

**CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT**  
*FINANCIAL STATEMENTS*  
*DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021*

**CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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## MeyersBrothersKalicka , P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS  
AND BUSINESS STRATEGISTS

### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the General Manager and the Electric Light Commission  
Chicopee Municipal Lighting Plant

#### Report on the Financial Statements

##### Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Chicopee Municipal Lighting Plant (the "Lighting Plant"), which comprise the proprietary fund statements of net position as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the related proprietary fund statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net position and cash flows for the years then ended, the fiduciary fund statements of fiduciary net position as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the related fiduciary fund statements of changes in fiduciary net position for the years then ended and the related notes to the financial statements (the "financial statements" or the "basic financial statements").

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the Lighting Plant as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the respective changes in financial position and its cash flows thereof for the years then ended, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

##### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards (Government Auditing Standards)*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Lighting Plant and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

##### Emphasis of a Matter

As discussed in Note 1, the financial statements present only the Chicopee Municipal Lighting Plant and do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the City of Chicopee, Massachusetts (the "City") as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the changes in the City's financial position or its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

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

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

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

## **Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

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

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

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

## **Other Matters**

### *Required Supplementary Information*

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

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that pension plan and other post-employment benefit plan schedules as listed on the table of contents 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.

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

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 12, 2023, on our consideration of the Lighting Plant's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely 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 the effectiveness of the Lighting Plant's 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 Lighting Plant's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*Mayer Beothell Kalicka, P.C.*

Holyoke, Massachusetts  
July 12, 2023

**PROPRIETARY FUND**

# CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

## PROPRIETARY FUND STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

### ASSETS

	2022	2021
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,887,170	\$ 361,189
Accounts receivable, less reserve of \$357,000 in 2022 and \$382,000 in 2021	6,824,479	3,375,018
Other receivables	470,979	454,554
Fuel, materials and supplies	4,185,191	3,614,158
Prepaid expenses and other assets	<u>1,560,988</u>	<u>1,511,763</u>
Total current assets	<u>16,928,807</u>	<u>9,316,682</u>
<b>Restricted and designated assets</b>		
Restricted and designated cash and cash equivalents	9,510,462	13,191,454
Restricted and designated investments	<u>33,022,905</u>	<u>35,995,501</u>
Total restricted and designated assets	<u>42,533,367</u>	<u>49,186,955</u>
<b>Noncurrent assets</b>		
Regulatory asset, net	2,530,880	3,398,609
Investment in jointly owned electric utility plants	208,614	199,947
Other receivables, noncurrent	<u>6,488</u>	<u>-</u>
Total noncurrent assets	<u>2,745,982</u>	<u>3,598,556</u>
<b>Utility plant</b>		
Land	807,063	807,063
Utility plant	<u>100,131,076</u>	<u>95,242,306</u>
	100,938,139	96,049,369
Less: accumulated depreciation	(53,599,799)	(51,283,923)
Construction in process	<u>7,575,200</u>	<u>9,781,950</u>
Total utility plant, net	<u>54,913,540</u>	<u>54,547,396</u>
<b>Deferred outflows of resources</b>		
Deferred outflows related to other post-employment benefits	901,054	76,010
Deferred outflows related to pensions	<u>4,689,265</u>	<u>1,438,971</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>5,590,319</u>	<u>1,514,981</u>
<b>Total assets</b>	<u>\$ 122,712,015</u>	<u>\$ 118,164,570</u>

**CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT**

**PROPRIETARY FUND  
STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION  
DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021**

***LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND NET POSITION***

	2022	2021
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable	\$ 6,511,724	\$ 4,778,747
Accrued expenses	1,475,209	1,354,469
Accrued compensated absences	345,212	296,023
Due to the City - in lieu of tax payments	382,500	382,500
Due to OPEB Trust	450,000	-
Deferred credits	1,029,094	895,430
Total current liabilities	10,193,739	7,707,169
 <b>Noncurrent liabilities</b>		
Customers' deposits	1,600,136	1,476,066
Accrued compensated absences, noncurrent	1,449,910	1,452,594
Deferred credits, noncurrent	1,586,265	1,488,424
Net other post-employment benefit liability	2,782,067	2,293,556
Net pension liability	391,699	3,944,313
Total noncurrent liabilities	7,810,077	10,654,953
 Total liabilities	18,003,816	18,362,122
 <b>Deferred inflows of resources</b>		
Deferred inflows related to other post-employment benefits	871,896	1,162,513
Deferred inflows related to pensions	5,544,272	2,188,012
Reserve for rate stabilization	11,698,576	14,223,576
Total deferred inflows of resources	18,114,744	17,574,101
 <b>Net position</b>		
Net investment in capital assets	54,913,540	54,547,396
Restricted	17,485,689	24,600,108
Unrestricted	14,194,226	3,080,843
Total net position	86,593,455	82,228,347
 <b>Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and net position</b>	<b>\$ 122,712,015</b>	<b>\$ 118,164,570</b>

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



**CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT**

**PROPRIETARY FUND**

**STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Operating revenues</b>		
Sales of electricity:		
Residential	\$ 32,445,429	\$ 26,056,233
Commercial	23,344,113	19,101,084
Governmental	7,965,369	6,311,397
Industrial	5,808,953	5,384,646
Transmission revenue	540,962	538,218
Contract work revenue	395,017	381,844
Other operating revenue	<u>2,613,767</u>	<u>1,482,806</u>
Total operating revenues	<u>73,113,610</u>	<u>59,256,228</u>
 <b>Operating expenses</b>		
Purchased power	53,070,321	45,381,155
Distribution	3,695,405	3,123,656
Power production	584,038	362,318
Transmission	109,463	76,067
Contract work	12,057	55,029
General and administrative	6,368,236	7,316,549
Depreciation	2,846,629	2,728,896
Amortization	867,729	867,729
Other expenses	14,397	13,438
Rate stabilization fund transfers	<u>(2,525,000)</u>	<u>(3,600,000)</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>65,043,275</u>	<u>56,324,837</u>
 <b>Operating income</b>	 8,070,335	 2,931,391
 <b>Investment (loss) gain</b>	 <u>(2,947,227)</u>	 <u>996,642</u>
 <b>Income before transfers</b>	 5,123,108	 3,928,033
 <b>Transfers out - in lieu of tax payments to City</b>	 (618,000)	 (600,000)
 <b>Transfers out - other payments to City</b>	 <u>(140,000)</u>	 <u>(140,000)</u>
 <b>Change in net position</b>	 4,365,108	 3,188,033
 <b>Net position, beginning of year</b>	 <u>82,228,347</u>	 <u>79,040,314</u>
 <b>Net position, end of year</b>	 <u>\$ 86,593,455</u>	 <u>\$ 82,228,347</u>

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

**CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT**  
**PROPRIETARY FUND**  
**STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
**FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021**

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Cash received for services	\$ 69,641,236	\$ 61,137,795
Cash paid to power suppliers	(50,766,604)	(45,048,167)
Cash paid to employees for compensation	(6,463,096)	(6,336,633)
Cash paid for other operations	<u>(8,612,476)</u>	<u>(6,813,129)</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>3,799,060</u>	<u>2,939,866</u>
<b>Cash flows from capital and related financing activities</b>		
Cash paid for capital expenditures	<u>(3,212,773)</u>	<u>(5,772,568)</u>
Net cash used in capital financing activities	<u>(3,212,773)</u>	<u>(5,772,568)</u>
<b>Cash flows from non-capital financing activities</b>		
Cash paid for in lieu of taxes	(618,000)	(600,000)
Other cash payment to City	<u>(140,000)</u>	<u>(140,000)</u>
Net cash used in non-capital financing activities	<u>(758,000)</u>	<u>(740,000)</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Cash received from sales of investments	8,304,107	8,405,732
Cash received from investment earnings	859,538	922,951
Cash paid for purchases of investments	<u>(9,146,943)</u>	<u>(1,998,222)</u>
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>16,702</u>	<u>7,330,461</u>
<b>Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	(155,011)	3,757,759
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year</b>	<u>13,552,643</u>	<u>9,794,884</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of year</b>	<u>\$ 13,397,632</u>	<u>\$ 13,552,643</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents included in:</b>		
Unrestricted cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,887,170	\$ 361,189
Restricted and designated cash and cash equivalents	<u>9,510,462</u>	<u>13,191,454</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of the year</b>	<u>\$ 13,397,632</u>	<u>\$ 13,552,643</u>

(Continued)

**CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT**

**PROPRIETARY FUND**

**STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Continued)**

**FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Operating income	\$ 8,070,335	\$ 2,931,391
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation	2,846,629	2,728,896
Amortization	867,729	867,729
Reserve for rate stabilization	(2,525,000)	(3,600,000)
Deferred outflows related to other post-employment benefits	(825,044)	76,010
Deferred outflows related to pensions	(3,250,294)	559,848
Deferred inflows related to other post-employment benefits	(290,617)	(103,306)
Deferred inflows related to pensions	3,356,260	924,428
Change in allowance for uncollectible accounts	(25,000)	69,000
Net changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(3,424,461)	1,849,505
Other receivables	(22,913)	(36,938)
Fuel, materials and supplies	(571,033)	(524,359)
Prepaid expenses and other assets	(49,225)	(61,682)
Accounts payable	1,732,977	190,282
Accrued expenses	570,740	142,706
Accrued compensated absences	46,505	(203,187)
Customers' deposits	124,070	124,344
Deferred credits	231,505	402,624
Net other post-employment benefit liability	488,511	(572,899)
Net pension liability	<u>(3,552,614)</u>	<u>(2,824,526)</u>
 Net cash provided by operating activities	 <u>\$ 3,799,060</u>	 <u>\$ 2,939,866</u>
 <b>Supplemental disclosure of non-cash information</b>		
Construction in process in accounts payable as of year end	\$ 138,322	\$ 374,973

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

**FIDUCIARY FUND**

**CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT**  
**FIDUCIARY FUND**  
**STATEMENTS OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION**  
**OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT TRUST FUND**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash	\$ 26,846	\$ 6,507
Contribution receivable	450,000	-
Investments	4,272,963	4,816,369
Total assets	4,749,809	4,822,876
<b>Net position</b>		
Held in trust for other post-employment benefits	\$ 4,749,809	\$ 4,822,876

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

**CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT**

**FIDUCIARY FUND**

**STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION  
OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT TRUST FUND  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021**

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Contributions	\$ 675,000	\$ 225,000
Investment income (expense):		
Dividends, interest and capital gains	153,399	322,812
Realized (loss) gain	(95,261)	153,775
Unrealized (loss) gain	(790,609)	100,056
Management fees	<u>(15,596)</u>	<u>(16,050)</u>
Investment (expense) income, net	<u>(748,067)</u>	<u>560,593</u>
Total (deductions) additions	(73,067)	785,593
<b>Net position, beginning of year</b>	<u>4,822,876</u>	<u>4,037,283</u>
<b>Net position, end of year</b>	<u>\$ 4,749,809</u>	<u>\$ 4,822,876</u>

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

# CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

### 1. REPORTING ENTITY:

The Chicopee Municipal Lighting Plant (the "Lighting Plant") provides electric service to its customers, substantially all of whom are local residents and commercial and industrial businesses within the City of Chicopee, Massachusetts. The Lighting Plant is classified under the proprietary fund category and enterprise fund type of the City of Chicopee (the "City"). These financial statements report only that portion of the financial reporting entity of the City that is attributable to the Lighting Plant's transactions and not the City as a whole.

The Lighting Plant maintains an Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust, as further described in Note 2. This Trust is classified as a fiduciary fund.

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

#### **Measurement focus and basis of accounting**

The Lighting Plant's accounting records are maintained in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP") for proprietary funds as prescribed by the Government Accounting Standards Board ("GASB"). The Lighting Plant's accounting records generally follow the Uniform System of Accounts for Public Utilities and Licensees prescribed by the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"), except as it relates to the accounting for contributions of utility property in aid of construction. The financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred (subject to adjustments resulting from rate stabilization changes), regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

#### **Public utility regulation**

Arrangements among the Lighting Plant, outside agencies and other utilities covering interconnections, interchange of electric power, and sales of utility property are subject to regulation by FERC. The Lighting Plant is subject to further regulation by the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities ("DPU"). The Lighting Plant, where appropriate, follows accounting treatment prescribed by these regulatory agencies.

Under Massachusetts Law, electric rates of the Lighting Plant are set by the Electric Light Commission and may be changed not more than once every three months. Rate schedules are filed with the DPU. While the DPU exercises general supervisory authority over the Lighting Plant, the rates are not subject to DPU approval. Rates must be set such that net earnings from operations do not exceed 8% of the cost of the utility plant.

#### **Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company ("MMWEC")**

MMWEC is a non-profit, public corporation and political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (the "Commonwealth"). They offer services ranging from power supply planning and resource development to risk management and regulatory support. The Lighting Plant utilizes MMWEC for purchased power and investment of some assets.

# CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES: (CONTINUED)

#### **Fiduciary fund – Other Post-Employment Benefit Trust**

The Other Post-Employment Benefit Trust Fund (“OPEB Trust”) was established in 2015 by the Electric Light Commission, pursuant to Chapter 32B, Section 20 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth. The OPEB Trust constitutes the principal instrument of a plan established by the Electric Light Commission to fund the Lighting Plant’s actuarially determined OPEB liability.

Fiduciary fund financial statements are reported using the flow of economic resources measurement focus and use the accrual basis of accounting. Fiduciary funds are used to account for assets held in a trustee capacity for others that cannot be used to support the Lighting Plant’s programs.

#### **Revenues and expenses**

Utility revenues are based on authorized rates applied to each customer’s use of electricity. Rate changes are approved by the Electric Light Commission and are filed with the DPU. These operating revenues are recognized on the basis of cycle billings rendered monthly. Other operating revenue consists primarily of stores, merchandising and jobbing charges to customers for services related to the distribution of electricity. Other revenues not directly associated with the sale of electricity and related services are recognized on a monthly basis based on services rendered. No discounts are offered to customers for early payment. Operating expenses include the cost of sales and services, administrative expenses, and depreciation on capital assets. All revenues and expenses not meeting the above definitions are reported as non-operating revenues and expenses.

#### **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash includes cash on hand and on deposit with the City, which is in the custody of and managed by the City Treasurer and MMWEC. The Lighting Plant also considers all short-term investments with an original maturity date of 90 days or less to be cash equivalents.

#### **Accounts and other receivables**

Accounts receivable are stated at the amount management expects to collect from outstanding balances. Management provides for probable uncollectible amounts through a charge to expense and a credit to the allowance for doubtful accounts based on its assessment of the current status of individual accounts. Management is required to comply with billing and termination procedures mandated by the DPU. These procedures require certain extended terms for payment prior to termination of services for heating customers. Balances that are still outstanding after management has used reasonable collection efforts are written off through a charge to the allowance for doubtful accounts and a credit to accounts receivable. No interest is charged on residential accounts. Interest is charged at the rate of 1.5% per month on past due commercial accounts.

In the ordinary course of business, the Lighting Plant will enter into energy conservation reimbursement contracts with its commercial customers. These are secured by the equipment associated with the reimbursement. Contracts with terms longer than one year are classified as long-term. Also, the Lighting Plant enters into contracts for construction projects. Interest receivable is recorded when earned. Collectability is assessed by management as described above.

#### **Fuel, materials and supplies**

Fuel, materials and supplies are valued at the lower of cost (average cost method) or net realizable value. Materials and supplies consist primarily of cable, switchgears and utility poles.



# CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES: (CONTINUED)

#### **Restricted and designated assets**

Cash, cash equivalents and investments, which are restricted under terms of legislation, certain agreements for payments to third parties or Electric Light Commission actions limiting the use of such funds, are included as restricted and designated assets. When the Lighting Plant restricts funds for a specific purpose, and both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the Lighting Plant's policy to use restricted resources where required, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

Investments are stated at fair value, which is the amount at which an investment could be exchanged in a current transaction between willing parties. Fair values are based on quoted market prices. No investments are reported at amortized cost. Adjustments necessary to record investments at fair value are recorded in the statement of revenue, expenses, and net position as increases or decreases in investment income. Dividend and interest income is recorded when declared.

Investment securities are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market rate, and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities and the uncertainty related to changes in the value of the investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the statement of net position. Massachusetts General Laws also place limitations on the natures of deposits and investments available to the Lighting Plant.

#### **Investment in jointly owned electric utility plants**

This consists of the Lighting Plant's equity in New England Hydro-Transmission Corporation and New England Hydro-Transmission Electric Company (the "Companies"). The Lighting Plant joined with other utilities on committing to equity sponsorship of a project known as Hydro-Quebec Phase II, which operates certain electric transmission facilities in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. The Lighting Plant owns .3254% of the Companies' outstanding common stock. The Lighting Plant uses the equity method of accounting for the investment because the investment is under common control with other municipal utilities. Under the equity method, investments are recorded at cost and increased or decreased by the Lighting Plant's pro-rata share of earnings or losses and distributions. Investment income is recorded as earned.

#### **Utility plant**

Additions to and replacements of plant, property and equipment are recorded at cost. The cost of plant, property and equipment retired, including cost of removal, less salvage, is charged to accumulated depreciation. The cost of repairs and minor renewals is charged to maintenance expense accounts. The Lighting Plant evaluated the fair value of its assets and no impairment charges were deemed necessary by management. The Lighting Plant capitalizes fixed asset additions with an original cost of \$2,000 or more, except for electric distribution, generation and transmission plant assets for which all additions are capitalized.

#### **Deferred outflows and inflows related to other post-employment benefits**

Deferred outflows and inflows related to other post-employment benefits as of December 31, 2022 were determined using actuarial assumptions as of January 1, 2022 for December 31, 2022. Deferred outflows and inflows related to other post-employment benefits as of December 31, 2021 were determined using actuarial assumptions as of January 1, 2020 for December 31, 2021.

# CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES: (CONTINUED)

#### Depreciation

Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method at a composite rate based upon utility plant-in service, adjusted for salvage value and removal costs. The Lighting Plant has approval from the DPU to calculate annual depreciation at a rate not in excess of 5%, in total, of depreciable property in service at the beginning of the year. The composite rate for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 was 3.06% and 3.03%, respectively.

#### Construction in process

Construction in process consists principally of the costs related to direct materials, direct labor, direct purchased services, and indirect costs, including general and administrative costs, related to any utility plant assets under construction. Construction in process is stated at cost. Any internal costs that were capitalized were limited to those costs that can be directly identified with the design, engineering, or construction of a specific project.

The amounts in construction in process at December 31, 2022 and 2021 relate to the deployment of the Lighting Plant's advanced metering infrastructure ("AMI"), building renovations at the Lighting Plant's Front Street headquarters, the ongoing build-out of the Fiber to the home offering, two state roadway jobs (Mass Pike at Burnett Rd. and Fuller Rd.), and other miscellaneous construction costs related to the Lighting Plant. The AMI Project (approximately \$1,290,000) and Phase I of the Front Street building renovation project (approximately \$3,880,000) have been completed and the projects will be closed in 2023. The next phase of the building renovation project has been put on hold due to the current economic climate. The Mass Pike Burnett Rd. project will be closed and billed to the state in the amount of approximately \$91,000, and payment should be received by the end of 2023. The Fuller Rd. project (approximately \$1,165,000) is still active and will likely be billed in late 2023 or early 2024 and closed when payment is received. Approximately \$446,000 in costs are related to the construction of 12-15 fiber neighborhoods and will be closed by mid-2023.

#### Amortization

The regulatory asset is being amortized on a straight-line basis over 296 months. This asset is tested for impairment each year and no impairment was recorded.

#### Compensated absences

The Lighting Plant recognizes vacation and sick leave costs (including related employee benefits) as they are earned. An employee is entitled to vacation after having completed six months of employment. Only salaried employees may carry forward up to two weeks of vacation into the following calendar year. Accrued vacation as of December 31, 2022 and 2021 was \$56,070 and \$57,304, respectively. Employees accrue sick leave on the first day of each month at the rate of one and one quarter days per month, which can be accumulated up to 260 days. Employees with twenty years or more of consecutive services to the Lighting Plant may accumulate up to 300 sick days. Accrued sick leave as of December 31, 2022 and 2021 was \$1,739,052 and \$1,691,313, respectively. Accrued compensated absences classified as long-term liabilities represent amounts due to employees for compensated absences which are not expected to be used within 12 months after year end and are expected to be carried over into subsequent periods.

#### Deferred credits

The Lighting Plant has billed customers for work not yet performed and has received advanced payments from customers. When the work is performed, the related amount will be recognized as revenue. Deferred credits classified as long-term liabilities represent work that will be performed more than twelve months after the year end date.

# CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES: (CONTINUED)

#### **Deferred outflows and inflows related to pensions**

Deferred outflows and inflows related to pensions as of December 31, 2022 were determined using actuarial assumptions as of January 1, 2021 for December 31, 2022. Deferred outflows and inflows related to pensions as of December 31, 2021 were determined using actuarial assumptions as of January 1, 2019 for December 31, 2021.

#### **Deferred inflows related to reserve for rate stabilization**

In accordance with the requirements of GASB No. 63 *Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Net Position*, the Lighting Plant has classified its reserve for rate stabilization as a deferred inflow (see Note 12).

#### **Net position**

The Lighting Plant classifies its net position into three components as follows:

**Net investment in capital assets** – This component of net position consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation. Deferred inflows and outflows of resources that are attributable to the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets are also included.

**Restricted** – This component of net position consists of assets with constraints placed on their use, either externally or internally. Constraints include those imposed by grants or laws and regulations of other governments, or by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation or by the Board. These restricted assets are reduced by liabilities and deferred inflows of resources related to those assets.

**Unrestricted** – This component of net position consists of net amount of the assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources that do not meet the definition of “Net investment in capital assets” or “Restricted”.

#### **Net other post-employment benefits liability**

Under GASB No. 75, “*Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*” (“GASB No. 75”), the net OPEB liability (“NOL”) is the difference between the actuarial present value of projected OPEB benefit payments attributable to employees’ past service and the OPEB plan’s fiduciary net position. At December 31, 2022 and 2021, the NOL was \$2,782,067 and \$2,293,556, respectively (see Note 11).

#### **Net pension liability**

Under GASB No. 68 “*Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions - An Amendment of GASB Statement No. 27*,” the net pension liability (“NPL”) is the difference between the actuarial present value of projected pension benefit payments attributable to employees’ past service and the Plan’s fiduciary net position. At December 31, 2022 and 2021, the NPL was \$391,699 and \$3,944,313, respectively (see Note 10).

#### **Presentation of sales taxes**

During 2022 and 2021, the Commonwealth imposed a sales tax of 6.25% on the Lighting Plant’s non-exempt customers. The Lighting Plant collects that sales tax from customers and remits the entire amount to the Commonwealth. The Lighting Plant’s accounting policy is to exclude tax collected and remitted to the Commonwealth from revenues and operating expenses.

# CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES: (CONTINUED)

#### Taxes

The Lighting Plant is exempt from taxes, including property taxes. Instead, the Lighting Plant pays an amount to the City in lieu of taxes.

#### Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### Recent accounting pronouncements

In June 2022, GASB issued SGAS No. 101, "*Compensated Absences*" ("GASB No. 101"). The objective of this statement is to better meet the information needs of financial statement users by updating the recognition and measurement guidance for compensated absences. That objective is achieved by aligning the recognition and measurement guidance under a unified model and by amending certain previously required disclosures. This statement is scheduled to be effective for the Lighting Plant for the year ended December 31, 2024.

#### Change in accounting principle - Leases

In June 2017, the GASB issued SGAS No. 87, Leases. This new standard enhances the relevance and consistency of information on a government's leasing activities. It establishes requirements for lease accounting based on the principle that leases are financings of the right to use an underlying asset. A lessee is required to recognize a lease liability and an intangible right to use lease asset, and a lessor is required to recognize a lease receivable and a deferred inflow of resources.

The Lighting Plant implemented this new standard for the year ended December 31, 2022. Management has reviewed SGAS No. 87, Leases, and has come to the conclusion that there are no contracts that meet the required definition to qualify as a lease under SGAS No. 87 for the year ended December 31, 2022.

**CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021**

**3. FUEL, MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES:**

Fuel, materials and supplies at December 31, 2022 and 2021 consists of:

	<u>2022</u>		<u>2021</u>
Fuel	\$ 83,442	\$	58,642
Materials and supplies	4,101,749		3,555,516
	<u>\$ 4,185,191</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>3,614,158</u>

**4. RESTRICTED AND DESIGNATED ASSETS:**

Restricted and designated assets include accounts deposited with MMWEC and the City (through the Office of the City Treasurer). These funds are segregated by management for specific outlays and contingencies and are recorded at their fair value.

The balance at December 31, 2022 consists of the following, at fair value:

	<u>Cash and Cash Equivalents</u>		<u>Investments</u>		<u>Total</u>
Depreciation fund	\$ 5,307,627	\$	12,178,062	\$	17,485,689
Customers' deposits	1,600,136		-		1,600,136
MMWEC working reserve fund	1,059,304		9,945,404		11,004,708
Rate stabilization	-		10,525,077		10,525,077
Westover Air Reserve Base fund	1,237,520		-		1,237,520
Other funds	305,875		374,362		680,237
Total	<u>\$ 9,510,462</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>33,022,905</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>42,533,367</u>

Investments included in restricted and designated assets at December 31, 2022 consist of:

	<u>Cost</u>		<u>Fair Value</u>		<u>Cumulative Unrealized (Loss) Gain</u>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,482,363	\$	4,482,363	\$	-
Certificates of deposit	250,051		247,778		(2,273)
Government and agency bonds	4,209,283		3,934,883		(274,400)
Municipal bonds	6,593,957		6,055,265		(538,692)
Corporate bonds	3,926,453		3,799,072		(127,381)
Mutual funds - bond type	5,955,664		5,167,452		(788,212)
Mutual funds - equity type	3,065,068		3,124,043		58,975
U.S. treasury securities	4,523,605		4,433,213		(90,392)
U.S. agency securities	1,959,392		1,778,836		(180,556)
Total	<u>\$ 34,965,836</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>33,022,905</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>(1,942,931)</u>

## CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

#### 4. RESTRICTED AND DESIGNATED ASSETS: (CONTINUED)

The Lighting Plant's total return on its invested assets consisted of the following components reported on the statement of revenues, expenses and changes in net position:

Interest and dividend income	\$	859,538
Realized losses		(464,971)
Unrealized losses		(3,341,794)
Total	\$	<u>(2,947,227)</u>

Investment fees were \$83,700 for the year ended December 31, 2022.

The balance at December 31, 2021 consists of the following, at fair value:

	Cash and Cash Equivalents	Investments	Total
Depreciation fund	\$ 6,479,088	\$ 13,289,067	\$ 19,768,155
Customers' deposits	1,476,066	-	1,476,066
MMWEC working reserve fund	3,752,817	1,751,891	5,504,708
Rate stabilization	-	19,055,530	19,055,530
Pension fund	-	1,565,607	1,565,607
Westover Air Reserve Base fund	1,181,984	-	1,181,984
Other funds	301,499	333,406	634,905
Total	\$ <u>13,191,454</u>	\$ <u>35,995,501</u>	\$ <u>49,186,955</u>

Investments included in restricted and designated assets at December 31, 2021 consist of:

	Cost	Fair Value	Cumulative Unrealized Gain (Loss)
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,933,317	\$ 1,933,317	\$ -
Certificates of deposit	1,478,635	1,511,700	33,065
Government and agency bonds	1,543,944	1,563,500	19,556
Municipal bonds	7,013,919	7,152,447	138,528
Corporate bonds	5,392,363	5,625,259	232,896
Mutual funds - bond type	7,674,810	7,647,163	(27,647)
Mutual funds - equity type	4,240,344	5,284,055	1,043,711
U.S. treasury securities	2,178,010	2,161,285	(16,725)
U.S. agency securities	3,141,296	3,116,775	(24,521)
Total	\$ <u>34,596,638</u>	\$ <u>35,995,501</u>	\$ <u>1,398,863</u>

The Lighting Plant's total return on its invested assets consisted of the following components reported on the statement of revenues, expenses and changes in net position:

Interest and dividend income	\$	922,951
Realized gains		1,331,624
Unrealized losses		(1,257,933)
Total	\$	<u>996,642</u>

Investment fees were \$101,774 for the year ended December 31, 2021.

**CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021**

**4. RESTRICTED AND DESIGNATED ASSETS: (CONTINUED)**

At December 31, 2022, the Lighting Plant's bond investments were as follows:

	Fair value	Maturity			
		Less than 1 year	1 - 5 years	6 - 10 years	Over 10 years
Government and agency bonds	\$ 3,934,883	\$ 1,456,098	\$ 1,285,708	\$ 255,871	\$ 937,206
Municipal bonds	6,055,265	453,869	2,773,034	2,491,152	337,210
Corporate bonds	3,799,072	720,182	3,078,890	-	-
U.S. treasury securities	4,433,213	2,865,173	1,568,040	-	-
U.S. agency securities	1,778,836	169,760	1,388,095	220,981	-
	<u>\$ 20,001,269</u>	<u>\$ 5,665,082</u>	<u>\$ 10,093,767</u>	<u>\$ 2,968,004</u>	<u>\$ 1,274,416</u>

At December 31, 2022, the Lighting Plant's bond investments were rated as follows:

	Standard & Poor's	Moody's Investment
Government and agency bonds	AA+	AAA
Municipal bonds	AAA to A+	AAA to A2
Corporate bonds	AAA to BBB	AAA to BAA2
U.S. treasury securities	AA+	Aaa
U.S. agency securities	AA+	Aaa

Investment accounts totaling \$22,025,801 at December 31, 2022, are in the custody of the City of Chicopee Treasurer's Office.

At December 31, 2021, the Lighting Plant's bond investments were as follows:

	Fair value	Maturity			
		Less than 1 year	1 - 5 years	6 - 10 years	Over 10 years
Government and agency bonds	\$ 1,563,500	\$ 359,241	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,204,259
Municipal bonds	7,152,447	453,906	2,003,044	3,821,102	874,395
Corporate bonds	5,625,259	479,191	5,146,068	-	-
U.S. treasury securities	2,161,285	369,101	1,481,071	311,113	-
U.S. agency securities	3,116,775	562,487	2,099,147	455,141	-
	<u>\$ 19,619,266</u>	<u>\$ 2,223,926</u>	<u>\$ 10,729,330</u>	<u>\$ 4,587,356</u>	<u>\$ 2,078,654</u>

**CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021**

**4. RESTRICTED AND DESIGNATED ASSETS: (CONTINUED)**

At December 31, 2021, the Lighting Plant’s bond investments were rated as follows:

	Standard & Poor’s	Moody’s Investment
Government and agency bonds	AA+	AAA
Municipal bonds	AAA to A+	AAA to A2
Corporate bonds	AAA to BBB	AAA to BAA2
U.S. treasury securities	AA+	Aaa
U.S. agency securities	AA+ to AAA	Aaa

Investment accounts totaling \$27,365,594 at December 31, 2021, are in the custody of the City of Chicopee Treasurer’s Office.

For any funds in the custody of the City Treasurer, the following risk policies are in accordance with those used by the City:

**Interest rate risk**

The Lighting Plant’s policy is to manage interest rate risk by managing duration in the account.

**Credit risk**

The Lighting Plant’s policy includes no limit to the amount of United States Treasury and United States Government Agency obligations. In regard to fixed-income investments, the Lighting Plant will predominantly purchase investment grade securities with a high concentration rated A or better.

**Concentration of credit risk**

The Lighting Plant’s policy is securities of a single corporate issuer (with the exception of the United States Government and its Agencies) will not exceed 5% of the portfolio value. At December 31, 2022, the City (through the Office of the City Treasurer), on the Lighting Plant’s behalf, has invested 5% or more of the Lighting Plant’s investments in the Federal Farm Credit Bank Bond, Federal Home Loan Bank Bond, Massachusetts State Bonds, and in US Treasury Notes totaling 5%, 7%, 8% and 18%, respectively of total bond investments. At December 31, 2021, the City (through the Office of the City Treasurer), on the Lighting Plant’s behalf, has invested 5% or more of the Lighting Plant’s investments in the Federal Farm Credit Bank Bond, Federal Home Loan Bank Bond, and in Massachusetts State Bonds, totaling 7%, 5% and 9%, respectively of total bond investments.

At December 31, 2022, MMWEC has also invested 5% or more of the Lighting Plant’s investments in US Treasury Securities and Federal Home Loan Bank US Agency Securities, totaling 66% and 20% of total investments, respectively. At December 31, 2021, MMWEC has also invested 5% or more of the Lighting Plant’s investments in US Treasury Securities, Federal Farm Credit Bank US Agency Securities, Federal Home Loan Bank US Agency Securities, and Federal Home Loan Mortgage US Agency Securities, totaling 30%, 17%, 15%, and 12% of total investments, respectively.



# CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

### 4. RESTRICTED AND DESIGNATED ASSETS: (CONTINUED)

#### Custodial credit risk - cash

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the Lighting Plant's deposits may not be returned. The Lighting Plant does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk. The Lighting Plant maintains cash balances at various financial institutions located in Massachusetts. These balances are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") up to \$250,000. At certain times during the year, the cash balances may exceed the insurance limit. Based on cash balances at December 31, 2022 and 2021, as reflected in the financial statements, the uninsured balance could be as high as approximately \$12,242,000, and \$10,018,000, respectively. The Lighting Plant has not experienced any loss on such accounts and management monitors the credit worthiness of these financial institutions through the Office of the City Treasurer.

#### Custodial credit risk - investments

For an investment, custodial risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty the Lighting Plant will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The Lighting Plant's policy includes the review of financial statements, requires proof of coverage by Securities Investor Protection Corporation ("SIPC") or other coverage that is equal to or in excess of the fair value of their investments and that the investments are held in the Lighting Plant's name and tax identification number by a third party custodian approved by the City Treasurer. Of the Lighting Plant's \$33,022,905 (2022) and \$35,995,501 (2021) in investments, \$22,025,801 (2022) and \$27,365,594 (2021) are in accounts held on behalf of the Lighting Plant by LPL Financial (a third party investment manager) and include various equity securities and bonds, some of which are uninsured.

### 5. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT:

GASB No. 72 "*Fair Value Measurement and Application*" defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date (an exit price). The Lighting Plant utilizes market data or assumption that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability, including assumption about risk and the risks inherent in the inputs to the valuation technique.

GASB No. 72 establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the input used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy defined by GASB No. 72 are as follows:

- Level 1 inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- Level 2 inputs are inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs that reflect the Lighting Plant's own assumptions about factors that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability.

# CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

### 5. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT: (CONTINUED)

The valuation methods of the fair value measurements are disclosed below.

- Certificates of deposit – based on the initial investment amount.
- Government and agency bonds - use a market based approach which considers yield, price of comparable securities, coupon rate, maturity, credit quality and dealer-provided prices.
- Municipal bonds - use a market based approach based on institutional bond quotes. Evaluations are based on various market and industry inputs.
- Corporate bonds - use a market based approach. Evaluations are based on various market and industry inputs.
- U.S. treasury securities - use a market based approach. Evaluations are based on various market and industry inputs.
- U.S. agency securities - use a market based approach which considers yield, price of comparable securities, coupon rate, maturity, credit quality and dealer-provided prices.
- Mutual funds - are based on quoted prices in active markets.

The following table identifies the level within the fair value hierarchy that the Lighting Plant's financial assets were accounted for on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2022 and 2021. As required by GASB No. 72, financial assets and liabilities are classified in their entirety based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The Lighting Plant's assessment of the significance of the particular input to the fair value measurement requires judgement, and may affect the valuation of the fair value of liabilities and their placement within the fair value hierarchy levels.

Recurring fair value measurements as of December 31, 2022:

	Level 1		Level 2		Total
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,482,363	\$	-	\$	4,482,363
Certificates of deposit	247,778		-		247,778
Government and agency bonds	-		3,934,883		3,934,883
Municipal bonds	-		6,055,265		6,055,265
Corporate bonds	-		3,799,072		3,799,072
U.S. treasury securities	4,433,213		-		4,433,213
U.S. agency securities	-		1,778,836		1,778,836
Mutual funds – bond type	5,167,452		-		5,167,452
Mutual funds – equity type	3,124,043		-		3,124,043
	\$ 17,454,849	\$	15,568,056	\$	33,022,905

# CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

### 5. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT: (CONTINUED)

Recurring fair value measurements as of December 31, 2021:

	Level 1	Level 2	Total
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,933,317	\$ -	\$ 1,933,317
Certificates of deposit	1,511,700	-	1,511,700
Government and agency bonds	-	1,563,500	1,563,500
Municipal bonds	-	7,152,447	7,152,447
Corporate bonds	-	5,625,259	5,625,259
U.S. treasury securities	2,161,285	-	2,161,285
U.S. agency securities	-	3,116,775	3,116,775
Mutual funds – bond type	7,647,163	-	7,647,163
Mutual funds – equity type	5,284,055	-	5,284,055
	\$ 18,537,520	\$ 17,457,981	\$ 35,995,501

### 6. REGULATORY ASSET:

The accounting policies of the Lighting Plant conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America applicable to rate-regulated enterprises and historically reflect the effects of the rate-making process. In 2001, the Millstone 3 Unit was sold, and this sale included the Lighting Plant's ownership interest in the facility, and most of its Millstone 3 decommissioning fund. The purchaser assumed the responsibility for decommissioning the Unit. The Electric Light Commission voted to include the unrecovered cost of its investment in Millstone 3, with a full return on investment, in future rates as amortization of a regulatory asset. Management believes it is probable that the Lighting Plant will recover their investment in the regulatory asset.

	2022	2021
Regulatory asset – cost	\$ 21,403,993	\$ 21,403,993
Less: accumulated amortization	18,873,113	18,005,384
	\$ 2,530,880	\$ 3,398,609

Amortization expense was \$867,729 for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021. Amortization expense is estimated to be \$867,729 for each of the next two years and \$795,422 in year three, the final year.

# CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

### 7. FIDUCIARY FUND:

The assets and net position of this Trust are reported in the Lighting Plant's Statements of Fiduciary Net Position (see page 8).

Investments (at fair value) of the OPEB Trust consist of the following at December 31, 2022 and 2021:

Mutual funds:	2022	2021
Small growth	\$ 167,042	\$ 157,190
Intermediate core bond	-	279,940
Bank loan	130,301	62,617
Mid-cap value	187,549	244,680
Emerging markets bond	125,321	120,779
Infrastructure	-	93,380
Large growth	592,596	706,275
Large value	538,061	580,126
Event driven	111,653	90,587
Mid-cap growth	165,675	161,600
Nontraditional bond	638,002	253,279
Convertibles	-	143,420
Foreign small/mid blend	125,315	170,023
Inflation-protected bond	-	258,789
Multistrategy	217,869	182,783
Pacific/Asia Ex-Japan stk	-	129,709
Foreign large growth	183,603	249,316
Large blend	-	290,918
Small blend	186,038	247,109
Intermediate core-plus bond	372,609	298,193
Systematic trend	111,165	95,656
Short-term bond	108,244	-
Energy limited partnership	112,991	-
World allocation	198,929	-
	\$ 4,272,963	\$ 4,816,369
Total investments	\$ 4,272,963	\$ 4,816,369

**CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021**

**8. UTILITY PLANT:**

A summary of the utility plant at December 31, 2022 is as follows:

	<u>Balance January 1, 2022</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	<u>Balance December 31, 2022</u>
<i>Utility plant not being depreciated:</i>				
Land	\$ 807,063	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 807,063
Construction in process	9,781,950	2,372,479	(4,579,229)	7,575,200
<i>Total utility plant not being depreciated</i>	<u>10,589,013</u>	<u>2,372,479</u>	<u>(4,579,229)</u>	<u>8,382,263</u>
<i>Utility plant being depreciated:</i>				
Plant investment	79,841,618	4,648,220	(474,566)	84,015,272
Intangible plant	3,042,388	-	-	3,042,388
Office furniture and equipment	2,556,377	165,556	-	2,721,933
Transportation equipment	3,013,051	339,003	(21,318)	3,330,736
Communication equipment	5,674,964	146,909	-	5,821,873
Other	1,113,908	84,966	-	1,198,874
<i>Total utility plant being depreciated</i>	<u>95,242,306</u>	<u>5,384,654</u>	<u>(495,884)</u>	<u>100,131,076</u>
<i>Less accumulated depreciation for:</i>				
Plant investment	(40,487,078)	(2,143,047)	540,486	(42,089,639)
Intangible plant	(2,825,000)	(21,739)	-	(2,846,739)
Office furniture and equipment	(1,874,112)	(154,980)	-	(2,029,092)
Transportation equipment	(2,042,710)	(209,159)	21,318	(2,230,551)
Communication equipment	(3,196,792)	(288,058)	-	(3,484,850)
Other	(858,231)	(60,697)	-	(918,928)
<i>Total accumulated depreciation</i>	<u>(51,283,923)</u>	<u>(2,877,680)</u>	<u>561,804</u>	<u>(53,599,799)</u>
<i>Total utility plant being depreciated, net</i>	<u>43,958,383</u>	<u>2,506,974</u>	<u>65,920</u>	<u>46,531,277</u>
<b>Total utility plant, net</b>	<b>\$ <u>54,547,396</u></b>	<b>\$ <u>4,879,453</u></b>	<b>\$ <u>(4,513,309)</u></b>	<b>\$ <u>54,913,540</u></b>

## CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

#### 8. UTILITY PLANT:

A summary of the utility plant at December 31, 2021 is as follows:

	<u>Balance January 1, 2021</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	<u>Balance December 31, 2021</u>
<i>Utility plant not being depreciated:</i>				
Land	\$ 807,063	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 807,063
Construction in process	7,148,923	4,875,210	(2,242,183)	9,781,950
<i>Total utility plant not being depreciated</i>	<u>7,955,986</u>	<u>4,875,210</u>	<u>(2,242,183)</u>	<u>10,589,013</u>
<i>Utility plant being depreciated:</i>				
Plant investment	78,000,677	2,351,413	(510,472)	79,841,618
Intangible plant	2,825,000	217,388	-	3,042,388
Office furniture and equipment	2,413,668	142,709	-	2,556,377
Transportation equipment	3,176,722	121,159	(284,830)	3,013,051
Communication equipment	5,378,773	296,191	-	5,674,964
Other	1,069,937	43,971	-	1,113,908
<i>Total utility plant being depreciated</i>	<u>92,864,777</u>	<u>3,172,831</u>	<u>(795,302)</u>	<u>95,242,306</u>
<i>Less accumulated depreciation for:</i>				
Plant investment	(38,962,319)	(2,122,443)	597,684	(40,487,078)
Intangible plant	(2,825,000)	-	-	(2,825,000)
Office furniture and equipment	(1,730,412)	(143,700)	-	(1,874,112)
Transportation equipment	(2,065,339)	(262,201)	284,830	(2,042,710)
Communication equipment	(2,933,235)	(263,557)	-	(3,196,792)
Other	(800,734)	(57,497)	-	(858,231)
<i>Total accumulated depreciation</i>	<u>(49,317,039)</u>	<u>(2,849,398)</u>	<u>882,514</u>	<u>(51,283,923)</u>
<i>Total utility plant being depreciated, net</i>	<u>43,547,738</u>	<u>323,433</u>	<u>87,212</u>	<u>43,958,383</u>
Total utility plant, net	\$ <u>51,503,724</u>	\$ <u>5,198,643</u>	\$ <u>(2,154,971)</u>	\$ <u>54,547,396</u>

In 2022 and 2021, the Lighting Plant transferred \$4,579,229 and \$2,242,183, respectively, from construction in process to utility plant.

Depreciation expense for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 amounted to \$2,846,629 and \$2,728,896, respectively.

#### Intangible plant asset

Under FERC regulations, certain interconnect and other rights are included in utility plant – in service. As of December 31, 2022 and 2021, the cost was \$3,042,388, and accumulated amortization was \$2,846,739 and \$2,825,000, respectively.

## CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

#### 9. NONCURRENT LIABILITIES:

A summary of the changes in noncurrent liabilities as of December 31, 2022, is as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance	Amounts due within one year
Accrued compensated absences	\$ 1,748,617	\$ 784,365	\$ (737,860)	\$ 1,795,122	\$ 345,212
Deferred credits	2,383,854	878,868	(647,363)	2,615,359	1,029,094
Net other post-employment benefit liability	2,293,556	1,440,309	(951,798)	2,782,067	-
Net pension liability	3,944,313	-	(3,552,614)	391,699	-
Total	<u>\$ 10,370,340</u>	<u>\$ 3,103,542</u>	<u>\$ (5,889,635)</u>	<u>\$ 7,584,247</u>	<u>\$ 1,374,306</u>

A summary of the changes in noncurrent liabilities as of December 31, 2021, is as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance	Amounts due within one year
Accrued compensated absences	\$ 1,951,804	\$ 554,485	\$ (757,672)	\$ 1,748,617	\$ 296,023
Deferred credits	1,981,230	715,503	(312,879)	2,383,854	895,430
Net other post-employment benefit liability	2,866,455	617,716	(1,190,615)	2,293,556	-
Net pension liability	6,768,839	500,567	(3,325,093)	3,944,313	-
Total	<u>\$ 13,568,328</u>	<u>\$ 2,388,271</u>	<u>\$ (5,586,259)</u>	<u>\$ 10,370,340</u>	<u>\$ 1,191,453</u>

#### 10. PENSION PLANS:

##### Plan description

Qualifying employees of the Lighting Plant are members of the Chicopee Contributory Retirement System (“the System”). The System is a cost-sharing multiple-employer public employee retirement system administered by the Chicopee Retirement Board (“the Board”). Massachusetts General Laws (“MGL”), Chapter 32, assigns authority to establish the System and amend benefit provisions of the plan; which is regulated by the (Massachusetts) Public Employees Retirement Administration Commission (“PERAC”). The System is a defined benefit pension plan that covers substantially all employees of its member employers except for current and retired teachers. The System issues a publicly available financial report in accordance with guidelines established by the Massachusetts PERAC office. That report may be obtained by contacting the System at City Hall, Market Square, Chicopee, Massachusetts.

##### Benefits provided

The System provides retirement, disability, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Members become vested after 10 years of creditable service and are eligible for retirement allowance benefits up to a maximum of 80% of a member’s highest three-year average annual rate of regular compensation. Retirement benefits are determined as a percentage of the member’s final three-year (five-year for members hired on or after April 2, 2012) final average compensation times the member’s years of creditable service prior to retirement. The percentage is based on the age of the member at retirement and his or her Group classification. The authority for amending these provisions rests with the Massachusetts Legislature.

# CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

### 10. PENSION PLANS: (CONTINUED)

Employees who resign from service and who are not eligible to receive a retirement allowance or are under the age of 55 are entitled to request a refund of their accumulated total deductions. Survivor benefits are extended to eligible beneficiaries of members whose death occurs prior to or following retirement.

Cost of living adjustments granted between 1981 and 1997 and any increases in other benefits imposed by the Commonwealth's State law during those years are borne by the Commonwealth and are deposited into the pension fund. Cost-of-living adjustments granted after 1997 must be approved by the Board and are borne by the System.

As of the last valuation date of January 1, 2021, the plan covered 73 active employees, no inactive employees, and 47 retired employees of the Lighting Plant.

#### Contributions

MGL Chapter 32 governs the contributions of plan members and the Lighting Plant. Plan members are required to contribute to the System at rates ranging from 5% to 9% based upon their membership date of gross regular compensation with an additional 2% contribution after exceeding \$30,000 in annual covered compensation. The Lighting Plant is required to pay into the System its share of the system-wide actuarial determined contribution that is apportioned among the employers based on active current payroll. Administrative expenses are funded through investment earnings. The Lighting Plant's proportionate share of the required contribution to the System for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 was \$1,856,687 and \$1,905,449, respectively, representing 33.0% and 34.9% of the covered payroll, an actuarially determined amount that, when combined with plan member contributions, is expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by plan members during the year and an additional amount to finance any unfunded accrued liability.

#### Pension liability

As of December 31, 2022 and 2021, a reported liability of \$391,699 and \$3,944,313 was the Lighting Plant's proportionate share of the net pension liability measured as of December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2020, respectively. The net pension liability as of December 31, 2022, was determined using the total pension liability and the actuarial assumptions as of January 1, 2021, and updated to the measurement date of December 31, 2021. This net pension liability is based on the Lighting Plant's proportional percentage of 9.29% at December 31, 2021. The net pension liability as of December 31, 2021 was determined using the total pension liability and the actuarial assumptions as of January 1, 2019, and updated to the measurement date of December 31, 2020. This net pension liability is based on the Lighting Plant's proportional percentage of 9.82% at December 31, 2020. Certain prior year changes in net pension liability are amortized on a straight-line basis over 5 years.

#### Expense, deferred outflows of resources, and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions

For the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, the Lighting Plant recognized pension (credit) expense of \$25,390 and \$585,862, respectively, and reported deferred outflows related to pensions of \$4,689,265 and \$1,438,971, respectively, and deferred inflows related to pensions of \$5,544,272 and \$2,188,012, respectively.



**CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021**

**10. PENSION PLANS: (CONTINUED)**

**Expense, deferred outflows of resources, and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions (continued)**

Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions at December 31, 2022 and 2021, consist of the following:

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 977,015	\$ 10,533
Changes of assumptions	2,556,194	1,080,990
Difference between projected and actual earnings on investments	373,885	-
Differences between employer's contributions and proportionate share	782,171	347,448
Total	\$ 4,689,265	\$ 1,438,971

Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions at December 31, 2022 and 2021, consist of the following:

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 513,722	\$ 232,152
Differences between employer's contributions and proportionate share	371,099	65,071
Changes of assumptions	471,772	-
Difference between projected and actual earnings on investments	4,187,679	1,890,789
Total	\$ 5,544,272	\$ 2,188,012

For the year ended December 31, 2022, the net difference between projected and actual earnings on investments is a deferred inflow of \$3,813,794.

The Lighting Plant's deferred outflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in the pension expense as follows:

<u>For years ended December 31,</u>	
2023	\$ 1,839,687
2024	1,182,696
2025	861,160
2026	535,838
2027	269,884
	\$ 4,689,265

The Lighting Plant's deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in the pension expense as follows:

<u>For years ended December 31,</u>	
2023	\$ 1,628,398
2024	1,566,208
2025	1,330,782
2026	885,637
2027	133,247
	\$ 5,544,272

# CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

### 10. PENSION PLANS: (CONTINUED)

#### Actuarial assumptions

The total pension liability at December 31, 2022 was determined by an actuarial valuation as of January 1, 2021, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement that was updated December 31, 2021:

Valuation date:	January 1, 2021
Actuarial cost method:	Individual Entry Age Normal
Amortization method:	2.50% contribution increases
Asset valuation method:	Market value adjusted for payables and receivables adjusted to phase in investment gains compared to the expected market value and losses evenly over 5 years. The asset valuation method adjusts the results to no less than 90% and no more than 110% of the market value of assets adjusted for payables and receivables.
Investment rate of return:	7.25% per year.
Projected salary increase:	Group 1 & 2 – 6.75% increases for years 1-6, 3.25% all other years. Fire – 9.50% increase for year 1; 9.25% for year 2; 14.25% for year 3; 6.25% for year 16; 7.25% for year 25; 3.75% for all other years. Police – 5.70% years 1-13, 4.00% all other years
Cost of living adjustments:	3.0% of first \$15,000.
Mortality rates:	RP-2014 adjusted to 2006 and projected generationally with MP-2020 (sex distinct). During employment, the healthy employee mortality table is used. Post-employment, the healthy annuitant table is used. Mortality for disabled retirees follows the same table as non-disabled retirees, set forward 2 years. Death is assumed to be due to the same cause as the disability 40% of the time.

## CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

#### 10. PENSION PLANS: (CONTINUED)

##### Actuarial assumptions

The total pension liability at December 31, 2021 was determined by an actuarial valuation as of January 1, 2019, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement that was updated December 31, 2020:

Valuation date:	January 1, 2019
Actuarial cost method:	Individual Entry Age Normal
Amortization method:	2.50% contribution increases
Asset valuation method:	Market value adjusted for payables and receivables adjusted to phase in investment gains compared to the expected market value and losses evenly over 5 years. The asset valuation method adjusts the results to no less than 90% and no more than 110% of the market value of assets adjusted for payables and receivables.
Investment rate of return:	7.25% per year.
Projected salary increase:	Group 1 & 2 – 6.75% increases for years 1-6, 3.25% all other years. Fire – 9.50% increase for year 1; 9.25% for year 2; 14.25% for year 3; 6.25% for year 16; 7.25% for year 25; 3.75% for all other years. Police – 5.70% years 1-13, 4.00% all other years
Cost of living adjustments:	3.0% of first \$15,000.
Mortality rates:	RP-2014 adjusted to 2006 and projected generationally with MP-2016 (sex distinct). During employment, the healthy employee mortality table is used. Post-employment, the healthy annuitant table is used. Mortality for disabled retirees follows the same table as non-disabled retirees, set forward 2 years. Death is assumed to be due to the same cause as the disability 40% of the time.

##### Long-term expected rate of return

The long-term expected real rate of return reflects the expected rate of return on plan assets minus the expected rate of inflation. Note that the discount rate includes the effect of inflation. The long-term real rate of return removes the effect of inflation on the return amounts. It is a long-term assumption and is meant to reflect a best estimate of future experience, based on the expected asset allocation. The allocation percentages on the following page are based on information provided by the Chicopee Retirement System and their investment manager, SEI. The real rates of return below are based on estimates provided by SEI, adjusted using their 2.5% inflation assumption.

# CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

### 10. PENSION PLANS: (CONTINUED)

Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major class included in the pension plan's target asset allocation as of December 31, 2021 and 2020 measurement dates are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	2021		2020	
	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Emerging Markets Equity	3.0%	6.55%	3.0%	7.00%
World Equity ex-US	18.0%	5.20%	18.0%	6.65%
US Private Equity	4.0%	8.69%	8.0%	8.96%
Core Fixed Income	10.0%	1.91%	10.0%	3.94%
U.S. High Yield	4.0%	3.47%	4.0%	5.19%
Emerging Markets Debt	3.0%	4.78%	3.0%	6.10%
Non-Directional Hedge	9.0%	3.30%	9.0%	4.46%
Diversified Short Term Fixed Income	3.0%	1.61%	3.0%	2.95%
Structured Credit	5.0%	5.41%	5.0%	7.82%
S&P 500 Index	15.0%	4.19%	15.0%	5.37%
Dynamic Asset Allocation	5.0%	6.54%	5.0%	7.63%
Composite Real Estate	5.0%	3.15%	5.0%	6.79%
Private Real Estate	5.0%	3.15%	5.0%	4.68%
Global Private Assets	4.0%	8.65%	0.0%	0.00%
US Small/Mid Cap Equity Index	7.0%	5.06%	7.0%	5.37%
Total	100.0%		100.0%	

#### Rate of return

As of the December 31, 2021 and 2020 measurement dates, the annual money-weighted rate of return (which expresses investment performance), net of investment expense was 14.29% and 12.09%, respectively.

#### Discount rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.25%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from participating employers will be made based on the actuarial determined rates based on the Board's funding policy, which establishes the contractually required rates by Statute and in accordance with Section 22D and Section 22F of MGL Chapter 32. Based on those assumptions, the System's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to 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 net pension liability to changes in the discount rate

The following presents the Lighting Plant's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.25%, as well as at discount rates 1-percentage-point lower (6.25%) and 1-percentage-point higher (8.25%):

	1% Decrease (6.25%)	Current Discount Rate (7.25%)	1% Increase (8.25%)
12/31/22 Lighting Plant's net pension liability	\$ 5,185,375	\$ 391,699	\$ (3,658,659)
12/31/21 Lighting Plant's net pension liability	\$ 8,869,625	\$ 3,944,313	\$ (203,295)

# CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

### 11. OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (“OPEB”):

#### Plan description

The Lighting Plant offers medical insurance benefits to eligible retirees (and their surviving spouse) via participation in plans offered by the City and the Chicopee Retirement System with benefits provided by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts and Health New England. The System is a defined benefit cost-sharing multiple-employer public employee retirement system administered by the Board. The Lighting Plant obtains an individual actuarial valuation which shows their proportionate share of the NOL. Premiums are calculated based on prior year claim experiences and amounts needed to fund the plan operations.

#### Plan information

These plans issue publicly available financial reports that include financial statements and required supplementary information. The reports may be obtained by contacting:

Chicopee Contributory Retirement System  
City Hall, Market Square  
Chicopee, Massachusetts 01013-2685

#### Plan membership

The OPEB valuation dated January 1, 2022 covers the year ended December 31, 2022. The OPEB valuation dated January 1, 2020 covers the year ended December 31, 2021. The number of participants as of the valuation dates are as follows:

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Current active members	73	71
Current retirees, beneficiaries and dependents	47	50
Total	<u>120</u>	<u>121</u>

#### Actuarial assumptions and methods

The total OPEB liability as of December 31, 2022 was determined by an actuarial valuation as of January 1, 2022, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement that was updated for the reporting date of December 31, 2022, unless otherwise specified:

Valuation date:	January 1, 2022
Actuarial cost method:	Entry Age Normal
Single Equivalent Discount rate:	6.00% annually, net of investment expenses
Participant salary increases:	Rate of 6.75% for years 1-6; then 3.25% annually; 2.50% CPI-U
Healthcare cost trend rates:	Varies

# CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

### 11. OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (“OPEB”): (CONTINUED)

#### Actuarial assumptions and methods (continued)

Mortality rates: Actives: RP-2014 Headcount-weighted Mortality Tables adjusted to 2006, sex-distinct, for Employees projected using generational mortality and scale MP-2021.  
Retirees: RP-2014 Headcount-weighted Mortality Tables adjusted to 2006, sex-distinct, for Healthy Annuitants projected using generational mortality and scale MP-2021.  
Disabled: RP-2014 Headcount-weighted Mortality Tables adjusted to 2006, sex-distinct, for Healthy Annuitants projected using generational mortality and scale MP-2021. Set forward 2 years.

The actuarial assumptions which used the January 1, 2022, actuarial valuation and market value of assets as of the measurement date of December 31, 2022 were reflective of published municipal bond indices. The 20-year Municipal General Obligation bond rate of 3.72% per the Bond Buyer 20 Bond Index was used.

The total OPEB liability as of December 31, 2021 was determined by an actuarial valuation as of January 1, 2020, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement that was updated for the reporting date of December 31, 2021, unless otherwise specified:

Valuation date:	January 1, 2020
Actuarial cost method:	Entry Age Normal
Single Equivalent Discount rate:	6.00% annually, net of investment expenses
Participant salary increases:	Rate of 3.25% annually and 2.50% CPI-U
Healthcare cost trend rates:	Varies
Mortality rates:	Actives: RP-2014 Mortality Tables adjusted to 2006, sex-distinct, for Employees projected using generational mortality and scale MP-2020. Retirees: RP-2014 Mortality Tables adjusted to 2006, sex-distinct, for Healthy Annuitants projected using generational mortality and scale MP-2020. Disabled: RP-2014 Mortality Tables adjusted to 2006, sex-distinct, for Healthy Annuitants projected using generational mortality and scale MP-2020. Set forward 2 years.

The actuarial assumptions which used the January 1, 2020, actuarial valuation and market value of assets as of the measurement date of December 31, 2021 were reflective of published municipal bond indices. The 20-year Municipal General Obligation bond rate of 2.12% per the Bond Buyer 20 Bond Index was used.

# CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

### 11. OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (“OPEB”): (CONTINUED)

#### Long-term expected rate of return

The long-term expected real rate of return reflects the expected rate of return on plan assets adjusted for the expected rate of inflation. Note that the discount rate includes the effect of inflation. The long-term real rate of return removes the effect of inflation on the return amounts. It is a long-term assumption and is meant to reflect a best estimate of future experience, based on the expected asset allocation. The allocation percentages are based on information provided by the Chicopee Electric Light Department and the asset consultant. For the year ended December 31, 2022, the long-term expected real rate of return was based on 20-year real return estimates published in the Horizon Survey of Capital Market Assumptions, 2021 Edition. For the year ended December 31, 2021, the long-term expected real rate of return was based on information published by New England Pension Consultants, advisors to the Massachusetts Pension Reserves Investment Management “PRIM” Board.

Asset Class	2022		2021	
	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Domestic Equity – Large Cap	33.10%	4.55%	33.10%	4.32%
Domestic Equity – Small/Med Cap	16.30%	4.39%	16.30%	4.71%
International Equity	9.90%	4.19%	9.90%	4.80%
Domestic Bonds	29.20%	2.05%	29.20%	0.98%
International Bonds	3.00%	2.05%	3.00%	0.02%
Infrastructure	1.90%	3.80%	1.90%	4.46%
Alternatives/ Managed Futures	6.10%	3.80%	6.10%	4.54%
Cash	0.50%	0.00%	0.50%	0.00%
Total	<u>100.0%</u>		<u>100.0%</u>	

**CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021**

**11. OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (“OPEB”): (CONTINUED)**

	<b>Changes in Net OPEB Liability Increase (Decrease)</b>		
	<b>Total OPEB Liability (a)</b>	<b>Plan Fiduciary Net Position (b)</b>	<b>NOL (a) – (b)</b>
Balances at January 1, 2021	\$ 7,128,738	\$ 4,262,283	\$ 2,866,455
Service cost	190,700	-	190,700
Interest on total OPEB liability	427,016	-	427,016
Net investment income	-	560,593	(560,593)
Contributions – employer	-	630,022	(630,022)
Benefit payments, including refunds of employee contributions	(405,022)	(405,022)	-
Net changes	212,694	785,593	(572,899)
Balances at December 31, 2021	7,341,432	5,047,876	2,293,556
Service cost	197,852	-	197,852
Interest on total OPEB liability	440,938	-	440,938
Net investment income	-	(748,067)	748,067
Contributions – employer	-	830,645	(830,645)
Benefit payments, including refunds of employee contributions	(380,645)	(380,645)	-
Differences between expected and actual experience	53,452	-	53,452
Change in assumptions	(121,153)	-	(121,153)
Net changes	190,444	(298,067)	488,511
Balances at December 31, 2022	\$ 7,531,876	\$ 4,749,809	\$ 2,782,067

**Discount rate**

The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability as of December 31, 2022 and 2021 was 6.00%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that plan member contributions will be made at the current contribution rates and that member employer contributions will be made in accordance Massachusetts General Law Chapter 32. Based on those assumptions, the OPEB plan fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total OPEB liability.



**CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021**

**11. OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (“OPEB”): (CONTINUED)**

**Sensitivity of the NOL to changes in the discount rate**

The following presents the Lighting Plant’s net OPEB liability calculated at the valuation discount rates of 6.00% (2022 and 2021) as well as at discount rates 1-percentage-point lower and 1-percentage-point higher:

2022	1% Decrease (5.00%)	Current Discount Rate (6.00%)	1% Increase (7.00%)
Lighting Plant's net OPEB liability	\$ 3,736,011	\$ 2,782,067	\$ 1,996,041

  

2021	1% Decrease (5.00%)	Current Discount Rate (6.00%)	1% Increase (7.00%)
Lighting Plant's net OPEB liability	\$ 3,243,484	\$ 2,293,556	\$ 1,515,120

**Sensitivity of the NOL to changes in the healthcare trend rates**

The actuarial assumptions included an 8.82% healthcare cost trend rate reduced by decrements to an ultimate rate of 5% after 19 years (2022) and an 8.00% healthcare cost trend rate reduced by decrements to an ultimate rate of 5% after 6 years (2021). The following table presents the effect of a 1-percentage-point decrease and 1-percentage-point increase in the assumed rates of healthcare cost trend in each year:

2022	1% Decrease (7.82%)	Current Discount Rate (8.82%)	1% Increase (9.82%)
Lighting Plant's net OPEB liability	\$ 1,834,932	\$ 2,782,067	\$ 3,964,800

  

2021	1% Decrease (7.00%)	Current Discount Rate (8.00%)	1% Increase (9.00%)
Lighting Plant's net OPEB liability	\$ 1,288,279	\$ 2,293,556	\$ 3,555,285

**Expense and deferred inflows & outflows of resources related to OPEB**

For the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, the Lighting Plant recognized an OPEB expense of \$203,493 and \$29,828, respectively.

The Lighting Plant’s deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB at December 31 consist of the following:

	2022	2021
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 45,902	\$ -
Changes of assumptions	-	-
Net differences between projected and actual earnings on investments	855,152	76,010
Total	\$ 901,054	\$ 76,010

**CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021**

**11. OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (“OPEB”): (CONTINUED)**

The Lighting Plant’s deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in the OPEB expense as follows:

For years ended December 31,		
2023	\$	221,338
2024		221,338
2025		221,338
2026		221,338
2027		7,550
Thereafter		8,152
	\$	<u>901,054</u>

The Lighting Plant’s deferred inflow of resources related to OPEB at December 31 consist of the following:

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ (216,670)	\$ (320,340)
Changes of assumptions	(349,814)	(377,540)
Net differences between projected and actual earnings on investments	(305,412)	(464,633)
Total	\$ <u>(871,896)</u>	\$ <u>(1,162,513)</u>

The Lighting Plant’s deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in the OPEB expense as follows:

For years ended December 31,		
2023	\$	(411,771)
2024		(319,178)
2025		(88,242)
2026		(17,112)
2027		(17,112)
Thereafter		(18,481)
	\$	<u>(871,896)</u>

**Contributions**

There is no statutory actuarially determined contribution. OPEB contributions are elective and not required. For the year ended December 31, 2022, contributions totaled \$830,645, including a receivable of \$450,000 at the measurement date that is shown on the accompanying fiduciary fund statements of fiduciary net position. The corresponding payable from the Lighting Plant to the OPEB Trust is shown as a current liability on the accompanying proprietary fund statements of net position. For the year ended December 31, 2021, contributions totaled \$630,022, including a payment of \$225,000 made subsequent to the measurement date.

# CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

### 12. RESERVE FOR RATE STABILIZATION:

The Electric Light Commission, in their capacity as the governing body for the Lighting Plant, has taken various regulatory actions that result in differences between the recognition of revenues and expenses for rate-making purposes and their treatment under generally accepted accounting principles. Rate stabilization is intended to defer the need for future rate increases when costs exceed existing rates. At the direction of the Electric Light Commission, amounts may be either transferred into this fund (which reduces revenues), or amounts are transferred out of this fund (which increases revenues). The Electric Light Commission authorizes rate stabilization fund transfers on an event driven basis.

During 2022 and 2021, the Lighting Plant used these funds to offset power costs. The Lighting Plant decreased the reserve liability by \$2,525,000 and \$3,600,000 during 2022 and 2021, respectively. The balance remaining to offset future costs is \$11,698,576 and \$14,223,576 as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

### 13. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES:

#### Purchased power and transmission contracts

The Lighting Plant signed a 5-year extension to the Electricity Supply Agreement with Ameresco Chicopee Energy, LLC, from February 2019 to February 2024, for the purchase of 100% of the energy (up to 7.6 Mw of electric power).

The Lighting Plant signed a 20-year purchase power agreement for 10% of the output from the Thomas A. Watson Generating Station (the "Station") located in Braintree, Massachusetts, which began commercial operations in June 2009. The Station is estimated to be 116 Mw winter rating and is a peaking plant. The contract is for 10% of the capacity and energy of the plant.

In October 2013, the Lighting Plant signed an agreement with Ashuelot River Hydro through MMWEC for 47.5% of the power. The total capacity of the two facilities is approximately 1.7 Mw. The contract expired on December 31, 2021.

The Lighting Plant signed a 20-year agreement with Chicopee Solar, LLC for the purchase of 3 Mw of solar energy and capacity from the facility. The agreement was signed on March 18, 2013 and amended on June 3, 2013. The facility started producing energy on December 27, 2013.

The Lighting Plant signed a 20-year agreement known as Special Project 2013B with Eagle Creek Renewable Energy, LLC through MMWEC. The agreement was signed on December 26, 2013 for power beginning on January 1, 2014. The original agreement called for approximately 1.826 Mw of hydro energy from the Eagle Creek assets. In July 2014, the Clement Dam was added to the Eagle Creek asset increasing the entitlement to 2.5Mw.

The Lighting Plant signed a 25 year agreement known as Special Project 2013C with Hancock Wind, LLC through MMWEC. The project is for a 35 Mw wind project located in Maine. The project began commercial operation on December 14, 2016. The Lighting Plant will purchase 16.085% of the output or approximately 5.63 Mw.

# CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

### 13. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES: (CONTINUED)

#### Purchased power and transmission contracts (continued)

The Lighting Plant signed a 20 year agreement with Chicopee River Solar, LLC for the purchase of 2.2 Mw of solar energy and capacity from the facility. The agreement was signed on April 28, 2014. The facility started producing energy on December 30, 2014.

The Lighting Plant signed a 20-year agreement with Chicopee Granby Road Solar, LLC for the purchase of 1.7 Mw of solar energy and capacity from the facility. The agreement was signed on July 17, 2014. The facility started producing energy on December 30, 2014.

The Lighting Plant signed a 25-year agreement with CED Chicopee Solar, LLC for the purchase of 3.0 Mw of solar energy and capacity from the facility. The agreement was signed on November 22, 2016. The facility started producing energy on April 7, 2017.

The Lighting Plant signed a 20-year agreement with Southern Sky Renewable Energy Chicopee, LLC for the purchase of 2.0 Mw of solar energy and capacity from the facility. The agreement was signed on September 20, 2016. The facility started producing energy in April 2017.

The Lighting Plant also secured capacity agreements through MMWEC to purchase capacity for June 2019 through May 2024 to meet its forward capacity requirements.

The Lighting Plant, through MMWEC, purchased 2.0 MW of around-the-clock (ATC) energy with the associated Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) from Hydro Quebec in October 2020 for the period November 2020 through October 2025.

The Lighting Plant, through MMWEC, purchased 2.0 MW of around-the-clock (ATC) energy with the associated Renewable Energy Credits from Brookfield Hydro in October 2020 for the period January 2024 through December 2028.

The Lighting Plant, through MMWEC, purchased 5.0 MW of around-the-clock (ATC) energy with the associated Renewable Energy Credits from Brookfield Hydro in March 2022 for the period January 2024 through December 2033.

The Lighting Plant, through MWWEC, purchased a 5-year strip of Maine Class II REC's (50,000) in July 2021, starting in year 2021 through 2025.

The Lighting Plant, through MMWEC, purchased a 10-year strip of Maine Class II REC's (15,000) in July 2021, starting in year 2021 through 2030.

The Lighting Plant signed a 25-year agreement with Holiday Hill Community Wind LLC for the purchase of 3.4 Mw of wind energy and capacity from the facility. The agreement was signed on September 28, 2018. The facility started producing energy on January 7, 2020.

# CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

### 13. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES: (CONTINUED)

#### Purchased power and transmission contracts (continued)

The Lighting Plant signed a Power Sales Agreement with Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company for the purchase of .5 Mw of wind energy and capacity from the Berkshire Wind facility. The agreement was signed on June 26, 2018. The facility started producing energy in November 2019.

The Lighting Plant signed a Power Sales Agreement with Berkshire Wind for the purchase of .75 Mw of wind energy and capacity from the facility. The agreement was signed on June 25, 2018. The facility started producing energy in November 2019.

The Lighting Plant signed a Power Sales Agreement with MMWEC for the purchase of 2.67 M of energy and capacity from Special Project 2015A, a Peaking Project located in Peabody Massachusetts. The agreement was signed on February 2, 2019, and is expected to be online in 2023.

None of the entities with which the Lighting Plant has contracted with are related parties or component units of the Lighting Plant.

Future annual commitments for power purchases are as follows:

December 31, 2023	\$	32,370,820
2024		29,509,770
2025		23,206,690
2026		8,857,060
2027		8,885,840
Commitments beyond 2028		<u>62,426,823</u>
Total	\$	<u>165,257,003</u>

In addition to the previously identified multi-year contracts, MMWEC purchases, on the Lighting Plant's behalf, as part of a power hedging strategy, many short-term contracts (month-to-month) to cover individual months to help stabilize the Lighting Plant's power costs. The value of these purchases are summarized as follows:

2023	\$	20,628,665
2024		14,123,763
2025		10,791,732

#### Deregulation

The Lighting Plant maintains the exclusive rights to supply electricity in the City. If the Lighting Plant were to open its geographic borders and allow competition from other providers, the potential impact on the Lighting Plant's revenue cannot be reasonably estimated.

# CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

### 13. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES: (CONTINUED)

#### Environmental matters

The Lighting Plant is subject to regulation by federal, state and local authorities with respect to air and water quality, handling and disposal of toxic substances and hazardous and solid wastes, and handling and use of chemical products. The Lighting Plant could incur significant additional environmental costs associated with the operation of its own system, through ownership interests in joint ventures or through long-term contractual arrangements with other electric generating and transmitting entities.

The Lighting Plant could also encounter significant costs to remedy the environmental effects of prior waste handling activities. The extent of future environmental cleanup costs including environmental remediation costs is not estimable due to factors such as the unknown magnitude of possible contamination, the appropriate remediation methods, the possible effects of future legislation or regulation, and the possible effects of technological changes related to future cleanup and the difficulty of determining future liability, if any, for cleanup of sites at which the Lighting Plant has or may be designated a potentially responsible party by the Environmental Protection Agency or other agencies. However, considering known facts, existing laws, regulatory practices, and possible insurance and rate treatment, management does not believe such matters will have a material adverse effect on the Lighting Plant's financial position.

#### Self insurance

The Lighting Plant is self insured for workers compensation as part of the City. The Lighting Plant reimburses the City for any claims paid.

The Lighting Plant has general liability insurance coverage through the Public Utility Mutual Insurance Company with a \$100,000 deductible.

The Lighting Plant has had no amount of settlements exceeding insurance coverage for each of the past three years.

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Unpaid claims, beginning of year	\$ 51,062	\$ 163,717
Incurred claims and adjustments (including IBNR's)	15,184	124,039
Claim payments	(10,482)	(236,694)
Unpaid claims, end of year	<u>\$ 55,764</u>	<u>\$ 51,062</u>

#### Hydro-Quebec

Under the Hydro-Quebec support agreement, the Lighting Plant provides support payments to cover its pro rata share of costs relating to the Phase II facilities. Support payments totaled \$236,817 and \$179,127, respectively, for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021. In the event the project facilities are removed from commercial operation, the Lighting Plant is contractually committed to pay its pro rata share of the net investment in the project. The Lighting Plant has agreed to guarantee its share of project debt. The agreement contains a step-up mechanism, which requires participants to assume obligations of other participants who are in default, subject to certain limitations. The Lighting Plant's potential liability cannot be reasonably estimated at this time.

# CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

### 13. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES: (CONTINUED)

#### Construction programs

The Lighting Plant has budgeted construction expenditures of approximately \$7,405,000 for 2023 of which approximately \$698,959 has been committed as of December 31, 2022. These expenditures are subject to change.

#### Westover Air Reserve Base

The Lighting Plant has a 50 year contract, expiring in May 2058, with the United States Defense Energy Support Center to acquire, maintain, and operate the electrical distribution system at Westover Air Reserve Base located in Chicopee, MA. The Lighting Plant assumed the operating assets of the system, which were recorded at approximately \$2,852,000, and are responsible for the continued maintenance of the operating system. The Lighting Plant receives \$27,433 monthly, of which \$8,473 is for future replacement costs and is recorded as part of deferred credits until earned.

#### Chicopee Hydro Facility

The contract to operate and maintain the Hydro Facility with Ware River Power was executed in 2021 and the existing term will expire on August 31, 2023. The monthly fee for operations and maintenance services is \$11,000 per month and will increase to \$17,000 per month in mid-2024. A major capital improvement project – Penstock replacement – is being planned for 2024 with an estimated cost of \$2.5 million. The replacement of the two steel penstocks will allow the plant to return to operation by the end of 2024.

#### Advanced Metering Infrastructure (“AMI”)

The Lighting Plant completed the purchase and installation of the AMI System in 2022 at an approximate cost of \$4.5 million. The City, through an inter-department agreement, will pay the Lighting Plant approximately \$800,000 for their share of the capital portion of the project. The agreement also obligates the City to pay their portion of the annual operation and maintenance costs associated with the system going forward.

#### Future investments in capital assets and inventory

The Lighting Plant has entered into several agreements to purchase capital assets and inventory that will not be received until future years due to extended lead-times. The Lighting Plant expects that the cost of the items expected to be received in 2024 will total approximately \$1,903,000 and the cost of the items expected to be received in 2025 will total approximately \$468,400.

#### Coronavirus

The COVID-19 outbreak in the United States has caused significant business disruption. In response to this outbreak the Lighting Plant received an order from the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (the “DPU”) stating that, until the state of emergency related to the Coronavirus is lifted, or the Lighting Plant receives further communication from the DPU, the Lighting Plant shall not shut off utility service to any customer for failure to pay. The DPU lifted COVID disconnect protection on May 1, 2022 and the Lighting Plant started disconnecting effective May 5<sup>th</sup>. By early fall, outstanding collectibles were down to pre-pandemic levels. On October 19, 2021 the Lighting Plant received a payment, in the amount of \$1,473,013 from Valley Opportunity Council (COVID related supplemental funds) to be applied against existing or future balances of 2,537 customers who previously applied for fuel assistance. This was a one-time payment for 2021 and thus was not received during the year ended December 31, 2022.

# CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

### 14. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS:

The Lighting Plant provides electric sales and service to the City. Total electric sales were \$3,181,134 and \$2,561,363 for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively. Amounts due from the City totaled \$310,911 and \$377,774 as of December 31, 2022 and 2021.

In lieu of tax payments made to the City for their fiscal years ended June 30, 2022 and 2021 were \$618,000 and \$600,000, respectively, in addition to \$140,000 for the Chicopee Hydro facility, which is paid annually. The Lighting Plant is required by the City to pay \$25,000 for telecom support for their fiscal years ended June 30, 2022 and 2021, which is included within the \$618,000 and \$600,000, respectively. The Lighting Plant accrued the remaining contributions for in lieu of taxes to the City of \$382,500 for the Lighting Plant's fiscal years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021. Effective January 2023, the Lighting Plant agreed to maintain the in lieu of tax payments made to the City of \$618,000 plus the \$140,000 for the Chicopee Hydro facility (\$758,000 total).

### 15. COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS:

Forty-five (45) percent of the Lighting Plant's labor force is covered under a collective bargaining agreement between the Lighting Plant and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers – Local 455. The agreement expired June 30, 2020 and was extended for one year through June 30, 2021. A new contract was approved by the Union and approved and signed by the Municipal Light Board on July 26, 2021. The agreement was retroactive to July 1, 2021 and runs through June 30, 2024.

### 16. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS:

Management has evaluated subsequent events through July 12, 2023, the date on which the financial statements were available to be issued.



**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
(UNAUDITED)**

CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT  
 REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (UNAUDITED)  
 PENSION PLAN SCHEDULES  
 CHICOPEE CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

The Schedule of Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability presents multiyear trend information relating to the Lighting Plant's proportion of the net pension liability and related ratios.

Schedule of the Lighting Plant's proportionate share of the net pension liability:

Measurement date	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
	12/31/21	12/31/20	12/31/19	12/31/18	12/31/17	12/31/16	12/31/15	12/31/14
Lighting Plant's share of the net pension liability	9.29%	9.82%	9.78%	9.36%	9.08%	9.32%	9.09%	9.08%
Lighting Plant's proportionate share net pension liability	\$ 391,699	\$ 3,944,313	\$ 6,768,839	\$ 9,248,776	\$ 6,324,580	\$ 8,306,267	\$ 9,247,679	\$ 7,581,910
Lighting Plant's share of covered payroll**	\$ 5,567,630	\$ 5,405,065	\$ 5,188,842	\$ 5,184,185	\$ 4,967,207	\$ 5,049,199	\$ 4,842,522	\$ 4,868,210
Net pension liability percentage of covered payroll	7.0%	73.0%	130.4%	178.4%	127.3%	164.5%	191.0%	155.7%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	99.1%	90.9%	83.9%	75.8%	82.1%	75.6%	71.3%	74.2%

Note: these schedules are intended to present information for 10 years. Until a 10-year trend is compiled, the information is presented for those years of which the information is available. GASB No. 68 does not require this schedule to be restated with historical information.

\*\*Indicates covered payroll as reported in the retirement system valuation report

**CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT**  
**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (UNAUDITED)**  
**PENSION PLAN SCHEDULES**  
**CHICOPEE CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT SYSTEM**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022**

The Schedule of Employer Contributions presents multiyear trend information relating to the Lighting Plant's required and actual payments to the pension plan and related ratios.

Schedule of the Lighting Plant's contributions:	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Measurement date	12/31/21	12/31/20	12/31/19	12/31/18	12/31/17	12/31/16	12/31/15	12/31/14
Actuarially determined contribution *	\$ 1,856,687	\$ 1,905,449	\$ 1,778,849	\$ 1,655,238	\$ 1,565,720	\$ 1,567,045	\$ 1,509,929	\$ 1,440,497
Less: Contributions in relation to the actuarially determined contribution	<u>1,876,512</u>	<u>1,926,112</u>	<u>1,826,023</u>	<u>1,698,082</u>	<u>1,610,081</u>	<u>1,575,770</u>	<u>1,517,403</u>	<u>1,440,497</u>
Contribution excess	<u>\$ (19,825)</u>	<u>\$ (20,663)</u>	<u>\$ (47,174)</u>	<u>\$ (42,844)</u>	<u>\$ (44,361)</u>	<u>\$ (8,725)</u>	<u>\$ (7,474)</u>	<u>\$ —</u>
Lighting Plant's share of covered payroll**	\$ 5,567,630	\$ 5,405,065	\$ 5,188,842	\$ 5,184,185	\$ 4,967,207	\$ 5,049,199	\$ 4,842,522	\$ 4,868,210
Contributions percentage of covered payroll	33.0%	34.9%	34.5%	32.1%	32.4%	31.2%	31.3%	29.6%

Note: these schedules are intended to present information for 10 years. Until a 10-year trend is compiled, the information is presented for those years of which the information is available. GASB No. 68 does not require this schedule to be restated with historical information.

\* Based on the results of the actuarial valuation (including assumptions and methods) as reported for the City's fiscal year ended June 30.

\*\*Indicates covered payroll as reported in the retirement system valuation report.

**CHICOPEE MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT**

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (UNAUDITED)  
OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT PLAN SCHEDULE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022**

**OPEB liability:**

	12/31/2022	12/31/2021	12/31/2020	12/31/2019	12/31/2018
Total OPEB liability	\$ 7,531,876	\$ 7,341,432	\$ 7,128,738	\$ 7,670,522	\$ 7,948,608
Less: Plan fiduciary net position	(4,749,809)	(5,047,876)	(4,262,283)	(3,551,086)	(2,788,268)
Lighting Plant's net OPEB liability	<u>\$ 2,782,067</u>	<u>\$ 2,293,556</u>	<u>\$ 2,866,455</u>	<u>\$ 4,119,436</u>	<u>\$ 5,160,340</u>
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability	63.1%	68.8%	59.8%	46.3%	35.1%
Lighting Plant's share of covered payroll	\$ 6,138,873	\$ 5,738,249	\$ 5,659,237	\$ 5,213,888	\$ 5,037,573
Participating employer net OPEB liability as a percentage of covered payroll	45.3%	40.0%	50.7%	79.0%	102.4%

**Actuarial assumptions and methods:**

Valuation date:	January 1, 2022 for measurement date December 31, 2022 January 1, 2020 for the measurement date December 31, 2021 and 2020 January 1, 2018 for the measurement dates December 31, 2019 and 2018
Actuarial cost method:	Entry age normal
Discount rate:	6.00% annually, net of investment expenses (2022, 2021 & 2020) 6.25% annually, net of investment expenses (2019 & 2018)
Participant salary increases:	3.25% annually and 2.50% CPI-U (2022, 2021 & 2020) 3.50% annually and 2.50% CPI-U (2019 & 2018)
Healthcare cost trend rates:	Varies
Mortality rates (2022):	Actives: RP-2014 Headcount-weighted Mortality Tables adjusted to 2006, sex-distinct, for Employees projected using generational mortality and scale MP-2021.  Retirees: RP-2014 Headcount-weighted Mortality Tables adjusted to 2006, sex-distinct, for Healthy Annuitants projected using generational mortality and scale MP-2021.  Disabled: RP-2014 Headcount-weighted Mortality Tables adjusted to 2006, sex-distinct, for Healthy Annuitants projected using generational mortality and scale MP-2021. Set forward 2 years.
Mortality rates (2021 & 2020):	Actives: RP-2014 Mortality Tables adjusted to 2006, sex-distinct, for Employees projected using generational mortality and scale MP-2020.  Retirees: RP-2014 Mortality Tables adjusted to 2006, sex-distinct, for Healthy Annuitants projected using generational mortality and scale MP-2020.  Disabled: RP-2014 Mortality Tables adjusted to 2006, sex-distinct, for Healthy Annuitants projected using generational mortality and scale MP-2020. Set forward 2 years.
Mortality rates (2019 & 2018):	Actives: RP-2014 Mortality Tables adjusted to 2006, sex-distinct, for Employees projected using generational mortality and scale MP-2016.  Retirees: RP-2014 Mortality Tables adjusted to 2006, sex-distinct, for Healthy Annuitants projected using generational mortality and scale MP-2016.  Disabled: RP-2014 Mortality Tables adjusted to 2006, sex-distinct, for Healthy Annuitants projected using generational mortality and scale MP-2016. Set forward 2 years.

Note: These schedules are intended to present information for 10 years. Until a 10-year trend is compiled, the information is presented for those years the information is available.



## MeyersBrothersKalicka, P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS  
AND BUSINESS STRATEGISTS

### 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 General Manager and the Electric Light Commission  
Chicopee Municipal Lighting Plant

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Chicopee Municipal Lighting Plant (the "Lighting Plant"), which comprise the proprietary fund statements of net position as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the related proprietary fund statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net position and cash flows for the years then ended, the fiduciary fund statements of fiduciary net position as of December 31, 2022 and 2021 and the related fiduciary fund statements of changes in fiduciary net position for the years then ended and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated July 12, 2023.

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

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Lighting Plant's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Lighting Plant's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Lighting Plant'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 Lighting Plant's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

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

## Compliance and Other Matters

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

## Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Lighting Plant'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 Lighting Plant's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

*Maureen Beecher Kalicka, P.C.*

Holyoke, Massachusetts  
July 12, 2023