



City of Ventnor City

City Hall
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Ventnor City, New Jersey 08406



Department of Revenue and Finance

Amy Stover, CFO

609-823-7964

June 24, 2025

Kevin D. Walsh
Acting State Comptroller
New Jersey Office of the State Comptroller

RE: Lifeguard Pension Audit/Corrective Active Plan

In response to audit findings performed during the period of January 1, 2020, through December 31, 2022, the City offers the following comments and correction action plan.

The city did have an established lifeguard commission, but it was not active during the time covered. The Board of Commissioners will be appointing a new board soon.

During this period the city did not contribute the required employer contribution, as the fund had sufficient funding in place to support the retirement benefits to the current retirees. Since 2023, the city has budgeted \$40,000, which exceeds the 4% mandatory employer contribution to the pension system. These funds are moved into the lifeguard pension trust fund in an interest-bearing account. The City will maintain its current practice of contributing at least 4% each year but reserves the right to suspend contributions when not needed.

Pension deductions were established for all employees at 4% for all hours worked. Although the Plan does define total wages to be as reported on the employees W2, the city followed the lead of the State of NJ PERS and PFRS funds and did not include stipends in the pensionable base. When calculating the highest years of salary those same stipends were not included as no employee contribution was made. The Board of Commissioners will be asked to amend the current ordinance to codify this practice.

In 2024, the city contracted CBIZ to complete the actuary and the final draft is provided.

Thank you for your cooperation during this process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Amy Stover'.

Amy Stover
Chief Financial Officer
City of Ventnor