



*Borough of Longport*  
*Municipal Administrator*  
*2305 Atlantic Avenue*  
*Longport, New Jersey 08403*

[REDACTED]  
Deputy Director, Audit Division

The Borough of Longport would like to thank the New Jersey State Comptrollers Office for taking the time to evaluate the Borough's Lifeguard Pension Fund. The recommendations from the report were all reviewed and action has been taken to make the necessary corrections. With regards to the Executive Summary each stated weakness has been addressed in the following ways:

**1. Created a lifeguard pension plan that was not statutorily required:**

Neither the current governing body, Solicitor or Chief Financial Officer were with the Borough of Longport when the pension was created in 1987. The legal advice provided regarding the need for the Borough to have a Lifeguard pension is unknown at this time. The Borough has been advised by the State Comptroller that while the Borough may not have been legally required to have instituted a Lifeguard pension, there is no legal requirement for the same be discontinued at this time. The Borough will continue to explore options on how to address this issue responsibly.

**2. Failed to provide supporting documentation for pension committee members:**

The Borough is taking corrective action on this issue by appointing pension committee members to meet the requirements in the ordinance and the Lifeguard Pension Documents

**3. Did not obtain actuary reports and disclose pension liabilities of approximately \$2.8 million in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement a 73:**

The Borough of Longport began discussing obtaining an actuary firm to do an actuarial report in February 2023 but due to budgetary constraints the firm could not be contracted until December 2023 when funds were able to be transferred. We were contacted by the Comptroller's office in September 2023 to begin the audit on the Lifeguard Pension fund. The actuary report was finished and received by the Borough in July 2024 before the conclusion of this audit. The Borough has budgeted additional funds in the 2025 budget for the lifeguard pension fund and plans to continue this in future budget

years to work toward fully funding the lifeguard pension fund. The Borough also plans to periodically obtain actuary calculations as recommended in the audit.

**4. Did not accurately track lifeguard service years for all lifeguards:**

For the past 20 plus years the Borough has completed a service credit spreadsheet for service credit years for all lifeguards and this will continue for all future years. The Borough also has payroll records dating back to 1987 when the pension plan was established to provide backup for service credit years. There were some payroll discrepancies that we believe were credit service days given for an employee who did not work a full day. The Borough plans on addressing what is considered a work day for service credit in the upcoming contract negotiations. The Borough will continue to work on improving the tracking system for service credit days to ensure accuracy.

The Borough of Longport will continue to find ways to track and document information regarding the Lifeguard Pension System more efficiently to ensure accurate and complete records.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Patrick M. Dellane  
Municipal Administrator