Receivable	75
Analysis of Current Tax Levy	76
Compliance Section:	
Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	77–78

## Table of Contents - continued

	<u>Page</u>
Schedule of Findings and Responses	79–80
Corrective Action Plan	81
Summary Schedule of Prior Year Audit Findings	82



#### **Independent Auditors' Report**

To the Honorable Mayor and Board of Aldermen Mars Hill, North Carolina

#### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Mars Hill, 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 of Mars Hill'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.

#### **Auditors' 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 and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. 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 auditors' 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 audit, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Mars Hill, 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 the Management's Discussion and Analysis on pages 5 through 14, the Local Government Employees' Retirement System's Schedules of the Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability and Contributions, on pages 57 and 59, respectively, the Firefighters' and Rescue Squad Workers' Pension Fund's Schedule of the Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability on page 59, 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 60 and 61, respectively, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

#### **Supplementary 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 Mars Hill, 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 relates 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 audit and the procedures performed 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.

#### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 18, 2020, on our consideration of the Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of the report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Johnson Price Sprinkle PA

Asheville, NC December 18, 2020



#### TOWN OF MARS HILL Mars Hill, North Carolina

#### Management's Discussion and Analysis

As management of the Town of Mars Hill, we offer readers of the Town of Mars Hill's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town of Mars Hill 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**

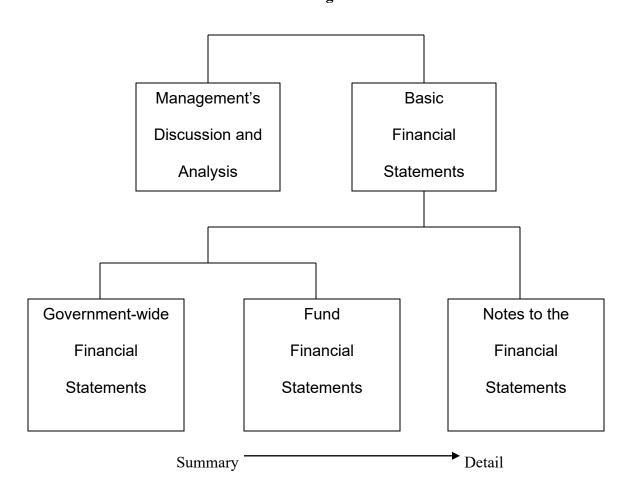
- The assets and deferred outflows of resources of the Town of Mars Hill exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources at the close of the fiscal year by 19,233,488 (net position).
- The government's total net position increased by \$508,173, due to the increases in the governmental and enterprise activities net positions.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, the Town of Mars Hill's governmental funds reported ending fund balances of \$3,696,778, an increase of \$527,810 in comparison with the prior year. Approximately 9.3% of this total amount, or \$343,060, is non-spendable or restricted.
- At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance for the General Fund was \$3,228,718, or 206.3% of total General Fund expenditures for the fiscal year.
- The Town of Mars Hill's total debt decreased by \$14,828 during the current fiscal year. The key factor in this decrease is due to increases in pension related debt offset by principal retirement of the installment debt.

#### **Overview of the Financial Statements**

This discussion and analysis are intended to serve as an introduction to Town of Mars Hill's 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 Mars Hill.

#### **Town of Mars Hill**

## Required Components of Annual Financial Report Figure 1



#### **Basic Financial Statements**

The first two statements (pages 15 and 16) 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 (pages 17 through 23) 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 General Statutes also can be found in this part of the statements.

#### **Town of Mars Hill**

#### **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 two categories: 1) governmental activities; and, 2) business-type activities. The governmental activities include most of the Town's basic services such as public safety, parks and recreation, and general administration. Property taxes and State and federal grant funds finance most of these activities. The business-type activities are those that the Town charges customers to provide. These include the water and sewer services offered by the Town of Mars Hill.

The government-wide financial statements are on pages 15 and 16 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 Mars Hill, 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 the Town of Mars Hill 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 of Mars Hill'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* that 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 governmental 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 Mars Hill 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 or not 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

#### **Town of Mars Hill**

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** – The Town of Mars Hill has one proprietary fund. *Enterprise Funds* are used to report the same functions presented as business-type activities in the government-wide financial statements. Town of Mars Hill uses enterprise funds to account for its water and sewer activity. These funds are 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 25 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's progress in funding its obligation to provide pension benefits to its employees. Required supplementary information can be found beginning on page 55 of this report.

#### **Government-wide Financial Analysis**

The following comparative data will allow opportunities for comparative analysis.

## The Town of Mars Hill's Net Position June 30, 2020 and 2019

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	Govern	mental	Busine	ss-Type				
	Activ	/ities	Acti	vities	Total			
	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019		
Current and other assets	\$3,784,490	\$ 3,248,357	\$ 4,090,262	\$ 3,984,975	\$ 7,874,752	\$ 7,233,332		
Capital assets	4,068,031	4,267,498	8,478,333	8,503,512	12,546,364	12,771,010		
Deferred outflows of resources	178,638	203,231	55,627	62,647	234,265	265,878		
Total assets and deferred						_		
outflows of resources	8,031,159	7,719,086	12,624,222	12,551,134	20,655,381	20,270,220		
						_		
Long-term liabilities outstanding	412,422	355,934	806,190	877,506	1,218,612	1,233,440		
Other liabilities	43,970	41,828	123,701	229,759	167,671	271,587		
Deferred inflows of resources	32,276	37,286	3,334	2,592	35,610	39,878		
Total liabilities and deferred						_		
inflows of resources	488,668	435,048	933,225	1,109,857	1,421,893	1,544,905		
						_		
Net position:								
Net investment in capital assets	4,068,031	4,267,498	7,780,407	7,716,655	11,848,438	11,984,153		
Restricted	343,060	262,354	-	-	343,060	262,354		
Unrestricted	3,131,400	2,754,186	3,910,590	3,724,622	7,041,990	6,478,808		
Total net position	\$ 7,542,491	\$7,284,038	\$ 11,690,997	\$ 11,441,277	\$ 19,233,488	\$ 18,725,315		

#### **Town of Mars Hill**

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 Mars Hill exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows by \$19,233,488 as of June 30, 2020.

The Town's net position increased by \$508,173 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020. However, the largest portion of net position (61.6%) reflects the Town's net investment in capital assets (e.g. land, buildings, machinery, and equipment), less any related debt still outstanding that was issued to acquire those items. The Town of Mars Hill uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the Town of Mars Hill's net investment in its 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's net position, \$343,060, represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining balance of \$7,041,990 is unrestricted.

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

- Continued diligence in the collection of property taxes with a collection rate as of year-end of 97.035% and additional efforts for collection of delinquent taxes of all prior years following close of fiscal year.
- Continued low cost of debt due to Town's high bond rating. Number of years of debt reduced due to refinancing at lower interest resulting in ability to pay-off in less number of years.
- New projects in the current fiscal year: Recreational Greenway Project and a Wastewater Treatment Improvements Project.

**Governmental activities**. Governmental activities increased the Town's net position by \$258,453, thereby accounting for 50.86% of the total change in the net position of the Town of Mars Hill. Key elements of this increase are as follows:

- Tax revenues increased slightly due to moderate increase in construction within the Town.
- Sales Tax and Utilities Franchise Tax revenue exceeded projected amounts.
- Receipt of CARES fund allocation from Madison County.

**Business-type activities**: Business-type activities increased the Town of Mars Hill's net position by \$249,720, accounting for 49.14% of the increase in the government's net position. Key elements of this increase are as follows:

- Amendments to Town's Water Policy allow more incentives for timely collections of utility charges.
- Slight increase in water rates.
- Grant revenue received for Wastewater Treatment project.

#### Town of Mars Hill – Changes in Net Position Years Ended June 30, 2020 and 2019

#### Figure 3

	Governmental				Business-type								
	Activities				Activities				To	otal			
		2020		2019		2020		2019		2020		2019	
Revenues:													
Program revenues:													
Charges for services	\$	29,014	\$	34,905	\$	1,016,494	\$	1,073,453	\$	1,045,508	\$	1,108,358	
Operating grants and contributions		131,344		69,934		-		-		131,344		69,934	
Capital grants and contributions		_		657,326		165,124		625,027		165,124		1,282,353	
General revenues:													
Property taxes		581,630		571,968		-		-		581,630		571,968	
Other taxes		605,076		598,126		-		-		605,076		598,126	
Grants and contributions not restricted													
to specific programs		702,907		718,069		-		-		702,907		718,069	
Other		52,097		57,754		39,318		53,866		91,415		111,620	
Total revenues		2,102,068		2,708,082		1,220,936		1,752,346		3,323,004		4,460,428	
Expenses:													
General government		345,388		334,848		-		-		345,388		334,848	
Public safety		1,015,585		950,998		-		-		1,015,585		950,998	
Transportation		266,570		271,451		-		-		266,570		271,451	
Environmental protection		114,873		108,615		-		-		114,873		108,615	
Cultural and recreation		101,199		98,870		-		-		101,199		98,870	
Interest on long-term debt		-		-		23,427		25,576		23,427		25,576	
Water and sewer		-		-		947,789		929,145		947,789		929,145	
Total expenses		1,843,615		1,764,782		971,216		954,721		2,814,831		2,719,503	
Increase (decrease) in net position		258,453		943,300		249,720		797,625		508,173		1,740,925	
Net position, beginning		7,284,038		6,340,738		11,441,277		10,643,652		18,725,315		16,984,390	
Net position, ending		7,542,491	\$	7,284,038	\$	11,690,997	\$	11,441,277	\$	19,233,488	\$	18,725,315	

#### Financial Analysis of the Town of Mars Hill Funds

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

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

#### **Town of Mars Hill**

The General Fund is the chief operating fund of the Town of Mars Hill. At the end of the current fiscal year, Town of Mars Hill's unassigned fund balance in the General Fund was \$3,228,718 while total fund balance totaled \$3,695,204. The Town currently has an available fund balance of 206.3% of General Fund expenditures, while total fund balance represents 236.1% of the same amount.

As of June 30, 2020, the governmental funds of the Town of Mars Hill reported a fund balance of \$3,696,778, a 16.7% increase over last year.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights: During the year, the Town revised the budget amounts originally adopted by council to transfer budgeted expenditures to different departments and to increase budgets for unexpected increases in operating expenditures at various functional levels.

**Proprietary Funds**. The Town of Mars Hill'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 \$3,910,590. The total increase in net position for this fund was \$249,720. Other factors concerning the finances of this fund have already been addressed in the discussion of the Town of Mars Hill's business-type activities.

#### **Capital Assets and Debt Administration**

Capital assets. The Town of Mars Hill's investment in capital assets for its governmental and business—type activities as of June 30, 2020, totals \$12,546,364 (net of accumulated depreciation). These assets include buildings, roads, land, machinery and equipment, park facilities, water and sewer lines, treatment facilities, and vehicles.

Major capital asset transactions during the year include the following additions (there were no significant demolitions or disposals):

- Purchase of a truck for \$53,473 for the fire department and two used vehicles for the police department for \$29,482.
- Purchase of a tractor and mower for the street department and water/sewer operation for \$20,000.
- Construction of lines and distribution systems of \$54,027 and construction in progress of \$191,183 for the Wastewater Improvements Project.

#### **Town of Mars Hill**

### Town of Mars Hill's Capital Assets June 30, 2020 and 2019

Figure 4

	Governmental Business-type											
	Activities				Activ	es .	Total					
		2020		2019		2020		2019		2020		2019
Land Construction in	\$	811,052	\$	811,052	\$	82,273	\$	82,273	\$	893,325	\$	893,325
progress		-		_		838,401		647,218		838,401		647,218
Buildings and						,		,		,		,
systems		1,854,628		1,921,103		479,533		496,123		2,334,161		2,417,226
Furniture and												
fixtures		17,867		20,845		-		-		17,867		20,845
Machinery and												
equipment		194,241		231,464		89,324		98,961		283,565		330,425
Infrastructure Vehicles and motorized		325,116		374,780		6,988,802		7,178,613		7,313,918		7,553,393
equipment		865,127		908,254		_		324		865,127		908,578
equipment		303,127		300,234		<u> </u>		324		003,127		500,578
Total	\$	4,068,031	\$	4,267,498	\$	8,478,333	\$	8,503,512	\$	12,546,364	\$	12,771,010

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

Long-term Debt. As of June 30, 2020 the Town of Mars Hill had total bonded debt outstanding of \$0.

#### Mars Hill's Outstanding Debt General Obligation June 30, 2020 and 2019

Figure 5

	Gove	rnmental	Busine	ss-type				
	Act	tivities	Activ	vities	Total			
	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019		
Installment debt	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 697,926	\$ 786,857	\$ 697,926	\$ 786,857		
Pension related debt (LGERS)	294,313	259,268	96,755	81,163	391,068	340,431		
Pension related debt (LEO)	73,272	57,618	-	-	73,272	57,618		
Compensated absences	44,837	39,048	11,509	9,486	56,346	48,534		
Total	\$ 412,422	\$ 355,934	\$ 806,190	\$ 877,506	\$ 1,218,612	\$ 1,233,440		

#### **Town of Mars Hill**

The Town of Mars Hill's total bonded debt did not change 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 percent of the total assessed value of taxable property located within that government's boundaries. The legal debt margin for Town of Mars Hill is \$9,138,019.

Additional information regarding the Town of Mars Hill's long-term debt can be found in Note 3 of this report.

#### **Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets and Rates**

The following key economic indicators reflect the growth and prosperity of the Town.

- The Madison County unemployment rate as of June 30, 2020 was 7.4%. This represents an increase in this marker from 4% one year ago. This rate increase is directly attributable to the associated economic impacts from the coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic. The County unemployment rate remained stable throughout the 1st and 2nd quarters of FY 2020 with the rate actually dipping to a low of 3% in December 2019 and upon the onset of the pandemic in March, the Madison County unemployment rate spiked to nearly 13% in 4th quarter, including both April and May 2020. The rate began to return to traditional range in June with continued correction into the remaining months of 2020.
- Occupancy rates for office and retail space within the Town have remained stable. In fact, several long-time vacant spaces have become rented and are returning to viable status.
- The number of small businesses in the Town has increased slightly with the opening of a new retail business early in 2020. In addition, the Town is seeing construction of an additional new retail business, that being an O'Reilly Auto Parts store with an expected opening in the 2nd quarter of 2021.
- Development continues in the two large single-family housing communities with the construction of approximately 12 new homes during the fiscal year. These homes are currently selling with minimal time on the open real estate market. The developers report they are very pleased with the response to the availability of these homesites and product being offered.
- COVID-19 has been a challenge for every level of government and the Town of Mars Hill has been no exception. The contagious nature of COVID-19 required the Town to take a number of actions including the purchase and installation of personal protective equipment, including masks. gloves, gowns, workspace barriers and shields as well as the purchase of specialized cleaning and sanitization products for facility and vehicle maintenance. Additionally, the Town implemented teleworking procedures and acquired technology equipment to facilitate remote working and participation in state, regional and local emergency operation planning and response meetings. The costs associated with these equipment and material purchases were unexpected. The Town did receive an appropriation of funds from the CARES Act funding administered by Madison County and the NC Pandemic Recovery Office for costs directly associated with the recovery and response to COVID-19 public health emergency. However, these funds could not be used to replace revenue lost from expected sources such as sales and use tax, property tax, water service, and investment income. The Town experienced significant loss of revenue in the Water and Sewer Fund due to the closure of Mars Hill University and the public schools. These entities are significant rate-paying consumers of water services and the loss of this revenue was very significant in the 4th quarter of FY 2020. This loss of revenue forced the Town to delay water and sewer system upgrades and improvements and to absorb those financial losses.

#### **Town of Mars Hill**

#### Budget Highlights for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021

Governmental Activities: Projected revenue is increased due to increase in Utilities Franchise and Local Option Sales Taxes. In addition, anticipated tax revenue from the Town and the Fire District are anticipated to exceed prior years because of construction in progress and with at least two new residential housing developments anticipated.

Additional revenue is expected from property tax and fire district tax related to increases in property valuation from the Madison County revaluation process that was effective January 1, 2020.

An increase in budgeted expenditures is expected due to an overall increase in operations of all departments including a modest increase in employee compensation.

**Business** – **type Activities:** Continuation of prior year's plan for a recurring increase of 2.5% in water rates will account for an increase in water and sewer revenue combined with an increase in billed water connections. Water and sewer tap fees anticipated are also increased. Investment income is slightly increased. All this will potentially offset an increase in general operating expenses as well as maintenance/addition of equipment necessary for operations.

#### **Requests for Information**

This report is designed to provide an overview of the Town of Mars Hill'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 Nathan Bennett, Manager, Town of Mars Hill, Post Office Box 368, Mars Hill, North Carolina, 28754 or telephone (828) 689-2301.

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
June 30, 2020

	_	Governmental		Business-type		T 1
ASSETS	_	Activities	_	Activities	_	Total
Current assets						
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	3,497,525	\$	3,215,759	\$	6,713,284
Taxes receivable - net		37,727		-		37,727
Accounts receivable - net		200,207		94,384		294,591
Grants receivable		-		16,911		16,911
Due from other governments		250,000		21,923		271,923
Accrued interest receivable		5,855		-		5,855
Inventory		(2.40, 102)		72,653		72,653
Internal balances		(348,103)		348,103		461.000
Restricted cash and cash equivalents  Total current assets	_	141,279 3,784,490	_	320,529 4,090,262	_	461,808 7,874,752
Total current assets	_	3,764,490	-	4,090,202		7,874,732
Capital assets						
Land, non-depreciable improvements, and		911.052		020 674		1 721 726
construction in progress Other capital assets, net of depreciation		811,052 3,256,979		920,674 7,557,659		1,731,726 10,814,638
Total capital assets	_	4,068,031	_	8,478,333		12,546,364
Total capital assets	_	1,000,031	_	0,470,333		12,540,504
TOTAL ASSETS	_	7,852,521	_	12,568,595	_	20,421,116
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES						
Pension deferrals	_	178,638	_	55,627	_	234,265
LIABILITIES						
Current liabilities						
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		43,970		18,572		62,542
Accrued interest payable		-		16,963		16,963
Unearned charges		-		6,921		6,921
Deposits	_		_	81,245		81,245
Total current liabilities	_	43,970	_	123,701	_	167,671
Long-term liabilities		204212		06.755		201.060
Net pension liability Total pension liability		294,313 73,272		96,755		391,068 73,272
Due within one year		44,837		102,624		147,461
Due in more than one year		-		606,811		606,811
Total long-term liabilities	_	412,422	_	806,190		1,218,612
TOTAL LIABILITIES	_	456,392	_	929,891	_	1,386,283
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES						
Prepaid taxes		160		_		160
Pension deferrals		32,116		3,334		35,450
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	_	32,276	_	3,334		35,610
Net investment in capital assets		4,068,031		7,780,407		11,848,438
Restricted for:		200 207				200 207
Stabilization by State Statute  Capital Project - Parks and Recreation		200,207 1,574		-		200,207 1,574
Transportation		1,374		<del>-</del>		1,374
Unrestricted		3,131,400		3,910,590		7,041,990
TOTAL NET POSITION	\$	7,542,491	\$	11,690,997	\$	19,233,488
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## TOWN OF MARS HILL, NORTH CAROLINA STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year Ended June 30, 2020

				Program Revenues			Net (Expense	e) Reve	enue and Change	s in No	et Position		
Functions/Programs	Expenses			Charges for Services		Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions		Governmental Activities		Business-type Activities		Total
Governmental Activities:													
General government	\$	345,388	\$	7,030	\$	- :	\$	-	\$ (338,358)	\$	_	\$	(338,358)
Public safety	Ψ	1,015,585	Ψ	4,342	Ψ	74,827	Ψ	_	(936,416)		_	Ψ	(936,416)
Transportation		266,570		-,5-12		56,517		_	(210,053)		_		(210,053)
Environmental protection		114,873		_		-		_	(114,873)		_		(114,873)
Cultural and recreation		101,199		17,642		_		_	(83,557)		_		(83,557)
Total governmental activities		1,843,615	_	29,014		131,344		-	(1,683,257)		-		(1,683,257)
Dusiness type activities													
Business-type activities: Water and sewer		971,216		1,016,494			1	65,124			210,402		210,402
Total business-type activities		971,216		1,016,494	_	<u>-</u>		65,124		-	210,402		210,402
Total government		2,814,831	<u> </u>	1,045,508	<u>\$</u>	131,344		65,124	(1,683,257)	-	210,402		(1,472,855)
	Gener	ral revenues:								<u> </u>			
	Taxo	es:											
	Pr	operty taxes, le	evied t	for general purpose	e				581,630		-		581,630
	Ot	her taxes							605,076		-		605,076
				not restricted to s	pecifi	ic programs			702,907		-		702,907
	Unre	estricted invest	ment	earnings					40,919		39,318		80,237
	Mise	cellaneous							11,178				11,178
	To	tal general rev	enues						1,941,710		39,318		1,981,028
	Ch	ange in net pos	sition						258,453		249,720		508,173
	Net p	osition, beginr	ning						7,284,038		11,441,277		18,725,315
	Net p	osition, ending	5						\$ 7,542,491	\$	11,690,997	\$	19,233,488

# TOWN OF MARS HILL, NORTH CAROLINA BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

June 30, 2020

	Major Funds			Totals		
A COLUMN		General Fund	Bailey Mountain Capital Project Fund	Totals Governmental Funds		
ASSETS Cash and investments Restricted cash Taxes receivable - net Accounts receivable Due from other governments	\$	3,495,951 141,279 37,727 200,207	\$ 1,574 - - - 250,000	\$	3,497,525 141,279 37,727 200,207 250,000	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ <b>_</b>	3,875,164	\$ 251,574	\$	4,126,738	
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES Accounts payable and accrued liabilities Due to other funds	\$	43,970 98,103	\$250,000	\$	43,970 348,103	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	_	142,073	250,000		392,073	
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES Property taxes receivable Prepaid taxes		37,727 160	- -		37,727 160	
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	_	37,887		_	37,887	
FUND BALANCES Restricted: Stabilization by State Statute Streets Parks and Recreation Assigned: Subsequent year's expenditures Unassigned TOTAL FUND BALANCES	_	200,207 141,279 - 125,000 3,228,718 3,695,204	- 1,574 - - 1,574		200,207 141,279 1,574 125,000 3,228,718 3,696,778	
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES	\$	3,875,164	\$ 251,574			
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:  Capital assets used in governmental activites are not financial resources and therefore not reported						
in the funds.  Deferred outflows of resources related to					4,068,031	
pensions are not reported in the funds Other long-term assets (accrued interest receivable from taxes is not available to pay for current period					178,638	
expenditures and therefore is not reported in the funds. Earned revenues considered deferred					5,855	
inflows of resources in fund statements  Some liabilities, including accrued interest are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the net position of					37,727	
governmental activities.  Net pension liability  Total pension liability					(44,837) (294,313) (73,272)	
Pension related deferrals					(32,116)	
Net position of governmental activities				<sup>\$</sup>	7,542,491	

## STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES -- GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPE

Year Ended June 30, 2020

	 Major Funds				Total
		General Fund	Bailey Mountain Capital Project Fund	G	overnmental Funds
REVENUES		Fullu	Capital Froject Fund		Funus
Ad valorem taxes	\$	574,680	\$ -	\$	574,680
Other taxes and licenses		605,076	-		605,076
Unrestricted intergovernmental		702,907	_		702,907
Restricted intergovernmental		115,841	_		115,841
Permits and fees		11,372	-		11,372
Sales and services		17,642	-		17,642
Investment earnings		40,919	-		40,919
Miscellaneous		24,734			24,734
TOTAL REVENUES		2,093,171			2,093,171
EXPENDITURES					
Current:					
General government		307,505	-		307,505
Public safety		884,562	-		884,562
Transportation		198,678	-		198,678
Sanitation		109,681	-		109,681
Cultural and recreation		64,935	<u> </u>		64,935
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		1,565,361	<u> </u>		1,565,361
Excess of revenues over					
expenditures		527,810	-		527,810
Fund balances, beginning of year		3,167,394	1,574		3,168,968
Fund balances, end of year	\$	3,695,204	\$ 1,574	\$	3,696,778

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES -GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPE TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
Year Ended June 30, 2020

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:

Net changes in fund balances - total governmental funds		\$	527,810
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 depreciation exceeded capital outlays			
in the current period.	¢	77 762	
Capital outlay expenditures that were capitalized  Depreciation expense for governmental assets	\$	77,763 (277,230)	(199,467)
Contributions to the pension plan in the current fiscal year are not included on the			
Statement of Activities			63,493
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			6,051
Change in accrued interest on tax revenues			899
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.			
Compensated absences			(5,789)
Pension expense			(131,319)
Pension expense - LEOSSA			(3,225)
Total changes in net position of governmental activities		\$	258,453

## STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES -- ANNUAL BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND

Year Ended June 30, 2020

		General Fund						
		Budget						Variance with Final Budget Positive
		Original		Final		Actual	_	(Negative)
DEVENILIEC								
REVENUES Ad valorem taxes	\$	545,500	Φ	545,500	\$	574,680	\$	29,180
Other taxes and licenses	Φ	441,000	Ф	441,000	Ф	605,076	Φ	164,076
Unrestricted intergovernmental		662,500		662,500		702,907		40,407
Restricted intergovernmental		58,000		58,000		115,841		57,841
Permits and fees		8,200		8,200		11,372		3,172
Sales and services		28,000		28,000		17,642		(10,358)
Investment earnings		10,000		10,000		40,919		30,919
Miscellaneous	_	12,100	_	12,100	_	24,734	_	12,634
TOTAL REVENUES		1,765,300	_	1,765,300		2,093,171	_	327,871
EXPENDITURES								
General government		362,000		367,000		307,505		59,495
Public safety		897,300		897,300		884,562		12,738
Transportation		350,600		345,600		198,678		146,922
Sanitation		123,000		123,000		109,681		13,319
Cultural and recreation		102,400		102,400		64,935		37,465
Debt service								
Interest		-		-		-		-
Principal	_	50,000		50,000	_		-	50,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	_	1,885,300	_	1,885,300		1,565,361	_	319,939
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over								
expenditures	_	(120,000)	_	(120,000)	_	527,810	_	647,810
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES								
Appropriated fund balance	_	120,000		120,000	_		_	(120,000)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES		120,000	_	120,000			_	(120,000)
Excess of revenues over								
expenditures and other sources		-	•	-		527,810		527,810
Fund balance at beginning of year	_	-		-		3,167,394	_	3,167,394
Fund balance at end of year	\$	_	\$	_	\$	3,695,204	\$	3,695,204

### STATEMENT OF FUND NET POSITION--PROPRIETARY FUND June 30, 2020

	Maj	jor Enterprise Fund
		Water and
		Sewer Fund
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	3,215,759
Accounts receivable - billed		94,384
Grants receivable		16,911
Due from other governments		21,923
Inventory		72,653
Due from other funds		348,103
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		320,529
Total current assets	-	4,090,262
	_	.,,
Capital assets:		
Land and construction in progress		920,674
Other capital assets, net of depreciation		7,557,659
Capital assets (net)	-	8,478,333
Total noncurrent assets	-	8,478,333
Total assets	_	12,568,595
Total assets	_	12,300,393
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Pension deferrals		55 627
Pension deferrals	_	55,627
LIADILITIES		
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities:		01 115
Installment loan payable - current		91,115
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		18,572
Accrued interest payable		16,963
Customer deposits		81,245
Compensated absences - current		11,509
Unearned charges	_	6,921
Total current liabilities	_	226,325
Noncurrent liabilities:		
Other noncurrent liabilities:		
Net pension liability		96,755
Installment loan payable - noncurrent		606,811
Total noncurrent liabilities	_	703,566
Total liabilities	_	929,891
	-	
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Pension deferrals		3,334
	_	<u> </u>
NET POSITION		
Net investment in capital assets		7,780,407
Unrestricted		3,910,590
Total net position	\$ -	11,690,997
1	<b>=</b>	11,070,771

# STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND NET POSITION -- PROPRIETARY FUND Year Ended June 30, 2020

	Major Enterprise Fund
	Water and
	 Sewer Fund
OPERATING REVENUES	
Charges for services	\$ 1,010,585
Other operating revenue	 5,909
Total operating revenues	 1,016,494
OPERATING EXPENSES	
Water administration	177,010
Water operations	494,140
Depreciation	 276,639
Total operating expenses	 947,789
Operating income (loss)	 68,705
NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)	
Interest on investments	39,318
Interest expense	 (23,427)
Total non-operating revenues	 15,891
Income before capital contributions	84,596
Capital contributions	 165,124
Change in net position	249,720
Net position, beginning of year	 11,441,277
Net position, end of year	\$ 11,690,997

#### STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS PROPRIETARY FUND

Year Ended June 30, 2020

Y ear Ended June 30, 2020	M	ajor Enterprise Fund
	141	Water and
		Sewer Fund
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Cash received from customers	\$	1,109,417
Cash paid for goods and services		(100,400)
Cash paid to employees		(293,796)
Other operating revenue		5,909
Net cash provided by operating activities		721,130
Cash flows from noncapital financing activites:		
Decrease in due from other funds		352,326
Net cash provided by noncapital financing activites		352,326
Cash flows from capital and related financing activities:		
Acquisition and construction of capital assets		(251,461)
Principal paid on finance contracts		(88,931)
Capital contributions		165,124
Interest paid on finance contracts		(24,048)
Net cash used in capital and related		(= 1,0 10)
financing activities		(199,316)
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Interest on investments		39,318
Net cash provided by investing activites		39,318
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		913,458
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year		2,622,830
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$	3,536,288
Reconciliation of operating income		
to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Operating income	\$	68,705
Adjustments to reconcile operating income	4	00,700
to net cash provided by operating activities		
Depreciation		276,639
Change in assets and liabilities:		=70,000
(Increase) decrease in:		
Accounts receivable		94,198
Grants receivable		259,025
Due from other governments		105,777
Deferred outflows of resources - pensions		7,020
Inventory		(3,155)
Increase (decrease) in:		(3,133)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		(110,073)
Customer deposits		3,305
Deferred charges		1,329
Compensated absences		2,026
Net pension liability		15,592
Deferred inflows of resources - pensions		742
Total adjustments		652,425
·	•	
Net cash provided by operating activities	<b>&gt;</b>	721,130



Notes to the Financial Statements June 30, 2020

#### **Note 1 – Significant Accounting Policies**

The accounting policies of the Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments. The following is a summary of the more significant accounting policies:

#### A. Reporting Entity

The Town of Mars Hill is a municipal corporation which is governed by an elected mayor and a fourmember council.

#### B. Basis of Presentation

Government-wide Statements: The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the primary government. 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 particular function. 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 particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

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.

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 funds:

**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 general government, public safety, street maintenance and construction, and sanitation services.

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### Note 1 – Significant Accounting Policies – continued

**Bailey Mountain Capital Project Fund.** This fund is used to account for the Town's recreational project to extend the current greenway to develop numerous outdoor activities such as hiking, trails and bike trails, with a goal of increasing tourism for the Town of Mars Hill and Madison County, North Carolina.

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 taxes are levied. Revenue from grants and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

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 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 enterprise funds 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. Proceeds of general long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### Note 1 – Significant Accounting Policies – continued

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. Proceeds 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 90 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. As of 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.

Sales taxes and certain intergovernmental revenues, such as the utilities franchise 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 Mars Hill because the tax is levied by Madison 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 by 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. Project ordinances are adopted for the Bailey Mountain Capital Project Fund and the Enterprise Capital Projects Fund. The enterprise fund project is consolidated with its respective operating fund for reporting purposes. 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 and at the object level for the multi-year funds. All amendments must be approved by the governing board. During the year, several amendments to the original budget were necessary. The budget ordinance must be adopted by July 1 of the fiscal year or the governing board must adopt an interim budget that covers that

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### Note 1 – Significant Accounting Policies – continued

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 are made in board-designated official depositories and are secured as required by State law [G.S. 159-31]. The Town may designate, as an official depository, any bank or savings association whose principal office is located in North Carolina. Also, the Town 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 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 certain non-guaranteed federal agencies; certain high quality issues of commercial paper and bankers' acceptances; and the North Carolina Capital Management Trust (NCCMT), an SEC-registered (2a-7) money market mutual fund. The Town'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. Because the NCCMT Government Portfolio has a weighted average maturity of less than 90 days, it is presented as an investment with a maturity of less than 6 months.

#### 2. Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Town pools money from several funds to facilitate disbursement and investment and to maximize investment income. Therefore, all cash and investments are essentially demand deposits and are considered cash and cash equivalents.

#### 3. Restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents

Powell Bill funds are classified as restricted cash and cash equivalents because they can be expended only for the purposes of maintaining, repairing, constructing or reconstructing or widening of local streets per G.S. 136-41.1 through 136-41.4. Customer deposits held by the Town before any services are supplied are restricted to the service for which the deposit was collected. Funds related to the water and sewer capital projects fund are classified as restricted cash and cash equivalents because they can be expended only for the purpose of the water and sewer improvements capital projects.

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

# Note 1 – Significant Accounting Policies – continued

### Town of Mars Hill Restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents

Governmental Activities:		
General Fund	Streets	\$141,279
Total Governmental Activ	rities	\$141,279
Business-type Activities: Water and Sewer Fund	Customer deposits	\$81,245
	Capital project	239,284
Total Business-type Activ	ities	\$320,529

#### 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 1, the beginning of the fiscal year. The taxes are due on September 1 (lien date); however, interest does not accrue until the following January 6. These taxes are based on the assessed values of January 1, 2019.

#### 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. <u>Inventory</u>

The inventories of the Town are valued at cost (first-in, first-out), which approximates market.

The inventories of the Town's enterprise fund consist of materials and supplies held for consumption. The cost of these inventories is recorded as an expense as the inventories are consumed.

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### Note 1 – 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. Minimum capitalization costs are as follows: land, \$5,000; buildings, improvements, substations, lines, and other plant and distribution systems, \$5,000; infrastructure, \$5,000; furniture and equipment, \$5,000; vehicles, \$5,000; and computer software and computer equipment, \$5,000. Donated capital assets received prior to June 15, 2015 are recorded at their estimated fair value at the date of donation. Donated capital assets received after June 15, 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	30-50
Buildings	30–50
Improvements	15–25
Vehicles and motorized equipment	3–10
Furniture and fixtures	5–10
Equipment	3–5

#### 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 pension plan in 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 several items that meet the criteria for this category – property taxes receivable, prepaid taxes, and pension deferrals.

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

# Note 1 – Significant Accounting Policies – continued

### 9. Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements and proprietary fund types 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. Bond premiums and discounts are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the straight-line method that approximates the effective interest method. Bonds payable are reported net of the applicable bond premiums or discount. Bond issuance costs, except for prepaid insurance costs, are expensed in the reporting period in which they are incurred. Prepaid insurance costs are expensed over the life of the debt.

In fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums and discounts, as well as bond issuance costs, during the current period. The face amount of debt issued is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures.

#### 10. Compensated Absences

The vacation policy of the Town provides for the accumulation of up to ten days earned vacation leave with such leave being fully vested when earned. The maximum amount of annual leave for which a terminated employee can be compensated is twenty days. 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 actually taken, no accrual for sick leave has been made.

#### 11. Net Position/Fund Balances

#### **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.

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### Note 1 – Significant Accounting Policies – continued

#### 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 balances 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 within RSS. RSS is included as a component of restricted net position and restricted fund balance on the face of the balance sheet.

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 Parks and Recreation – portion of fund balance that is restricted by revenue source for purchase of recreational land.

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### Note 1 – Significant Accounting Policies – continued

Committed Fund Balance – portion of fund balance that can only be used for specific purposes imposed by majority vote by quorum of Town of Mars Hill's 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 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 in restricted or committed. The governing body approves the appropriation.

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

The Town has not adopted a formal revenue spending policy that provides guidance for programs with multiple revenue sources; however, the Finance Officer will use resources in the following hierarchy: debt proceeds, federal funds, State funds, local non-town funds, and 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 if it is in the best interest of the Town.

#### 12. Pensions

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's employer contributions are recognized when due and the Town 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.

For purposes of measuring the net pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Firefighters' and Rescue Squad Workers' Pension Fund (FRSWPF) and additions to/deductions from FRSWPF's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by FRSWPF. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### Note 2 – Stewardship, Compliance and Accountability

A. Significant Violations of Finance-Related Legal and Contractual Provisions

#### 1. Deficit in Fund Balance

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, there is a deficit fund balance in the Water and Sewer Improvements Capital Projects Fund of \$(41,236). The Town will fund the deficit in the subsequent year as required by NC G.S. 159-13(b)(2), which states that the full amount of any deficit in each fund shall be appropriated.

#### **Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds**

#### A. Assets

#### **Deposits**

All of the Town's deposits 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 agent in the Town's name. 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, these deposits are considered to be held by the Town's agent in the Town's name. 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 or the escrow agent. Because of the inability to measure the exact amounts of collateral pledged for the Town under the Pooling Method, the potential exists for under-collateralization, and this risk may increase in periods of high cash flows.

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued

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.

As of June 30, 2020, the Town's deposits had a carrying amount of \$397,946 and a bank balance of \$418,488. Of the bank balance, \$250,000 was fully covered by federal depository insurance and \$168,488 was covered by collateral held under the pooling method. The Town's petty cash fund totaled \$200.

#### **Investments**

As of June 30, 2020, the Town of Mars Hill had \$6,776,946 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.

#### **Receivables – Allowance for Doubtful Accounts**

The amounts presented in the Balance Sheet and the Statement of Net Position are net of the following allowances for doubtful accounts:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>June</u>	e 30, 2020
General Fund – taxes receivable	\$	12,739

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

# Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued

# **Capital Assets**

# **Primary Government**

Capital asset activity for the Town of Mars Hill for the year ended June 30, 2020, was as follows:

	Beginning Balances	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balances
Governmental activities:				
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 811,052	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 811,052
Total capital assets not being depreciated	811,052	-	-	811,052
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Buildings and improvements	2,863,068	-	-	2,863,068
Furniture and fixtures	20,845	-	-	20,845
Equipment	747,864	13,750	23,194	738,420
Vehicles and motorized equipment	1,943,328	82,955	36,521	1,989,762
Infrastructure	3,565,976	-		3,565,976
Total capital assets being depreciated	9,141,081	96,705	59,715	9,178,071
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings and improvements	941,965	66,475	-	1,008,440
Furniture and fixtures	_	2,978	-	2,978
Equipment	516,400	32,031	4,252	544,179
Vehicles and motorized equipment	1,035,074	126,082	36,521	1,124,635
Infrastructure	3,191,196	49,664	-	3,240,860
Total accumulated depreciation	5,684,635	277,230	40,773	5,921,092
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	3,456,446			3,256,979
Governmental activity capital assets, net	<u>\$ 4,267,498</u>			<u>\$ 4,068,031</u>

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

General government	\$ 24,890
Public safety	161,899
Transportation	54,177
Cultural and recreation	 36,264
Total depreciation expense	\$ 277,230

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued

	Beginni Balanc	-	Decreases	Ending Balances
Durain and toma Anti-itian.	<u> </u>	es increases	Decreases	Datatices
Business-type Activities:				
Water and Sewer Fund				
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 82,2	73 \$ -	\$ -	\$ 82,273
Construction in progress	647,2	18 191,183	<u> </u>	838,401
Total capital assets not being depreciated	729,49	91 191,183	-	920,674
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Buildings	671,80		-	671,860
Plant and distribution systems	14,181,94	46 54,027	-	14,235,973
Vehicles and motorized equipment	36,2		-	36,277
Equipment	448,90	62 6,250	-	455,212
Total capital assets being depreciated	15,339,04	45 60,277	=	15,399,322
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings	175,73	37 16,590	-	192,327
Plant and distribution systems	7,003,33	33 243,838	=	7,247,171
Vehicles and motorized equipment	35,93	53 324	-	36,277
Equipment	350,00	01 15,887		365,888
Total accumulated depreciation	7,565,02	24 276,639	-	7,841,663
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	7,774,02	<u>21</u>		7,557,659
Business-type activities capital assets, net	\$ 8,503,5	<u>12</u>		<u>\$ 8,478,333</u>

#### B. Liabilities

#### **Pension Plan Obligations**

#### 1. Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System

Plan Description. The Town of Mars Hill 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 13 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. 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.

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued

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 post-retirement 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 a LEO and have reached age 50, or have completed five years of creditable service as a LEO and have reached age 55, or have completed 15 years of creditable service as a 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. The Towns employees are required to contribute 6% of their compensation. Employer contributions are actuarially determined and set annually by the LGERS Board of Trustees. The Town's contractually required contribution rate, for the year ended June 30, 2020, was 9.7% of compensation for law enforcement officers and 8.95% for general employees and firefighters, 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 were \$84,366 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.

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued

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

As of June 30, 2020, the Town reported a liability of \$391,068 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. As of June 30, 2019, the Town's proportion was 0.01432%, which was a decrease of 0.00003% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2018.

For the year ended June 30, 2020, the Town recognized pension expense of \$175,544. As of June 30, 2020, the Town reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

		Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources	
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$	66,963	\$	-
Changes of assumptions		63,738		-
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on				
pension plan investments		9,538		-
Changes in proportion and differences between Town				
contributions and proportionate share of contributions		227		13,477
Town contributions subsequent to the measurement date		84,366		-
Total	\$	224,832	\$	13,477

\$84,366 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 ending June 30, 2021. Other amounts reported as deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

# **Year ending June 30:**

2021	\$ 65,721
2022	17,219
2023	34,964
2024	9,085
2025	-
Thereafter	\$ 126,989

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued

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

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 asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. 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:

		Long-Term Expected
Asset Class	<b>Target Allocation</b>	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	<u>6.0%</u>	4.0%
Total	100%	

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – 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% Discount				1%	
	Decrease (6.00%)		Rate (7.00%)	Increase (8.00%)		
Town's proportionate share of		,				
the net pension liability (asset)	\$	894,444	\$	391,068	\$ (27,339)	

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.

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued

### 2. Law Enforcement Officers Special Separation Allowance

#### Plan Description

The Town of Mars Hill 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. As of December 31, 2018, the Separation Allowance's membership consisted of:

Retirees receiving benefits	0
Terminated plan members entitled	
to but not yet receiving benefits	0
Active plan members	<u>5</u>
Total	<u>5</u>

# **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 and refunds 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.

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued

#### **Actuarial Assumptions**

The entry age normal 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 to 7.35 percent, including inflation and

productivity factor

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 as of December 31, 2018.

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

#### **Contributions**

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

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

As of June 30, 2020, the Town reported a total pension liability of \$73,272. 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 \$3,225.

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued

	Deferred Outflows of Resources		Deferred Inflows of Resources	
Differences between expected and actual				
experience	\$	4,776	\$	19,533
Changes of assumptions		4,657		2,440
Town benefit payments and plan administrative				
expense made subsequent to the measurement date		-		-
Total	\$	9,433	\$	21,973

The Town reported no deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from benefit payments made and administrative expenses incurred subsequent to the measurement date that would be recognized as a decrease of the total pension liability in the year ending June 30, 2021. Other amounts reported as deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

#### Year ending June 30:

2021	\$ (4,161)
2022	(4,161)
2023	(3,996)
2024	(1,794)
2025	829
Thereafter	743
Total	\$ (12,540)

Sensitivity of the Town's total pension liability to changes 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:

	1% Decrease			ount Rate	1% Increase			
	(2	2.26%)	(	3.26%)	(4.26%)			
Total pension liability	\$	80,694	\$	73,272	\$	66,543		

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

# Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued

Schedule of Changes in Total Pension Liability Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance			
		2020	
Beginning balance	\$	57,618	
Service cost		5,289	
Interest on the total pension liability		2,097	
Changes of benefit terms		-	
Differences between expected and actual experience in	the		
measurement of the total pension liability		5,631	
Changes of assumptions or other inputs		2,637	
Benefit payments		-	
Other changes		-	
Ending balance of the total pension liability	\$	73,272	

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.

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### 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	\$ 175,544	\$ 3,225	\$ 178,769
Pension Liability	\$ 391,068	\$ 73,272	\$ 464,340
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	0.01432%	n/a	
Deferred of Outflows of Resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 66,963	\$ 4,776	\$ 71,739
Changes of assumptions	63,738	4,657	68,395
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on plan investments	9,538	-	9,538
Changes in proportion and differences between contributions and proportionate share of contributions	227	-	227
Contributions/benefit payments and administrative costs paid subsequent to the measurement date	84,366	-	84,366
Deferred of Inflows of Resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ -	\$ 19,533	\$ 19,533
Change of assumptions	-	2,440	2,440
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on plan investments	-	-	_
Changes in proportion and differences between contributions and proportionate share of contributions	13,477	_	13,477

#### 3. 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.

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – 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. Also, the law enforcement officers may make voluntary contributions to the plan. Contributions for the year ended June 30, 2020 were \$13,200, which consisted of \$10,834 from the Town and \$2,366 from the law enforcement officers.

# 4. Firefighters' and Rescue Squad Workers' Pension Fund

Plan Description. The State of North Carolina contributes, on behalf of the Town of Mars Hill, to the Firefighters' and Rescue Squad Workers' Pension Fund (FRSWPF), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan with a special funding situation administered by the State of North Carolina. The fund provides pension benefits for eligible fire and rescue squad workers that have elected to become members of the fund. Article 86 of G.S. Chapter 58 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 13 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 Firefighters' and Rescue Squad Workers' Pension Fund 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 the Firefighter's and Rescue Squad Workers' Pension Fund. 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 <a href="https://www.osc.nc.gov">www.osc.nc.gov</a>.

Benefits Provided. FRSWPF provides retirement and survivor benefits. The present retirement benefit is \$170 per month. Plan members are eligible to receive the monthly benefit at age 55 with 20 years of creditable service as a firefighter or rescue squad worker, and have terminated duties as a firefighter or rescue squad worker. Eligible beneficiaries of members who die before beginning to receive the benefit will receive the amount paid by the member and contributions paid on the member's behalf into the plan. Eligible beneficiaries of members who die after beginning to receive benefits will be paid the amount the member contributed minus the benefits collected.

Contributions. Plan members are required to contribute \$10 per month to the plan. The State, a non-employer contributor, funds the plan through appropriations. The Town does not contribute to the plan. Contribution provisions are established by General Statute 58-86 and may be amended only by the North Carolina General Assembly. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, the State contributed \$18,302,000 to the plan. The Town of Mars Hill's proportionate share of the State's contribution is \$1,865.

Refunds of Contributions – Plan members who are no longer eligible or choose not to participate in the plan may file an application for a refund of their contributions. Refunds include the member's contributions and contributions paid by others on the member's behalf. No interest will be paid on the amount of the refund. The acceptance of a refund payment cancels the individual's right to employer contributions or any other benefit provided by FRSWPF.

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued

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

As of June 30, 2020, the Town reported no liability for its proportionate share of the net pension liability, as the State provides 100% pension support to the Town through its appropriations to the FRSWPF. The total portion of the net pension liability that was associated with the Town and supported by the State was \$3,698. 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 contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating employers. As the Town is not projected to make any future contributions to the plan, its proportionate share as of June 30, 2020 and as of June 30, 2019 was 0%.

For the year ended June 30, 2020, the Town recognized pension expense of \$1,947 and revenue of \$1,947 for support provided by the State. As of June 30, 2020, the Town reported no deferred outflows of resources and no deferred inflows of resources related to pensions.

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	Not applicable
Investment rate of return	7.00 percent, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation

For more information regarding actuarial assumptions, including mortality tables, the actuarial experience study, the consideration of future ad hoc COLA amounts, the development of the projected long-term investment returns, and the asset allocation policy, refer to the discussion of actuarial assumptions for the LGERS plan in Section 1 of this note.

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.

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.

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued

### 5. 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. All death benefit payments are made from the Death Benefit Plan. The Town has no liability beyond the payment of monthly contributions.

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. Because the benefit payments are made by the Death Benefit Plan and not by the Town, the Town does not determine the number of eligible participants. The contributions to the Death Benefit Plan cannot be separated between the postemployment benefit amount and the other benefit amount.

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#### **Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources**

Deferred outflows of resources is comprised of the following:

	Amount
Contributions to pension plan in current fiscal year	\$ 84,366
Differences between expected and actual experience	71,739
Changes of assumptions	68,395
Net difference between projected and actual experience	9,538
Changes in proportion and differences between	
employer contributions and proportionate share	
of contributions	227
Total	<u>\$ 234,265</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued

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

	Statement of Net		Ge	neral Fund
	Position		Bal	ance Sheet
Prepaid taxes (General Fund)	\$	160	\$	160
Taxes receivable, (General Fund)		-		37,727
Changes in assumptions		2,440		-
Differences between expected and actual				
experience		19,533		-
Changes in proportion and differences between				
employer contributions and proportionate share of				
contributions		13,477		-
Total	\$	35,610	\$	37,887

#### Risk Management

The Town of Mars Hill is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and natural disasters. The Town has property, general liability, auto liability coverage of \$1 million per occurrence, property coverage up to the total insurance values of the property, workers' compensation and employee health coverages. Claims have not exceeded coverage in any of the past three fiscal years. The Town does not carry flood insurance.

Under North Carolina G.S. 159-29, the Town finance officer and tax collector are bonded in an amount equal to or greater than \$50,000. The Town's remaining employees that have access to funds are bonded under a blanket bond.

#### **Installment Purchases**

The Town entered into a direct placement installment purchase contract to build an interconnector between Mars Hill and the water treatment facilities of the Town of Weaverville. A security interest in the facilities constructed is collateral for the debt while the debt is outstanding. This agreement was executed in September 2011 between the Town and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and requires 40 annual installments of \$27,558 with interest at 3.375% per annum. The total principal borrowed was \$600,000. The agreement contains a provision that in an event of default, the entire outstanding balance becomes immediately due and payable. The balance of this direct placement installment purchase as of June 30, 2020 was \$532,923.

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued

The Town entered into a direct placement installment purchase contract to refinance a general obligation bond originally issued to finance construction of facilities utilized in the operation of the water and sewer system and a USDA rural development loan originally issued for a sewer plant. The facilities constructed were pledged as collateral for this debt. The agreement was executed on April 25, 2014 between the Town and a local bank and requires eight annual payments of \$85,421, with interest of 2.35% per annum. The total principal borrowed is \$616,417. The agreement contains a provision that in an event of default, the entire outstanding balance becomes immediately due and payable. The balance of this direct placement installment purchase as of June 30, 2020 was \$165,003.

Annual debt service payments of the direct placement installment purchases as of June 30, 2020 are as follows:

	Business-ty	pe A	Activities	Tota	.1
Year Ending					
June 30	<b>Principal</b>		Interest	Principal	Interest
2021	\$ 91,115	\$	21,864	\$ 91,115 \$	21,864
2022	93,355		19,624	93,355	19,624
2023	10,229		17,329	10,229	17,329
2024	10,574		16,984	10,574	16,984
2025	10,931		16,627	10,931	16,627
2026-2030	60,444		77,346	60,444	77,346
2031-2035	71,356		66,434	71,356	66,434
2036-2040	84,238		53,552	84,238	53,552
2041-2045	99,446		38,344	99,446	38,344
2046-2050	117,399		20,391	117,399	20,391
2051-2055	48,839		1,648	48,839	1,648
Thereafter					<u>-</u>
Total	\$ 697,926	\$	350,143	\$ 697,926 \$	350,143

As of June 30, 2020, the Town of Mars Hill had a legal debt margin of \$9,138,019.

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued

#### **Long-term Liabilities**

During the year ended June 30, 2020, the following changes occurred in long-term liabilities:

	_ <u>J</u>	Balance	A	dditions	Re	tirements	_	Balance 200, 2020		Current Portion of Balances
Governmental Activities:										
By type of debt:										
Net pension liability (LGERS)	\$	259,268	\$	35,045	\$	=	\$	294,313	\$	-
Total pension liability (LEO)		57,618		15,654		-		73,272		-
Compensated absences	_	39,048	Φ.	37,036	Φ.	31,247	Φ.	44,837	ф.	44,837
Total	<u>\$</u>	355,934	\$	87,735	\$	31,247	\$	412,422	\$	44,837
By purpose:										
General government	\$	262,353	\$	40,376	\$	3,448	\$	299,281	\$	4,967
Public safety		84,698		40,242		21,486		103,454		30,183
Sanitation		3,225		1,974		1,433		3,766		3,766
Transportation		5,658		5,143		4,880		5,921		5,921
Total	\$	355,934	\$	87,735	\$	31,247	\$	412,422	\$	44,837
										Current
		D 1								Portion
		Balance		1.11.1	-		_	Balance	-	of
The state of the s	<u>J</u>	uly 1, 2019	A	dditions	Re	tirements	June	200, 2020	<u>_</u> _E	Balances
Business-type activities:	ф	<b>5</b> 060 <b>55</b>	Φ.		ф	00.021	Φ.	60 <b>=</b> 0 <b>2</b> 6	ф	01.115
Direct placement installment purchases	\$	786,857	\$	-	\$	88,931	\$	697,926	\$	91,115
Net pension liability (LGERS)		81,163		15,592		-		96,755		-
Compensated absences	_	9,486	_	16,311	_	14,288		11,509	_	11,509
Total	\$	877,506	\$	31,903	\$	103,219	\$	806,190	_\$_	102,624

Compensated absences for governmental activities have typically been liquidated in the General Fund.

### **Interfund Balances and Activity**

Interfund loans – During the year ended June 30, 2017, the General Fund borrowed \$322,001 from the Water and Sewer Fund to fund a fire truck purchase. This transaction was approved by the Board of Aldermen in the budget for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. \$223,898 of the loan was repaid during the year ended June 30, 2018, with a balance remaining on the loan of \$98,103 as of June 30, 2020. The intention is to repay the remaining balance of the loan within the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

The Bailey Mountain Capital Project Fund borrowed \$602,326 from the Water and Sewer Fund to finance the purchase of land. \$352,326 of this loan was repaid from grant proceeds during the year ended June 30, 2020, with the balance remaining of \$250,000 to be paid with additional grant proceeds in the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### Note 3 – Detail Notes on All Funds – continued

#### **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	\$ 3,695,204
Less:	
Stabilization by State Statute	200,207
Streets-Powell Bill	141,279
Appropriated fund balance in 2020-2021 budget	 125,000
Remaining fund balance	\$ 3,228,718

# **Powell Bill Revenues and Expenditures**

Powell Bill Fund revenues and expenditures, which are included in the General Fund, for the year ended June 30, 2020 were as follows:

Revenues:		
State Treasurer	\$ 56,517	1
Interest earned	1,572	1
Total revenues	58,089	)
Expenditures:		
Traffic control	248	,
Snow and ice removal	500	)
Curb and gutter	120	)
New equipment	6,250	)
Greenways	986	)
Maintenance	19,860	<u>)</u>
Total expenditures	27,964	<u> </u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures	\$ 30,125	<u>.</u>

#### **On-Behalf Payments for Fringe Benefits and Salaries**

The Town has recognized as a revenue and an expenditure, on-behalf payments for fringe benefits and salaries of \$8,782 for the salary supplement and stipend benefits paid to eligible firemen by the local board of trustees of the Firemen's Relief Fund during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020. Under State law, the local board of trustees for the Fund receives an amount each year, which the board may use at its own discretion for eligible firemen or their departments.

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### **Note 4 – Related Organization**

The five member board of the Mars Hill Housing Authority is appointed by the Mayor of the Town of Mars Hill. The Town is accountable for the Housing Authority because it appoints the governing board; however, the Town is not financially accountable for the Housing Authority. The Town of Mars Hill is also disclosed as a related organization in the notes to the financial statements for the Mars Hill Housing Authority.

#### Note 5 – Joint Venture

The Town and the members of the Town's fire department each appoint two members to the five-member local board of trustees for the Firemen's Relief Fund. The State Insurance Commissioner appoints one additional member to the local board of trustees. The Firemen's Relief Fund is funded by a portion of the fire and lightning insurance premiums which insurers remit to the State. The State passes these monies to the local board of the Firemen's Relief Fund. The funds are used to assist firefighters in various ways. The Town obtains an ongoing financial benefit from the Fund for the on-behalf of payments for fringe benefits made to members of the Town's fire department by the board of trustees. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, the Town reported revenues of \$5,674 and expenditures of \$8,782 for payments made through the Firemen's Relief Fund. The participating governments do not have any equity interest in the joint venture, so no equity has been reflected in the financial statements at June 30, 2020. The Firemen's Relief Fund does not issue separate audited financial statements. Instead, the local board of trustees files an annual financial report with the State Firemen's Association. This report can be obtained from the Association at 323 West Jones Street, Suite 401, Raleigh, North Carolina 27603.

#### Note 6 – Contingencies

#### Federal and State Assisted Programs

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

#### Uncertainties

On January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization ("WHO") announced a global health emergency because of a new strain of coronavirus originating in Wuhan, China (the "COVID-19 outbreak") and the risks to the international community as the virus spreads globally beyond its point of origin.

In March 2020, the WHO classified the COVID-19 outbreak as a pandemic, based on the rapid increase in exposure globally.

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued June 30, 2020

#### Note 6 – Contingencies – continued

#### Uncertainties - continued

The full impact of the COVID-19 outbreak continues to evolve as of the date of this report. As such, it is uncertain as to the full magnitude that the pandemic will have on the Town's financial condition, liquidity, and future results of operations. Management is actively monitoring the global situation on its financial condition, liquidity, operations, suppliers, industry, and workforce.

Given the daily evolution of the COVID-19 outbreak and the global responses to curb its spread, the Town is not able to estimate the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak on its results of operations, financial condition, or liquidity for fiscal year 2021.

### Note 7 – Subsequent Events

On March 27, 2020, the "Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act" was signed into law. The Town has been awarded \$148,309 from the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF), a part of the CARES Act funding, to assist with COVID-19 related expenses incurred through December 31, 2020.

The Town has been approved on April 17, 2020 for a Merger/Regionalization Feasibility Study grant from the N.C. Department of Environmental Quality Water Infrastructure Fund in the amount of \$50,000. All work associated with the project must be completed within 24 months of the date of the approval.

The Town received notification dated July 24, 2020 from the N.C. Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) that it has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$160,000 from the Volkswagen Settlement On-Road program. These funds will be used to replace the Town's current garbage collection truck.

In preparing the financial statements, the Town has evaluated events and transactions for potential recognition or disclosure through December 18, 2020, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.



# Required Supplementary Financial Data

This section contains additional information required by generally accepted accounting principles.

- Schedule of Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability (Asset) for Local Government Employees' Retirement System
- Schedule of Contributions to Local Government Employees' Retirement System
- Schedule of Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability for Firefighters' and Rescue Squad Workers' Pension Plan
- Schedule of Changes in Total Pension Liability for the Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance
- Schedule of Total Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll for the Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance

Schedule of Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability (Asset)
Required Supplementary Information
Last Seven Fiscal Years\*

Local Government Employees' Retirement System

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Mars Hill's proportion of the net pension liability (asset)(%)	0.01432%	0.01435%	0.01394%	0.01382%	0.01284%	-0.01110%	0.01160%
Mars Hill's proportion of the net pension liability (asset)(\$)	\$ 391,068 \$	340,431 \$	212,962 \$	293,307 \$	57,625	\$ (65,462) \$	139,825
Mars Hill's covered-employee payroll as of the prior fiscal year	\$ 851,622 \$	793,352 \$	755,266 \$	762,844 \$	5 714,116	\$ 694,667 \$	694,349
Mars Hill's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	45.92%	42.91%	28.20%	38.45%	8.07%	-9.42%	20.14%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability**	90.86%	91.63%	94.18%	91.47%	98.09%	102.64%	94.35%

<sup>\*</sup> The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the prior fiscal year ending June 30.

<sup>\*\*</sup> This will be the same percentage for all participant employers in the LGERS plan.

Schedule of Contributions Required Supplementary Information Last Seven Fiscal Years

# Local Government Employees' Retirement System

	 2020	2019	2	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Contractually required contribution	\$ 84,366	\$ 70,298	\$	61,382 \$	56,688 \$	52,346 \$	5 51,939 \$	49,484
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	\$ 84,366	\$ 70,298	\$	61,382 \$	56,688 \$	52,346 \$	51,939	49,484
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$ -	\$ - :	\$	- \$	- \$	- \$	5 - 9	<u> </u>
Mars Hill's covered-employee payroll	\$ 904,268	\$ 851,622	\$	793,352 \$	755,266 \$	762,844	5 714,116 \$	6 694,667
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	9.33%	8.25%		7.74%	7.51%	6.86%	7.27%	7.12%

Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability Required Supplementary Information Last Six Fiscal Years\*

# Firefighters' and Rescue Squad Workers' Pension

	 2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Mars Hill's proportionate share of the net pension liability (%)	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%
Mars Hill's proportionate share of the net pension liability (\$)	\$ -	\$ - \$	- \$	- \$	- \$	-
State's proportionate share of the net pension liability associated with Town of Mars Hill	3,698	5,114	4,572	2,547	3,372	3,245
Total	\$ 3,698	\$ 5,114 \$	4,572 \$	2,547 \$	3,372 \$	3,245
Mars Hill's covered-employee payroll	\$ 211,196	\$ 202,763 \$	198,756 \$	124,465 \$	183,786 \$	130,952
Mars Hill's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	1.75%	2.52%	2.30%	2.05%	1.83%	2.48%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	92.43%	89.69%	89.35%	84.94%	91.40%	93.42%

<sup>\*</sup> The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the prior fiscal year ending June 30.

Schedule of Changes in Total Pension Liability Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance Last Four Fiscal Years

		2020	2019	2018	2017
Beginning balance	\$	57,618 \$	57,227 \$	78,410 \$	72,105
Service cost		5,289	4,084	3,930	5,288
Interest on the total pension liability		2,097	1,808	3,027	2,574
Changes of benefit terms		-	-	-	-
Differences between expected and actual experience in the	e				
measurement of the total pension liability		5,631	(2,804)	(32,627)	-
Changes of assumptions or other inputs		2,637	(2,697)	4,487	(1,557)
Benefit payments		-	-	-	-
Other changes		-	-	-	-
Ending balance of the total pension liability	\$	73,272 \$	57,618 \$	57,227 \$	78,410

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

Schedule of Total Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance Last Four Fiscal Years

	-	2020	2019	2018	2017
Total pension liability	\$	73,272 \$	57,618 \$	57,227 \$	78,410
Covered payroll		219,219	179,351	195,610	253,023
Total pension liability as a percentage of covered payroll		33.42%	32.13%	29.26%	30.99%

Notes to the schedules:

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



## **General Fund**

The General Fund accounts for resources traditionally associated with government that are not required legally or by sound financial management to be accounted for in other funds.

General Fund

		Budget		Actual	-	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
REVENUES						
Ad valorem taxes						
Current year	\$	538,000	\$	560,790	\$	22,790
Prior years		5,500		11,050		5,550
Tax penalties and interest		2,000		2,840	-	840
Total Ad valorem taxes	_	545,500	_	574,680	-	29,180
Other taxes and licenses						
Payments in lieu of taxes		8,000		11,025		3,025
Excise tax		8,000		8,991		991
Local option sales tax	_	425,000		585,060	-	160,060
Total Other taxes and licenses		441,000		605,076	-	164,076
Unrestricted intergovernmental						
Utilities franchise tax		127,500		134,011		6,511
Tax refunds		15,000		8,885		(6,115)
Special fire district tax	_	520,000		560,011	-	40,011
Total Unrestricted intergovernmental		662,500		702,907	-	40,407
Restricted intergovernmental						
Federal grants		-		59,324		59,324
Powell Bill allocation	_	58,000		56,517	-	(1,483)
Total Restricted intergovernmental		58,000		115,841	-	57,841
Permits and fees						
Court costs, fees, etc.		100		252		152
Parking revenues		8,000		10,715		2,715
Fire code inspections		-		100		100
Building permits (zoning)	_	100		305	-	205
Total Permits and fees	_	8,200		11,372	-	3,172

General Fund

	_	Budget	 Actual	-	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Sales and services					
Recreation revenue Rent and concessions	\$	25,000 3,000	\$ 17,642	\$	(7,358) (3,000)
Total Sales and services	_	28,000	 17,642	-	(10,358)
Investment earnings	_	10,000	 40,919	-	30,919
Other					
Miscellaneous		5,000	11,178		6,178
Police donations		100	1,306		1,206
Fire department revenues		7,000	 12,250	-	5,250
Total Other	_	12,100	 24,734	-	12,634
TOTAL REVENUES		1,765,300	 2,093,171	-	327,871
EXPENDITURES					
General government					
Governing body					
Board honorarium			13,000		
Professional services			39,744		
Dues and subscriptions			3,529		
Leadership project			2,000		
Insurance and bonds			3,892		
Miscellaneous			 9,099	-	
Total Governing body		75,500	71,264	-	4,236
Administrative					
Salaries and wages			132,604		
FICA tax expense			9,649		
Group insurance			13,924		
Retirement expense			10,398		
Telephone and postage			5,311		

General Fund

		Budget		Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Administrative - continued:	_				
Maintenance - equipment	\$		\$	2,156 50	\$
Maintenance - auto Contract labor				10,718	
Professional services				488	
Supplies and materials				2,344	
Dues and subscriptions				2,966	
Insurance and bonds				11,871	
Miscellaneous				4,672	
Non-capital equipment			_	2,335	
Total Administrative		251,000	. <u> </u>	209,486	41,514
Elections					
Professional services		7,000	<u> </u>	4,650	
Total Elections		7,000	_	4,650	2,350
Tax collections					
Telephone and postage				427	
Supplies and materials				323	
Printing and advertising			_	153	
Total Tax collections		3,000	_	903	2,097
Public buildings					
Utilities				4,956	
Maintenance - building/grounds				12,322	
Supplies and materials				568	
Miscellaneous				14	
Insurance and bonds			_	3,342	
Total Public buildings		30,500	_	21,202	9,298
Total General government		367,000		307,505	59,495

General Fund

				Variance
				Favorable
		Budget	 Actual	 (Unfavorable)
Public safety				
Police department				
Salaries and wages	\$		\$ 230,753	\$
FICA tax expense			16,879	
Group insurance			34,536	
Retirement expense			21,706	
Retirement - supplemental			10,834	
Telephone and postage			7,514	
Contract labor			850	
Maintenance - auto			10,404	
Automotive supplies			16,858	
Supplies and materials			3,488	
Training and physicals			1,634	
Uniforms			2,507	
Maintenance - equipment			5,295	
Insurance and bonds			13,678	
Miscellaneous			7,541	
Capital outlay - equipment	_		 15,955	
Total Police department		402,800	 400,432	 2,368
Fire department				
Salaries and wages			222,805	
FICA tax expense			16,566	
Group insurance			33,597	
Retirement expense			19,302	
Telephone and postage			2,523	
Utilities			5,437	

General Fund

		Dec de ca		A - 6 1		Variance Favorable
		Budget	. —	Actual	-	(Unfavorable)
Fire department - continued:						
Maintenance - building/grounds	\$		\$	1,280	\$	
Maintenance - equipment				11,816		
Maintenance - auto				20,056		
Pension fund				1,980		
Supplies and materials				13,530		
Training				355		
Uniforms				1,701		
Fire prevention				780		
Contracted labor				9,124		
Dues and subscriptions				3,120		
Insurance and bonds				34,960		
Christmas dinner				2,826		
Miscellaneous				1,607		
Capital outlay - equipment				53,473		
Noncapital equipment				27,292		
- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			_	_,,_,_	-	
Total Fire department	_	494,500	_	484,130	•	10,370
Total Public safety		897,300		884,562	_	12,738
Transportation						
Streets and highways						
Salaries and wages				85,861		
Professional services				1,238		
FICA tax expense				6,451		
Group insurance				16,272		
Retirement expense				7,734		
Utilities  Venture of the control of				23,592		
				890		
Maintenance - equipment Maintenance - auto				424		
Automotive supplies				2,618		
Supplies and materials						
Uniforms				2,342 573		
Contracted labor				6,471		
Insurance and bonds				5,959		
Miscellaneous				1,333		
Non capital equipment				876		
Capital outlay				7,500		
Telephone and postage				298		
Christmas lights and parade				282	-	
Total Streets and highways		197,600	. <u> </u>	170,714	•	26,886

General Fund

### SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE--BUDGET AND ACTUAL Year Ended June 30, 2020

		Budget	. <u>-</u>	Actual	. <u>-</u>	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Powell Bill						
Supplies and materials	\$		\$	2,397	\$	
Maintenance - equipment				1,073		
Capital outlay - equipment				6,250		
Contracted labor			_	18,244		
Total Powell Bill	_	148,000	. <u>-</u>	27,964		120,036
Total Transportation	_	345,600	<u> </u>	198,678		146,922
Sanitation						
Salaries and wages				68,101		
FICA tax expense				5,137		
Group insurance				6,980		
Retirement expense				4,353		
Maintenance - auto				5,040		
Automotive supplies				5,692		
Contract labor				3,148		
Uniforms				476		
Insurance and bonds				6,895		
Non-capital outlay - equipment				3,000		
Miscellaneous	_		_	859		
Total Sanitation		123,000	_	109,681		13,319
Cultural and recreation						
Recreation						
Salaries and wages				19,819		
FICA tax expense				1,516		
Telephone and postage				644		
Utilities				2,836		
Maintenance - building and grounds				9,054		
Maintenance - equipment				1,693		
Supplies and materials				7,107		
Insurance and bonds				3,665		
Noncapital equipment Miscellaneous				1,450 448		
iviiscenaneous			_	448		
Total Recreation		81,300	_	48,232		33,068

General Fund

	_	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Library Telephone and postage Utilities Supplies and materials Insurance and bonds Maintenance - building and grounds	\$		\$ 406 4,338 293 1,671 9,995	\$
Total Library	_	21,100	16,703	4,397
Total Cultural and recreation	_	102,400	64,935	37,465
Debt service Principal and interest	_	50,000		50,000
Total Debt service	_	50,000		50,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	_	1,885,300	1,565,361	319,939
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	_	(120,000)	527,810	647,810
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES Appropriated fund balance	_	120,000		(120,000)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	_	120,000		(120,000)
Excess of revenues over expenditures and other sources	\$_	-	527,810	\$ 527,810
Fund balance at beginning of year			3,167,394	
Fund balance at end of year			\$ 3,695,204	



## **Capital Projects Fund**

Capital Project Funds are used to account for the construction of particular projects.

**Bailey Mountain Capital Project Fund** - This fund is used to account for the Town's recreational project to extend the current greenway to develop numerous outdoor activities such as hiking, trails, and bike trails, with a goal of increasing tourism for the Town of Mars Hill and Madison County, NC.

# CAPITAL PROJECT FUND BAILEY MOUNTAIN PROJECT SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE -- BUDGET AND ACTUAL

Year Ended June 30, 2020

	Project Authorization	Prior Years	Current Year	Total to Date	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues					
Restricted intergovernmental					
Federal grants	\$ 250,000 \$	250,000 \$	- \$	250,000 \$	-
State grants Local funds	352,326 106,074	352,326 80,000	-	352,326 80,000	(26.074)
Local funds	708,400	682,326		682,326	(26,074)
Expenditures Capital outlay					
Land purchase	675,000	680,752	-	680,752	(5,752)
Administration	33,400	=	<u> </u>		33,400
	708,400	680,752		680,752	27,648
Revenues over (under) expenditures		1,574	<del></del>	1,574	1,574
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other sources (uses)	\$ 	1,574	\$	1,574 \$	1,574
Fund balance, beginning			1,574		
Fund balance, ending		\$	1,574		



## **Enterprise Funds**

Enterprise Funds are used to account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises - where the intent of the governing body is that the costs of providing goods and services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges; or where the governing body has decided that periodic determination of net income is appropriate for accountability purposes.

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

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

# Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON-GAAP) Year Ended June 30, 2020

					Variance Favorable
DELENHER	Budget	_	Actual		(Unfavorable)
REVENUES					
Operating revenues:	¢ 004.000	<b>.</b>	1.010.505	Ф	26.595
Charges for services	\$ 984,000			\$	26,585
Other	24,000	_	5,909		(18,091)
Total operating revenues	1,008,000	<u>,                                     </u>	1,016,494		8,494
Nonoperating revenues:					
Investment earnings	20,000	)	39,318		19,318
	20,000	<u>)</u>	39,318		19,318
Total revenues	1,028,000	<u>)</u>	1,055,812		27,812
EXPENDITURES					
Operating expenses					
Administration					
Salaries and benefits			86,307		
Professional services			13,787		
Insurance			33,596		
Supplies and materials			970		
Operating expenses			34,173		
Total administration	215,400	)	168,833		46,567
The state of the s		_		•	_
Treatment and distribution			222.960		
Salaries and benefits Utilities			232,869		
Maintenance			60,716		
Supplies and materials			22,365 113,895		
Miscellaneous			47,095		
Capital outlay			60,277		
Total treatment and distribution	724,500	<u> </u>	537,217		187,283
Total operating expenses	939,900		706,050		233,850
		_	700,020	•	233,030
Debt service					
Interest	24,169		24,048		121
Principal retirement	88,931		88,931		- 101
Total debt service	113,100	<u>)</u>	112,979		121
Total expenditures	1,053,000	<u> </u>	819,029		233,971
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(25,000)	)	236,783		261,783
Other financing sources (uses)					
Appropriated fund balance	25,000	_			25,000
Total other financing sources (uses)	25,000	<u>)</u>			25,000
Revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses	\$ -		236,783 \$		236,783
December of made at the state of the state o	.1.1:-	=		:	
Reconciliation of modified accrual basis to full accrual Excess of revenues and other sources over	ii basis				
			226 702		
expenditures and other uses Reconciling items:			236,783		
Debt principal			88,931		
Contributed capital			165,124		
Capital outlay			60,277		
Decrease in accrued interest payable			621		
Increase in compensated absences			(2,023)		
Increase in net pension liability			(15,592)		
Decrease in deferred outflow of resources			(7,020)		
Increase in deferred inflows of resources			(742)		
Depreciation expense			(276,639)		
		_			
Change in net position		\$	249,720		

ENTERPRISE FUND CAPITAL PROJECTS
Water and Sewer Improvements Projects
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and
Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP)
Year Ended June 30, 2020

	A	Project uthorization	_	Prior Years	_	Current Year	_	Total to Date		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues Restricted intergovernmental Federal grants State grants Local funds Interest	\$	390,120 487,650 97,530 - 975,300	\$	251,592 373,436 - 18 625,046	\$	82,763 82,361 - 165,124	\$	334,355 455,797 - 18 790,170	\$	(55,765) (31,853) (97,530) 18 (185,130)
Expenditures Capital outlay Design, Administration Construction Miscellaneous	_	151,700 748,700 74,900 975,300	<del>-</del>	124,461 522,757 - 647,218	<u>-</u>	9,903 181,280 - 191,183	-	134,364 704,037 - 838,401	<u>-</u>	17,336 44,663 74,900 136,899
Revenues over (under) expenditures  Fund balance (deficit), beginning  Fund balance (deficit), ending	\$	<u>-</u>	\$ _	(22,172)	- \$ <u>-</u>	(26,059) (15,177) (41,236)	\$ =	(48,231)	\$ <u></u>	(48,231)

Schedule of Ad Valorem Taxes Receivable June 30, 2020

Fiscal Year		July 1, 2019	-	Additions and Adjustments	_	Collections and Credits	_	June 30, 2020
2019-2020	\$	_	\$	577,862	\$	560,730	\$	17,132
2018-2019	·	15,364		630		5,828	·	10,166
2017-2018		5,352		542		3,130		2,764
2016-2017		6,115		543		1,259		5,399
2015-2016		2,140		542		416		2,266
2014-2015		2,706		416		416		2,706
2013-2014		2,916		-		_		2,916
2012-2013		3,305		-		60		3,245
2011-2012		2,410		(33)		-		2,377
2010-2011		1,495		-		_		1,495
2009-2010		1,050	_		_	1,050		_
	\$	42,853	\$	580,502	\$_	572,889		50,466
Less allowance for uncollectible taxes							_	12,739
Ad Valorem taxes receivable - net							\$_	37,727
Reconcilement with revenues:								
Taxes - Ad Valorem, (		Fund					\$	574,680
Amounts written off	Jeneral	Tullu					Φ	1,049
7 mounts written on							_	575,729
Less interest collected							_	2,840
Total collections and cre	dits						\$_	572,889

Analysis of Current Tax Levy Year Ended June 30, 2020

	_	Property Valuation	_	Total DMV Valuation	-	Total Property Valuation
Tax Levy Real	\$	102,578,272	\$	-	\$	102,578,272
Personal	-	10,191,306	_	11,261,649	-	21,452,955 124,031,227
Exemptions and other adjustments Discoveries Releases		(982,899) 308,304		-		(982,899) 308,304
Real	_	(407,321)	_		-	(407,321)
Total	\$_	111,687,662	\$_	11,261,649	\$	122,949,311
Rate		0.0047		0.0047		0.0047
Taxes levied	\$	524,932	\$	52,930	\$	577,862
Less uncollected tax at June 30, 2020	_	17,132	_		-	17,132
Current year's taxes collected	\$_	507,800	\$_	52,930	\$	560,730
Percent of current year levy collected	=	96.736%	_	100.000%		97.035%





### **Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance** and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with **Government Auditing Standards**

To the Honorable Mayor and Board of Aldermen Mars Hill, North Carolina

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina, as of and for the year then ended June 30, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 18, 2020.

### **Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina's internal control.

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

Our consideration of the internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as item 2020-001, that we consider to be a material weakness.

### **Compliance and Other Matters**

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

#### Town of Mars Hill's Response to Finding

The Town of Mars Hill's response to the finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. The Town's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

### **Purpose of this Report**

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

Johnson Price Sprinkle PA

Asheville, NC December 18, 2020

# Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina Schedule of Findings and Responses For the Year Ended June 30, 2020

Section I.	Summary of Auditors' Resu	lts
Financial Statements		
Type of report the auditor issued on accordance to GAAP: Unmod		audited were prepared in
Internal control over financial report	ing:	
• Material weakness(es) identified	ied? <u>X</u> yes	no
• Significant deficiency(s)	yes	X none reported
Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?	yes	X no

\_\_\_\_yes

### Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina Schedule of Findings and Responses – continued For the Year Ended June 30, 2020

### **Section II – Financial Statement Findings**

### MATERIAL WEAKNESS

2020 – 001 Segregation of duties in regard to cash receipts

Criteria: Duties in regard to cash receipts should be segregated to provide reasonable assurance that transactions are handled appropriately.

Condition: There is a lack of segregation of duties among Town personnel. Presently, a single individual can receive cash, post transactions to the general ledger, and prepare cash deposits.

Effect: Transactions could be mishandled. Errors in financial reporting could occur and not be detected.

Cause: There are a limited number of personnel for certain functions.

Recommendation: The duties should be separated as much as possible, and alternative controls should be used to compensate for lack of separation. The governing board should provide some of these controls.

Views of responsible officials and planned corrective actions: The Town agrees with this finding and will adhere to the corrective action plan on page 81 in this audit report.



# Town of Mars Hill

John L. Chandler

Mayor
Nicholas A. Honeycutt

Vice-Mayor
Robert W. Zink

Treasurer
Stuart L. Jolley

Clerk
Larry H. Davis

Secretary

Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina Corrective Action Plan For the Year Ended June 30, 2020

### **Section II – Financial Statement Findings**

### MATERIAL WEAKNESS

2020 – 001 Segregation of duties

Name of contact person: Nathan Bennett, Town Manager

Corrective Action: The duties will be separated as much as possible and

alternative controls will be used to compensate for lack of separation. The governing board will become more involved

in providing some of these controls.

Proposed Completion Date: The Board will implement the above procedure immediately.

### Mars Hill Town Hall

280 North Main Street • P.O. Box 368 Mars Hill, North Carolina 28754 Phone: (828) 689-2301 • Fax: (828) 689-3333 www.townofmarshill.org

### Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina Schedule of Prior Year Audit Findings For the Year Ended June 30, 2020

Finding: 2019-001 Status: Repeated as 2020-001