### NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Town complies with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). GAAP includes all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements.

### **New Accounting Pronouncements**

GASB No. 100 Accounting Changes and Error Corrections is effective for years beginning after June 15, 2023, and all reporting periods thereafter. This statement's primary objective is to enhance accounting and financial reporting requirements for accounting changes and error corrections to provide more understandable, reliable, relevant, consistent, and comparable information for making decisions or assessing accountability. This Statement prescribes the accounting and financial reporting for (1) each type of accounting change and (2) error corrections. This Statement requires that (a) changes in accounting principles and error corrections be reported retroactively by restating prior periods, (b) changes to or within the financial reporting entity be reported by adjusting beginning balances of the current period, and (c) changes in accounting estimates be reported prospectively by recognizing the change in the current period. This Statement also requires that the aggregate amount of adjustments to and restatements of beginning net position, fund balance, or fund net position, as applicable, be displayed by reporting unit in the financial statements. This Statement requires disclosure in notes to financial statements of descriptive information about accounting changes and error corrections, such as their nature. The Town has implemented this pronouncement in the current fiscal year.

### **Financial Reporting Entity**

In determining the financial reporting entity, the Town complies with the provisions of GASB statement No. 14, *The Financial Reporting Entity*, as amended by GASB statement No. 61, *The Financial Reporting Entity: Omnibus*, and includes all component units of which the Town appointed a voting majority of the component unit's board; the Town is either able to impose its will on the unit or a financial benefit or burden relationship exists. In addition, the Town complies with GASB statement No. 39 *Determining Whether Certain Organizations Are Component Units* which relates to organizations that raise and hold economic resources for the direct benefit of the Town.

#### Primary Government

The Town is a political subdivision of the State of Montana governed by an elected Mayor and Council duly elected by the registered voters of the Town. The Town utilizes the manager form of government. The Town is considered a primary government because it is a general-purpose local government. Further, it meets the following criteria; (a) it has a separately elected governing body (b) it is legally separate and (c) it is fiscally independent from the State and other local governments.

### Blended Component Units

Blended component units are separate legal entities that meet the component unit criteria described above and whose government body is the same or substantially the same as the Town, the component unit provides services entirely to the Town, or the component unit is organized as a not-for-profit corporation in which the Town is the sole corporate member identified in the component unit's articles of incorporation or bylaws. These component units' funds are blended into those of the Town's by appropriate activity type to compose the primary government presentation. The Town has the following Blended Component Units:

Benefactors of the Friends of the Sheridan Public Library was created as a not-for-profit corporation, 501(c)3, to expand library services in and around Sheridan, education opportunities, sponsor various programs promoting reading and other matter, and promote the Town library to local community. The organization was created for the sole purpose of supporting the Sheridan Library and has been determined to be a blended component unit for this purpose. It was determined the activities if excluded would not be a fair representation of the Towns financial position.

### Basis of Presentation, Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

#### **Government-wide Financial Statements:**

#### Basis of Presentation

The Government-wide Financial Statements (the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) display information about the reporting government as a whole and its component units. They include all funds of the Town except fiduciary funds. The statements distinguish between governmental and business-type activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange revenues. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services. Eliminations have been made in the consolidation of business-type activities.

The Statement of Net Position presents the financial condition of the governmental and business-type activities for the Town at year end. The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the Town's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function. The Town does not charge indirect expenses to programs or functions. The types of transactions reported as program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or activity, 2) operating grants and contributions, and 3) capital grants and contributions. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all property taxes, are presented as general revenues.

Certain eliminations have been made as prescribed by GASB 34 in regards to inter-fund activities, payables and receivables. All internal balances in the Statement of Net Position have been eliminated.

### Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

On the government-wide Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, both governmental and business-type activities are presented using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recorded when the liability is incurred regardless of the timing of the cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met. The Town generally applies restricted resources to expenses incurred before using unrestricted resources when both restricted and unrestricted net position are available.

#### Fund Financial Statements

#### Basis of Presentation

Fund financial statements of the reporting Town are organized into funds, each of which is considered to be a separate accounting entity. Each fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts. Fund accounting segregates funds according to their intended purpose and is used to aid management in demonstrating compliance with finance-related legal and contractual provisions. The minimum number of funds is maintained consistent with legal and managerial requirements. Funds are organized into three categories: governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary. An emphasis is placed on major funds within the governmental and proprietary categories. Each major fund is displayed in a separate column in the governmental funds statements. All of the remaining funds are aggregated and reported in a single column as non-major funds. A fund is considered major if it is the primary operating fund of the Town or meets the following criteria:

- a. Total assets combined with deferred outflows of resources, liabilities combined with deferred inflows of resources, revenues, or expenditures/expenses of that individual governmental or enterprise fund are at least 10 percent of the corresponding total for all funds of that category or type; and
- b. Total assets combined with deferred outflows of resources, liabilities combined with deferred inflows of resources, revenues, or expenditures/expenses of that individual governmental or enterprise funds are at least 5 percent of the corresponding total for all governmental and enterprise funds combined.

Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

#### Governmental Funds

### Modified Accrual

All governmental funds are accounted for using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when susceptible to accrual; i.e., both measurable and available. "Measurable" means the amount of the transaction can be determined. "Available" means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. The Town defined the length of time used for "available" for purposes of revenue recognition in the governmental fund financial statements as collection within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period, except for property taxes and other state grants that are recognized upon receipt.

Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for unmatured interest on general long-term debt which is recognized when due, and certain compensated absences and claims and judgments which are recognized when the obligations are expected to be liquidated with expendable available financial resources. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds and proceeds of general long-term debt and inception of leases and subscription-based IT arrangements are reported as other financing sources.

Property taxes, franchise fees, licenses, and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal period. Only the portion of special assessments receivable due within the current fiscal period is considered to be susceptible to accrual as revenue of the current period. Expenditure-driven grants are recognized as revenue when the qualifying expenditures have been incurred and all other grant requirements have been met. Entitlements and shared revenues are recorded at the time of receipt or earlier if the susceptible to accrual criteria are met. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the government.

#### Major Funds:

The Town reports the following major governmental funds:

General Fund – This is the Town's primary operating fund and it accounts for all financial resources of the Town except those required to be accounted for in other funds.

Library Fund – A special revenue fund that was established to account for the financial resources and uses of the Town library. The Friends of Sheridan Public Library blended component unit is reported as a part of this fund.

Gas Tax Fund – A special revenue fund used to account for the motor fuel taxes that are received by Town from the state. The funds are to be used for construction, reconstruction, maintenance, and repair of Town streets, alleys, or bridges.

### Proprietary Funds:

All proprietary funds are accounted for using the accrual basis of accounting. These funds account for operations that are primarily financed by user charges. The economic resource focus concerns determining costs as a means of maintaining the capital investment and management control. Revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred. Allocations of costs, such as depreciation, are recorded in proprietary funds.

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from non-operating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connections with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues for enterprise funds are charges to customers for sales and services. Operating expenses for enterprise funds include the cost of sales and services, administrative expenses, and depreciation on capital assets. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating revenues and expenses. When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the Town's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

### Major Funds:

The Town reports the following major proprietary funds:

Water Fund – An enterprise fund that accounts for the activities of the Town's water distribution operations.

Sewer Fund – An enterprise fund that accounts for the activities of the Town's sewer collection and treatment operations and includes the storm sewer system.

### NOTE 2. CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS, AND INVESTMENTS

#### **Cash Composition**

Composition of cash, deposits and investments at fair value on June 30, 2024, are as follows:

	Primary
	Government
Cash on hand and deposits:	
Cash on hand	
Petty Cash	\$ 170
Cash in banks:	
Demand deposits	2,266,863
Savings deposits	49,636
Time deposits	525,000
Investments:	
State Short-Term Investment Pool (STIP)	86,392
Total	\$ 2,928,061

#### Cash equivalents

Cash equivalents are short-term, highly liquid deposits and investments that both readily convertible to known amounts of cash, and have maturities at purchase date of three months or less. The Town's cash and cash equivalents (including restricted assets) are considered to be cash on hand, demand, savings and time deposits, STIP, and all other short-term investments with original maturity dates of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the enterprise funds consider all funds (including restricted assets) held in the Town's cash management pool to be cash equivalents.

#### **Fair Value Measurements**

Investments are reported at fair value, with the following limited exceptions: 1) investments in non-negotiable certificates of deposit are reported at cost and 2) money market investments, including U.S Treasury and Agency obligations, which mature within one year of acquisition, are reported at amortized cost. Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between markets participates at the measurement date.

#### **Credit Risk**

As a means of limiting exposure to credit risk, the Town is required to follow specific state statutes adding security to the deposits and investments. Below are the legal provisions provided in the state Montana Code Annotated (MCA).

Section 7-6-202, MCA, limits investments of public money of a local government in the following eligible securities:

- (a) United States government treasury bills, notes and bonds and in the United States treasury obligations, such as state and local government series (SLGLS), separate trading of registered interest and principal of securities (STRIPS), or similar United States treasury obligations;
- (b) United States treasury receipts in a form evidencing the holder's ownership of future interest or principal payments on specific United States treasury obligations that, in the absence of payment default by the United States, are held in a special custody account by an independent trust company in a certificate or book entry form with the federal reserve bank of New York; or
- (c) Obligations of the following agencies of the United States, subject to the limitations in subsection 2 (not included):
  - (i) federal home loan bank;
  - (ii) federal national mortgage association;
  - (iii) federal home mortgage corporation; and
  - (iv) federal farm credit bank.

With the exception of the assets of a local government group self-insurance program, investments may not have a maturity date exceeding 5 years except when the investment is used in an escrow account to refund an outstanding bond issue in advance.

Section 7-6-205 and Section 7-6-206, MCA, state that demand deposits may be placed only in banks and public money not necessary for immediate use by a county, city, or town that is not invested as authorized in Section 7-6-202, MCA, may be placed in time or savings deposits with a bank, savings and loan association, or credit union in the state or placed in repurchase agreements as authorized in Section 7-6-213, MCA.

The government has no investment policy that would further limit its investment choices.

The government has no investments that require credit risk disclosure.

Short Term Investment Pool (STIP) Credit Quality ratings by the S&P's rating services as of June 30, 2024, (in thousands):

	Total Fixed		
	Income	Credit	
	Investments at	Quality	WAM
Security Investment Type	Fair Value	Rating	(Days)
Treasuries	\$ 1,200,441	A-1+	75
Agency or Government Related	1,254,907	A-1+	67
Asset Backed Commercial Paper	151,592	A-1+	4
Corporate:			
Commercial Paper	495,575	A-1+	39
Notes	727,551	A-1+	27
Certificates of Deposit	1,485,073	A-1+	112
Total Investments	\$5,315,139		

Audited financial statements for the State of Montana's Board of Investments are available at 2401 Colonial Drive 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor in Helena, Montana.

#### NOTE 3. CAPITAL ASSETS

The Town's assets are capitalized at historical cost or estimated historical cost. Town policy has set the capitalization threshold for reporting capital assets at \$5,000. Gifts or contributions of capital assets are recorded at fair market value when received. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs are charged to operations as incurred. Improvements are capitalized and depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets, as applicable. Depreciation is recorded on a straight-line basis over the useful lives of the assets as follows:

Buildings	40 - 75 years
Improvements other than Buildings	5-20 years
Machinery and Equipment	5-30 years
Infrastructure	20-50 years

A summary of changes in governmental capital assets was as follows:

#### Governmental activities:

Go verimiental activities.						
		Balance				Balance
		July 1, 2023		Additions		June 30, 2024
Capital assets not being depreciated:						
Land	\$_	46,681	\$	-	\$	46,681
Total capital assets not being depreciated	\$_	46,681	\$	-	\$	46,681
Other capital assets:	_					
Buildings	\$	472,500	\$	-	\$	472,500
Improvements other than buildings		207,229		-		207,229
Machinery and equipment		244,276		35,455		279,731
Infrastructure		28,409	_	-		28,409
Total other capital assets at historical cost	\$	952,414	\$	35,455	\$	987,869
Less: accumulated depreciation		(619,159)		(25,739)		(644,898)
Total	\$	379,936	\$	9,716	\$	389,652
	-				_	

Governmental activities depreciation expense was charged to functions as follows:

Governmental Activities:	
General government	\$ 11,231
Public safety	5,179
Public works	8,761
Culture and recreation	568
Total governmental activities depreciation expense	\$ 25,739

A summary of changes in business-type capital assets was as follows:

#### Business-type activities:

		Balance			Balance
		July 1, 2023	Additions		June 30, 2024
Capital assets not being depreciated:					
Land	\$	81,376	\$ -	\$	81,376
Construction in progress		32,717	 279,885		312,602
Total capital assets not being depreciated	\$	114,093	\$ 279,885	\$	393,978
Other capital assets:					
Buildings	\$	216,807	\$ -	\$	216,807
Improvements other than buildings		121,030	31,731		152,761
Infrastructure Utility		13,879,739	-	_	13,879,739
Total other capital assets at historical cost	\$	14,217,576	\$ 31,731	\$	14,249,307
Less: accumulated depreciation		(3,520,101)	(394,517)		(3,914,618)
Total	\$	10,811,568	\$ (82,901)	\$	10,728,667
	_			-	

#### NOTE 4. LONG TERM DEBT OBLIGATIONS

In the governmental-wide, and proprietary financial statements, outstanding debt is reported as liabilities.

The governmental fund financial statements recognize the proceeds of debt and premiums as other financing sources of the current period. Issuance costs are reported as expenditures.

Changes in Long-Term Debt Liabilities - During the year ended June 30, 2024, the following changes occurred in liabilities reported in long-term debt:

#### Governmental Activities:

	Balance		Balance	Due Within		
	July 1, 2023	<b>Additions</b>	June 30, 2024	One Year		
Compensated absences	\$ 22,902	\$ 10,935	\$ 33,837	\$ 24,429		
Total	\$ 22,902	\$ 10,935	\$ 33,837	\$ 24,429		

In prior years the General Fund was used to liquidate compensated absences and claims and judgments.

### Business-type Activities:

	Balance			Balance	Due Within
	July 1, 2023	Additions	Deletions	June 30, 2024	One Year
Compensated absences	\$ 640	\$ 6,726	\$ - \$	7,366	\$ 6,562
Revenue bonds	3,661,858	 2	 (125,365)	3,536,493	113,167
Total	\$ 3,662,498	\$ 6,726	\$ (125,365) \$	3,543,859	\$ 119,729

Revenue Bonds – The Town also issues bonds where the Town pledges income derived from the acquired or constructed assets to pay debt service. Revenue bonds outstanding at year-end were as follows:

	Origination	Interest	Bond	Maturity	Bonds	Annual	Balance
<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Date</u>	Rate	<b>Term</b>	<u>Date</u>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Payment</b>	June 30, 2024
2007 Drinking Water	9/28/07	2.25%	20yrs	7/1/27	\$ 359,213	\$16,000	\$ 34,000
2011 Water System	7/20/12	2.50%	40yrs	7/20/51	229,000	9,216	180,224
Water WRF Loan B	10/23/19	2.50%	20yrs	7/1/39	601,000	Varies	308,000
2019 Water RD	10/23/19	2.38%	40yrs	10/23/59	400,000	Varies	369,144
2011 Sewer System	12/12/11	2.25%	40yrs	12/28/51	516,000	19,632	400,253
2013 Sewer System	3/27/13	1.88%	40yrs	4/27/53	2,846,000	101,436	2,244,872
					\$ <u>5,065,000</u>		\$ <u>3,536,493</u>

### Annual requirement to amortize debt:

### For Fiscal

Year Ended	Principal	Interest
2025	\$ 113,167	\$ 72,049
2026	115,827	69,641
2027	104,521	67,187
2028	105,133	64,999
2029	107,033	62,514
2030	108,833	60,264
2031	111,670	57,977
2032	114,426	55,733
2033	116,457	53,203
2034	118,409	50,750
2035	121,401	48,258
2036	124,334	45,788
2037	126,508	43,065
2038	128,625	40,397
2039	130,786	37,686

Total	\$ 3,536,493	\$ 1,101,983
2059	16,328	198
2058	14,944	556
2057	14,593	907
2056	14,251	1,249
2055	13,917	1,583
2054	13,591	1,909
2053	75,612	2,642
2052	118,341	4,753
2051	137,357	7,339
2050	135,688	10,096
2049	132,987	12,797
2048	130,308	15,476
2047	127,745	18,039
2046	125,203	20,581
2045	122,712	23,073
2044	120,215	25,569
2043	117,881	27,903
2042	115,536	30,248
2041	113,241	32,544
2040	128,913	35,010

#### **Compensated Absences**

Compensated absences are absences for which employees will be paid for time off earned for time during employment, such as earned vacation and sick leave. It is the Town's policy and state law to permit employees to accumulate a limited amount of earned but unused vacation benefits, which will be paid to employees upon separation from Town service. Employees are allowed to accumulate and carry over a maximum of two times their annual accumulation of vacation, but the excess cannot be carried forward more than 90 days into the new calendar year. There is no restriction on the amount of sick leave that may be accumulated. Upon separation, employees are paid 100 percent of accumulated vacation and 25 percent of accumulated sick leave. The liability associated with governmental fund-type employees is reported in the governmental activities, while the liability associated with proprietary fund-type employees is recorded in the business-type activities/respective proprietary fund.

### NOTE 5. POSTEMPLOYMENT HEALTHCARE PLAN

Plan Description. The healthcare plan provides for, as required by section 2-18-704, MCA, employees with at least 5 years of service and who are at least age 50, along with surviving spouses and dependents, to stay on the government's health care plan as long as they pay the same premium. This creates a defined benefit Other Post-Employment Benefits Plan (OPEB); since retirees are usually older than the average age of the plan participants, they receive a benefit of lower insurance rates. The OPEB plan is a single-employer defined benefit plan administered by the Town. The government has not created a trust to accumulate assets to assist in covering the defined benefit plan costs, and covers these when they come due. The government has less than 100 plan members and thus qualifies to use the "Alternative Measurement Method" for calculating the liability. The above described OPEB plan does not provide a stand-alone financial report.

Benefits Provided. The government provides healthcare insurance benefits for retirees and their dependents upon reaching the age and service years defined in section 2-18-704, MCA. The benefit terms require that eligible retirees cover 100 percent of the health insurance premiums, but may pay the same premiums as the other members in the group health plan.

Employees covered by benefit terms. At June 30, 2024, the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

Inactive employees or beneficiaries receiving benefit payments	-
Active employees	4
Total employees	4

#### **Total OPEB Liability**

The Town's total OPEB liability of \$5,614 at June 30, 2024, was determined by using the alternative measurement method. The measurement date of the determined liability was June 30, 2024.

Actuarial assumptions and other input. The total OPEB liability in the June 30, 2024 alternative measurement method was determined using the following assumptions and other inputs, applied to all periods included in the measurement, unless otherwise specified:

Average age of retirement (based on historical data)	62
Discount rate (average anticipated rate)	3.80%
Average salary increase (Consumer Price Index)	3.28%
Participation Rate	10.00%

Health care cost rate trend (Federal Office of the Actuary)

<u>Year</u>	<u>% Increase</u>
2024	5.2%
2025	4.9%
2026	5.0%
2027	5.9%
2028	5.5%
2029	5.8%
2030	5.4%
2031	5.4%
2032	5.4%
2033	5.4%
2034 and thereafter	5.4%

The discount rate was based on the 20-year General obligation (GO) bond index.

Life expectancy of employees was based on the Montana Life Tables, 2021 for Males: Table 2 and Females: Table 3 as published in the National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 73, No. 3, August 21, 2024.

The turnover rates were determined from the periodic experience studies of the Montana public retirement systems for the covered groups as documented in the GASB 68 actuarial valuations.

### Changes in the Total OPEB Liability

Balance at 6/30/2023	\$ 8,542
Changes for the year:	
Service Cost	\$ 586
Restatement	 (3,514)
Net Changes	\$ (2,928)
Balance at 6/30/2024	\$ 5,614

Sensitivity of the total OPEB liability to changes in the discount rate. The following summarizes the total OPEB liability reported, and how that liability would change if the discount rate used to calculate the OPEB liability were to decrease or increase 1%:

	1% Decrease	Discount	1% Increase
	(2.80%)	Rate (3.80%)	(4.80%)
Total OPEB Liability	\$ 6,533	\$ 5,614 5	4,908

Sensitivity of the total OPEB liability to changes in the healthcare cost trend rates. The following summarizes the total OPEB liability reported, and how that liability would change if the healthcare trend rates used in projecting the benefit payments were to decrease or increase 1%:

	Healthcare				
	1% Decrease		Cost Trends*		1% Increase
Total OPEB Liability	\$ 4,787	\$	5.614	\$	6.683

<sup>\*</sup>Reference the assumptions footnotes to determine the healthcare cost trends used to calculate the OPEB liability.

OPEB Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the Town recognized an OPEB expense of \$(2,928). The Town does not report any deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB as there were no differences between expected and actual experience or changes in assumptions performed in the alternative measurement method. In addition, since Town records costs as they come due, there are no deferred outflows of resources for contributions to the OPEB plan trust.

### NOTE 6. NET PENSION LIABILITY

As of June 30, 2024, the City/Town reported the following balances as its proportionate share of PERS pension amounts:

County's Proportionate Share Associated With:

	 PERS	
Net Pension Liability	\$ 222,624	
Deferred outflows of resources*	\$ 47,959	
Deferred inflows of resources	\$ 7,940	
Pension expense	\$ 17,846	

<sup>\*</sup>Deferred outflows for PERS are reported as of the reporting date which includes employer contributions made subsequent to the measurement date of \$13,777, respectively. These amounts will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ending June 30, 2024. Total deferred inflows and outflows in the remainder of the note are as of the measurement date of June 30, 2024.

The following are the detailed disclosures for each retirement plan as required by GASB 68.

### Public Employee's Retirement System - Defined Benefit Retirement Plan

### **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

The Town's employees participate in the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) administered by the Montana Public Employee Retirement Administration (MPERA), MPERA prepared financial statements using the accrual basis of accounting. The same accrual basis was used by MPERA for the purposes of determining the NPL; Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources related to pensions; Pension Expense; the Fiduciary Net Position; and Additions to, or Deductions from, Fiduciary Net Position. Member contributions are recognized in the period in which contributions are due. Employer contributions are recognized when due and the employer has made a formal commitment to provide the contributions. Revenues are recognized in the accounting period they are earned and become measurable. Benefit payments and refunds are recognized in the accounting period in which they are due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Expenses are recognized in the period incurred. Investments are reported at fair value. MPERA adhered to all accounting principles generally accepted by the United States of America. MPERA applied all applicable pronouncements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

### **Plan Descriptions**

The PERS-Defined Benefit Retirement Plan (PERS) administered by the Montana Public Employee Retirement Administration (MPERA), is a multiple-employer, cost-sharing plan established July 1, 1945, and governed by Title 19, chapters 2 & 3, Montana Code Annotated (MCA). This plan provides retirement benefits to covered employees of the State, local governments, certain employees of the Montana University System, and school districts.

All new members are initially members of the PERS-DBRP and have a 12-month window during which they may choose to remain in the PERS-DBRP or join the defined contribution retirement plan (PERS-DCRP) by filing an irrevocable election. Members may not be participants of both the *defined contribution* and *defined benefit* retirement plans. For members that choose to join the PERS-DCRP, a percentage of the employer contributions will be used to pay down the liability of the PERS-DBRP. All new members from the universities also have a third option to join the university system's Montana University System Retirement Program (MUS-RP).

The PERS-DBRP provides retirement, disability, and death benefits to plan members and their beneficiaries. Benefits are established by state law and can only be amended by the Legislature.

### **Summary of Benefits**

#### Service retirement:

- Hired prior to July 1, 2011:
  - o Age 60, 5 years of membership service;
  - o Age 65, regardless of membership service; or
  - o Any age, 30 years of membership service.
- Hired on or after July 1, 2011:
  - o Age 65, 5 years of membership service;
  - o Age 70, regardless of membership service.

### Early Retirement (actuarially reduced):

- Hired prior to July 1, 2011:
  - o Age 50, 5 years of membership service; or
  - o Any age, 25 years of membership service.
- Hired on or after July 1, 2011:
  - o Age 55, 5 years of membership service.

Second Retirement (requires returning to PERS-covered employer or PERS service):

- 1) Retire before January 1, 2016 and accumulate less than 2 years additional service credit or retire on or after January 1, 2016 and accumulate less than 5 years additional service credit:
  - a. A refund of member's contributions plus return interest (currently 2.02% effective July 1, 2018).
  - b. No service credit for second employment;
  - c. Start the same benefit amount the month following termination; and
  - d. Guaranteed Annual Benefit Adjustment (GABA) starts again in the January immediately following the second retirement.
- 2) Retire before January 1, 2016 and accumulate at least 2 years of additional service credit:
  - a. A recalculated retirement benefit based on provisions in effect after the initial retirement; and
  - b. GABA starts on the recalculated benefit in the January after receiving the new benefit for 12 months.
- 3) Retire on or after January 1, 2016 and accumulate 5 or more years of service credit:
  - a. The same retirement as prior to the return to service;
  - b. A second retirement benefit as prior to the second period of service based on laws in effect upon the rehire date; and
  - c. GABA starts on both benefits in the January after receiving the original and the new benefit for 12 months.

Member's highest average compensation (HAC)

- Hired prior to July 1, 2011- highest average compensation during any consecutive 36 months;
- Hired on or after July 1, 2011-highest average compensation during any consecutive 60 months:

### Compensation Cap

• Hired on or after July 1, 2013-110% annual cap on compensation considered as a part of a member's highest average compensation.

### Monthly benefit formula

Members hired prior to July 1, 2011:

- Less than 25 years of membership service: 1.785% of HAC per year of service credit;
- 25 years of membership service or more: 2% of HAC per year of service credit.

### Members hired on or after July 1, 2011:

- Less than 10 years of membership service: 1.5% of HAC per year of service credit;
- 10 years or more, but less than 30 years of membership service: 1.785% of HAC per year of service credit;
- 30 years or more of membership service: 2% of HAC per year of service credit.

### Guaranteed Annual Benefit Adjustment (GABA)

After the member has completed 12 full months of retirement, the member's benefit increases by the applicable percentage (provided below) each January, inclusive of other adjustments to the member's benefit.

- 3.0% for members hired prior to July 1, 2007
- 1.5% for members hired between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2013
- Members hired on or after July 1, 2013:
  - 1.5% for each year PERS is funded at or above 90%:
  - 1.5% is reduced by 0.1% for each 2% PERS is funded below 90%; and
  - 0% whenever the amortization period for PERS is 40 years or more.

#### **Contributions**

The state Legislature has the authority to establish and amend contributions rates. Member and employer contribution rates are specified by Montana Statute and are a percentage of the member's compensation. Contributions are deducted from each member's salary and remitted by participating employers.

Special Funding: The state of Montana, as the non-employer contributing entity, paid to the Plan, additional contributions that qualify as special funding. Those employers who received special funding are all participating employers.

Not Special Funding: Per Montana law, state agencies and universities paid their own additional contributions. The employer paid contributions are not accounted for as special funding state agencies and universities but are reported as employer contributions.

Member and employer contribution rates are shown in the table below.

Fiscal	Member		Local Gov	ernment
Year	Hired<07/01/11	Hired>07/01/11	Employer	State
2024	7.900%	7.900%	9.070%	0.100%
2023	7.900%	7.900%	8.970%	0.100%
2022	7.900%	7.900%	8.870%	0.100%
2021	7.900%	7.900%	8.770%	0.100%
2020	7.900%	7.900%	8.670%	0.100%
2019	7.900%	7.900%	8.570%	0.100%
2018	7.900%	7.900%	8.470%	0.100%
2017	7.900%	7.900%	8.370%	0.100%
2016	7.900%	7.900%	8.270%	0.100%
2015	7.900%	7.900%	8.170%	0.100%
2014	7.900%	7.900%	8.070%	0.100%
2012 - 2013	6.900%	7.900%	7.070%	0.100%
2010 - 2011	6.900%		7.070%	0.100%
2008 - 2009	6.900%		6.935%	0.100%
2000 - 2007	6.900%		6.800%	0.100%

- 1. Member contributions to the system of 7.9% are temporary and will be decreased to 6.9% on January 1 following actuary valuation results that show the amortization period has dropped below 25 years and would remain below 25 years following the reduction of both the additional employer and additional member contribution rates.
- 2. Employer contributions to the system:
  - a. Effective July 1, 2014, following the 2013 Legislative session, PERS-employer contributions increase an additional 0.1% a year and will continue over 10 years through 2024. The additional employer contributions including the 0.27% added in 2007 and 2009, will terminate on January 1 following actuary valuation results that show the amortization period has dropped below 25 years and would remain below the 25 years following the reduction of both the additional employer and additional member contributions rates.

- b. Effective July 1, 2013, employers are required to make contributions on working retirees' compensation. Member contributions for working retirees are not required.
- c. The portion of the employer contributions allocated to the Plan Choice Rate (PCR) are included in the employers reporting. The PCR was paid off effective March 2016 and the contributions previously directed to the PCR are now directed to member accounts.

### 3. Non-Employer Contributions

- a. Special Funding
  - i. The State contributes 0.1% of members' compensation on behalf of local government entities.
  - ii. The State contributes 0.37% of members' compensation on behalf of school district entities.
  - iii. The State contributed a statutory appropriation from its General Fund of \$34,979,900.

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

GASB Statement 68 allows a measurement date of up to 12 months before the employer's fiscal year-end can be utilized to determine the Plan's Total Pension Liability (TPL). The basis for the TPL for the reporting of June 30, 2024, is on an actuarial valuation performed by the Plan's actuary as of June 30, 2023.

The Total Pension Liability (TPL minus the Fiduciary Net Position equals the Net Pension Liability (NPL). The proportionate shares of the employer's and the state of Montana's NPL for June 30, 2024, and 2023 (reporting period), are displayed below. The Town proportionate share equals the ratio of the employer's contributions to the sum of all employer and non-employer contributions during the measurement period. The state's proportionate share for a particular employer equals the ratio of the contributions for the particular employer to the total state contributions paid. The Town recorded a liability of \$222,624 and the Town's proportionate share was 0.009123 percent.

	_	Net Pension Liability as of 6/30/2024	Net Pension Liability as of 6/30/2023	Percent of Collective NPL as of 6/30/2024	Percent of Collective NPL as of 6/30/2023	Change in Percent of Collective NPL
Employer Proportionate Share	\$	222,624 \$	182,610	0.009123%	0.007680%	0.001443%
State of Montana Proportionate Share associated with Employer		61,263	54,325	0.002510%	0.002285%	0.000225%
Total	\$_	283,887 \$	236,935	0.011633%	0.009965%	0.001668%

Changes in actuarial assumptions and methods:

There have been no changes to the assumptions or other inputs that affected the measurement of the TPL since the previous measurement date.

Changes in benefit terms:

There were no changes in benefit terms since the previous measurement date.

Changes in proportionate share:

There were no changes between the measurement date of the collective NPL and the employer's reporting date that are expected to have a significant effect on the employer's proportionate share of the collective NPL. However, each employer may have unique circumstances that will impact the employer's proportionate share of the collective net pension. If there were changes that are expected to have an impact on the net pension liability, the employer should disclose the amount of the expected resultant change in the employer's proportionate share of the collective net pension liability, if known.

### Pension Expense:

At June 30, 2024, the Town recognized a Pension Expense of \$12,099 for its proportionate share of the pension expense. The Town also recognized grant revenue of \$5,747 for the support provided by the State of Montana for its proportionate share of the pension expense that is associated with the Town.

	Pension Expense as of 6/30/24	_	Pension Expense as of 6/30/23
Employer Proportionate Share	\$ 12,099	\$	647
State of Montana Proportionate Share associated with the Employer	5,747		5,631
Total	\$ 17,846	\$	6,278

### Recognition of Beginning Deferred Outflow

At June 30, 2024, the Town recognized a beginning deferred outflow of resources for the Town's fiscal year 2023 contributions of \$16,048.

Recognition of Deferred Inflows and Outflows:

At June 30, 2024, the Town reported its proportionate share of the Plan's deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources from the following sources:

	Deferred	Deferred
	Outflows of	Inflows of
	Resources	Resources
Differences between expected and actual economic experience	\$ 8,867 \$	-
Actual vs. Expected Investment Earnings	565	-
Changes in Assumptions	<u> </u>	7,940
Changes in Proportion Share and Differences between Employer Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	24,750	-
Employer contributions sunsequent to the measurement date - FY24*	13,777	-
Total	\$ 47,959 \$	7,940

<sup>\*</sup>Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from the Town's contributions subsequent to the measurement date have been recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended June 30, 2024.

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

	Recognition of Deferred		
	Outflows and Deferred Inflow		
		in Future years as an increase	
For the Measurement	t or (decrease) to Pension		
Year ended June 30:		Expense	
2024	\$	7,324	
2025	\$	7,105	
2026	\$	13,164	
2027	\$	(1,351)	
Thereafter	_\$_		

### **Actuarial Assumptions**

The total pension liability used to calculate the NPL was determined by taking the results of the June 30, 2024 actuarial valuation, and was determined using the following actuarial assumptions.

•	Investment Return (net of admin expense)	7.30%
•	Admin Expense as % of Payroll	0.28%
•	General Wage Growth*	3.50%
	*includes Inflation at	2.75%
•	Merit Increases	0% to 4.80%

### Postretirement Benefit Increases - Guaranteed Annual Benefit Adjustment (GABA)

After the member has completed 12 full months of retirement, the member's benefit increases by the applicable percentage each January, Inclusive of other adjustments to the member's benefit.

- 3% for members hired prior to July 1, 2007
- 1.5% for members hired between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2013
- Member hired on or after July 1, 2013:
  - 1.5% for each year PERS is funded at or above 90%;
  - 1.5% is reduced by 0.1% for each 2% PERS is funded below 90%; and
  - 0% whenever the amortization period for PERS is 40 years or more.

### **Mortality**

- Mortality assumptions among contributing members, service retired members and beneficiaries based on PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Employer Mortality projected to 2021 for males and females projected generationally using MP-2021.
- Mortality assumptions among Disabled members are based on PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Disabled Retiree Mortality table, projected to 2021, set forward one year for both males and females.
- Mortality assumptions among contingent survivors are based on PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Contingent Survivor Mortality projected to 2021 with ages set forward one year for males and projected generationally using MP-2021.
- Mortality assumptions among Healthy members are based on PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Healthy Retiree Mortality table projected to 2021, with ages set forward one year and adjusted 104% for males and 103% for females. Projected generationally using MP-2021.

### **Target Allocations**

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments is reviewed as part of regular experience studies prepared for the Plan about every five years. The long-term rate of return as of June 30, 2024, is based on analysis in the experience study report dated May 2, 2022, without consideration for the administrative expense analysis shown. Several factors are considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption including long-term historical data, estimates inherent in current market data, and an analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of investment expense and inflation), along with estimates of variability and correlations for each asset class. These ranges were combined to develop the long-term expected rate of return by weighing the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation. The assumption is intended to be a long-term assumption (30 to 50 years) and is not expected to change absent a significant change in the asset allocation or a fundamental change in the market that alters expected returns in future years. The best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the target asset allocation as of June 30, 2024, are summarized in the following table.

	Target Asset	Long-Term Expected Real Rate
Asset Class	Allocation	of Return Arithmetic Basis
Cash	3.00%	(0.33%)
Domestic Equity	30.00%	5.90%
International Equity	17.00%	7.14%
Private Investments	15.00%	9.13%
Real Assets	5.00%	4.03%
Real Estate	9.00%	5.41%
Core Fixed Income	15.00%	1.14%
Non-Core Fixed Income	6.00%	3.02%
Total	<u>100%</u>	

#### **Discount Rate**

The discount rate used to measure the TPL was 7.30%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from participating plan members, employers, and non-employer contributing entities would be made based on the Board's funding policy, which established the contractually required rates under the Montana Code Annotated. The state contributed 0.10% of the salaries paid by local governments and 0.37% paid by school districts. In addition, the state contributed coal severance tax and interest money from the general fund. Based on those assumptions, the Plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be adequate to make all the projected future benefit payments of current plan members through the year 2127. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the TPL. A municipal bond rate was not incorporated in the discount rate.

1.0% Decrease		Current		1.0% Increase	
(6.30%)		Discount Rate		(8.30%)	
\$ 321,580	\$	222,624	\$	139,609	

In accordance with GASB 68 regarding the disclosure of the sensitivity of the net pension liability to changes in the discount rate, the above table presents the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.30%, as well as what the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1.00% lower (6.30%) or 1.00% higher (8.30%) than the current rate.

### PERS Disclosure for the defined contribution plan

The Town of Sheridan contributed to the state of Montana Public employee Retirement System Defined Contribution Retirement Plan (PERS-DCRP) for employees that have elected the DCRP. The PERS-DCRP is administered by the PERB and is reported as a multiple-employer plan established July 1, 2002, and governed by Title 19, chapters 2 & 3, MCA.

All new PERS members are initially members of the PERS-DBRP and have a 12-month window during which they may choose to remain in the PERS-DBRP or join the PERS-DCRP by filing an irrevocable election. Members may not be participants of both the defined benefit and defined contribution retirement plans.

Member and employer contributions rates are specified by state law and are a percentage of the member's compensation. Contributions are deducted from each member's salary and remitted by participating employers. The state Legislature has the authority to establish and amend contribution rates.

Benefits are dependent upon eligibility and individual account balances. Participants are vested immediately in their own contributions and attributable income. Participants are vested after 5 years of membership service for the employer's contributions to individual accounts and the attributable income. Non-vested contributions are forfeited upon termination of employment per 19-3-2117(5), MCA. Such forfeitures are used to cover the administrative expenses of the PERS-DCRP.

At the plan level for the measurement period ended June 30, 2023, the PERS-DCRP employer did not recognize any net pension liability or pension expense for the defined contribution plan. Plan level non-vested forfeitures for the 348 employers that have participants in the PERS-DCRP totaled \$1,409,309.

Pension plan fiduciary net position: The stand-alone financial statements (76d) of the Montana Public Employees Retirement Board (PERB) Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and the GASB 68 Report disclose the Plan's fiduciary net position. The reports are available from the PERB at PO Box 200131, Helena MT 59620-0131, (406) 444-3154 or both are available on the MPERA website at <a href="https://mpera.mt.gov/about/annualreports1/annualreports">https://mpera.mt.gov/about/annualreports1/annualreports</a>.

#### NOTE 7. RESTATEMENTS

GASB Statement No. 100, implemented in the current fiscal year, requires that changes to or within the financial reporting entity be reported by adjusting the beginning balances of the current period. The Gas Tax Fund was not a major special revenue fund in the prior fiscal year as it is in the current fiscal year. As such, the beginning fund balance of \$15,711 on the Statement of Revenues Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances was restated out of the Other Governmental Funds and into the current year major fund Gas Tax Fund.