

**TOWN OF FRANKLIN
NORTH CAROLINA**

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Exhibit</u>		<u>Page</u>
	Independent Auditor's Report	1-3
	Management's Discussion and Analysis	4-13
	Basic Financial Statements:	
	Government-Wide Financial Statements:	
A	Statement of Net Position	14-15
B	Statement of Activities	16-17
	Fund Financial Statements:	
C	Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds	18-19
D	Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance - Governmental Funds	20
E	Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance - Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities	21
F	General Fund - Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual	22
G	Statement of Net Position - Proprietary Fund	23-24
H	Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position - Proprietary Fund	25
I	Statement of Cash Flows - Proprietary Fund	26
	Notes to the Financial Statements	27-66
	Schedule	
	Supplementary Information:	
A-1	Schedule of Changes in Total Pension Liability (LEO) Required Supplementary Information Last Eight Fiscal Years	67-68

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Schedule</u>		<u>Page</u>
	Supplementary Information (continued):	
A-2	Schedule of Total Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll (LEO) Required Supplementary Information Last Eight Fiscal Years	69-70
A-3	Schedule of Changes in the Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios Required Supplementary Information Last Seven Fiscal Years	71-72
A-4	Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System - Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability (Asset) Required Supplementary Information Last Ten Fiscal Years	73-74
A-5	Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System - Contributions Required Supplementary Information Last Ten Fiscal Years	75-76
	Governmental Activities:	
1	General Fund - Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual	77-80
2	Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Special Revenue Fund - Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures - Budget and Actual	81
3	Nonmajor Capital Project Funds Combining Balance Sheet	82
4	Nonmajor Capital Project Funds Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances	83
5	Sidewalk Replacement and Reconditioning Project - Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures - Budget and Actual	84

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Schedule</u>		<u>Page</u>
	Supplementary Information (continued):	
6	Enterprise Fund - Water and Sewer Fund - Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures - Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP)	85-86
7	Water and Sewer Capital Project Fund - Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures - Budget and Actual	87
8	Schedule of Ad Valorem Tax Receivable	88
9	Analysis of Current Year Levy - Town-Wide Levy	89
10	Discretely Presented Component Unit - Franklin Tourism Development Authority - Balance Sheet	90
11	Discretely Presented Component Unit - Franklin Tourism Development Authority - Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures - Budget and Actual	91
	Compliance Section:	
	Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	92-93
	Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program and Report on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance and the State Single Audit Implementation Act	94-96
	Schedule of Findings, Responses, and Questioned Costs	97-98
	Schedule of Prior Year Audit Findings	99
	Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards	100

This page left blank intentionally.

MARTIN STARNES & ASSOCIATES, CPAs, P.A.

"A Professional Association of Certified Public Accountants and Management Consultants"

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Honorable Mayor and
Town Council
Town of Franklin, North Carolina

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Franklin, North Carolina, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of the other auditors, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Franklin, North Carolina, as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof and the respective budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We did not audit the financial statements of the Town of Franklin ABC Board, which represents 84%, 83% and 96%, respectively, of the assets, net position, and revenues of the discretely presented component units as of June 30, 2024. Those statements were audited by other auditors whose report has been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for the Town of Franklin ABC Board, is based solely on the report of the other auditors.

Basis for Opinions

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*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Town, 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 opinions. The financial statements of the Town of Franklin ABC Board were not audited in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for 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 Town'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.

Auditor's 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 auditor's 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 Town'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 Town'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.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis, the Other Post-Employment Benefits' Schedule of Changes in the Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios, the Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System's Schedules of the Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) and Contributions, and the Law Enforcement

Officers' Special Separation Allowance Schedules of the Changes in Total Pension Liability and Total Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, 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 and the other auditors have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Franklin's basic financial statements. The combining and individual fund financial statements, budgetary schedules, other schedules, the Tourism Development Authority schedules and the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards, as required by Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* and the State Single Audit Implementation Act are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied to the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America by us and the other auditors. In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of the other auditors, the combining and individual fund financial statements, budgetary schedules, other schedules, the Tourism Development Authority schedules, and the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 9, 2024 on our consideration of the Town of Franklin's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and 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 Town of Franklin'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 Town of Franklin's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A.

Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A.
Hickory, North Carolina
October 9, 2024

This page left blank intentionally.

Management's Discussion and Analysis

As management of the Town of Franklin, we offer readers of the Town of Franklin's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town of Franklin for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. We encourage readers to read the information presented here in conjunction with additional information that we have furnished in the Town's financial statements, which follow this narrative.

Financial Highlights

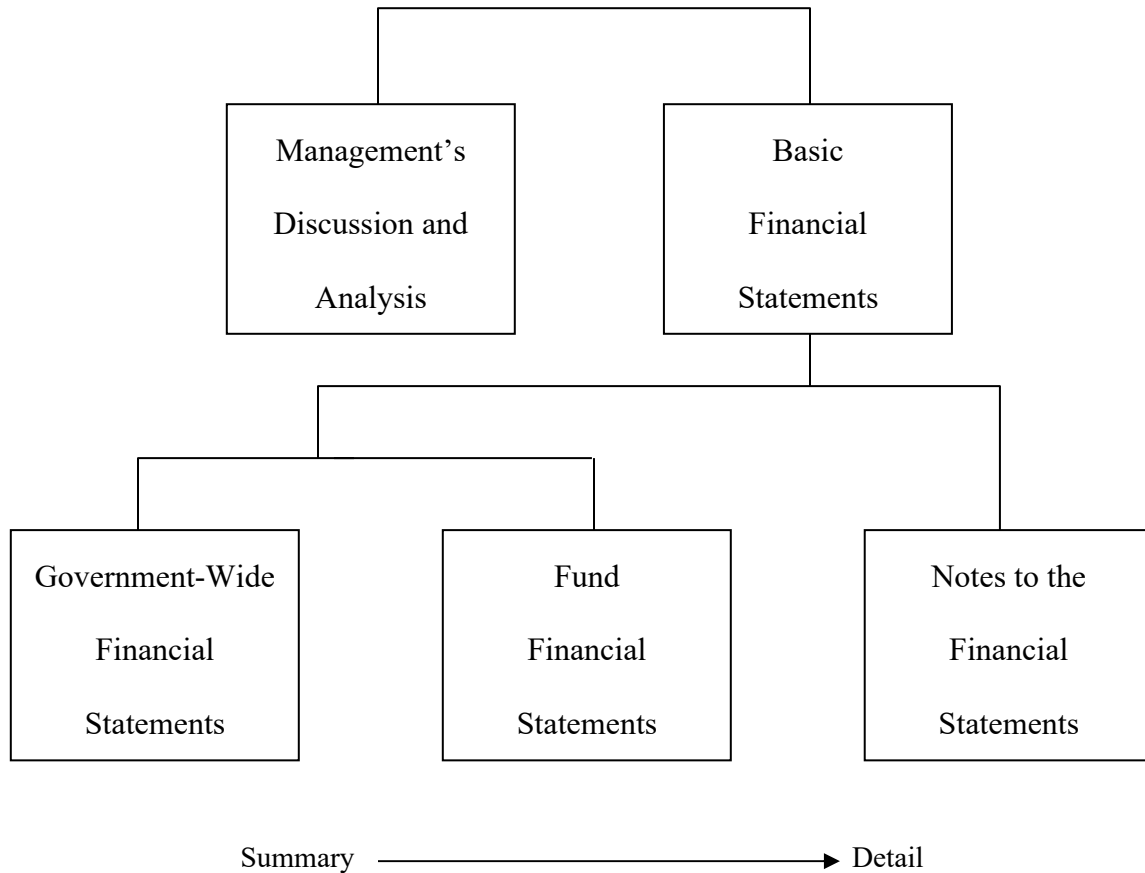
- The assets and deferred outflows of the Town of Franklin exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows at the close of the fiscal year by \$43,852,625 (*net position*). For the Franklin Tourism Development Authority ("TDA"), the assets and deferred outflows of resources exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources by \$185,370.
- The government's total net position increased by \$5,127,039, due to an increase in governmental net position and an increase in business-type activities net position. The TDA's total net position decreased by \$70,967.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, the Town of Franklin's General Fund reported total ending fund balance of \$10,873,043, an increase of \$2,672,537, in comparison with the prior year. Approximately 13.43% of this total amount, or \$1,460,780, is restricted.
- At the end of the current fiscal year, available fund balance for the General Fund was \$9,676,391, or 183.8 percent, of total General Fund expenditures.
- The Town of Franklin's total debt decreased by \$759,847 during the current fiscal year.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis are intended to serve as an introduction to the Town of Franklin's basic financial statements. The Town's basic financial statements consist of three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements (see Figure 1). The basic financial statements present two different views of the Town through the use of government-wide statements and fund financial statements. In addition to the basic financial statements, this report contains other supplemental information that will enhance the reader's understanding of the financial condition of the Town of Franklin.

Required Components of Annual Financial Report

Figure 1



Basic Financial Statements

The first two statements (Exhibits A and B) in the basic financial statements are the **government-wide financial statements**. They provide both short and long-term information about the Town's financial status.

The next statements (Exhibits C through I) are **fund financial statements**. These statements focus on the activities of the individual parts of the Town's government. These statements provide more detail than the government-wide statements. There are three parts to the fund financial statements: 1) the governmental funds statements, 2) the budgetary comparison statements, and 3) the proprietary fund statements.

The next section of the basic financial statements is the **notes**. The notes to the financial statements explain in detail some of the data contained in those statements. After the notes, supplemental information is provided to show details about the Town's individual funds. Budgetary information required by the General Statutes also can be found in this part of the statements.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide the reader with a broad overview of the Town's finances, similar in format to a financial statement of a private-sector business. The government-wide statements provide short and long-term information about the Town's financial status as a whole.

The two government-wide statements report the Town's net position and how they have changed. Net position is the difference between the Town's total assets and deferred outflows of resources and total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Measuring net position is one way to gauge the Town's financial condition.

The government-wide statements are divided into three categories: 1) governmental activities, 2) business-type activities, and 3) component unit. The governmental activities include most of the Town's basic services such as general government, public safety, transportation, and cultural and recreation. Property taxes and state and federal grant funds finance most of these activities. The business-type activities are those that the Town charges customers to provide. These include the water and sewer services offered by the Town of Franklin. The final category is the component units, of which the Town has two. The Town of Franklin Tourism Development Authority is considered a component unit of the Town because the Town exercises control over the Board by appointing its members and because the Board is required to expend the local occupancy taxes promoting travel and tourism for the Town. Although legally separate from the Town, the Town of Franklin ABC Board is important to the Town, because the Town exercises control over the Board by appointing its members and because the Board is required to distribute its profits to the Town. Financial information for these *component units* is reported separately from the financial information presented for the primary government itself.

The government-wide financial statements are on Exhibits A and B of this report.

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements (see Figure 1) provide a more detailed look at the Town's most significant activities. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Town of Franklin, like all other governmental entities in North Carolina, uses fund accounting to ensure and reflect compliance (or non-compliance) with finance-related legal requirements, such as the General Statutes or the Town's budget ordinance. All of the funds of the Town of Franklin can be divided into two categories: governmental funds and proprietary funds.

Governmental Funds. Governmental funds are used to account for those functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. Most of the Town's basic services are accounted for in governmental funds. These funds focus on how assets can readily be converted into cash flow in and out and what monies are left at year-end that will be available for spending in the next year. Governmental funds are reported using an accounting method called *modified accrual accounting*, which provides a short-term spending focus. As a result, the governmental fund financial statements give the reader a detailed short-term view that helps him or her determine if there are more or less financial resources available to finance the Town's programs. The relationship between government activities (reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds is described in a reconciliation that is a part of the fund financial statements.

The Town of Franklin adopts an annual budget for its General Fund, as required by the General Statutes. The budget is a legally adopted document that incorporates input from the citizens of the Town, the management of the Town, and the decisions of the Town Council about which services to provide and how to pay for them. It also authorizes the Town to obtain funds from identified sources to finance these current period activities. The budgetary statement provided for the General Fund demonstrates how well the Town complied with the budget ordinance and whether or not the Town succeeded in providing the services as planned when the budget was adopted. The budgetary comparison statement uses the budgetary basis of accounting and is presented using the same format, language, and classifications as the legal budget document. The statement shows four columns: 1) the original budget as adopted by the Town Council; 2) the final budget as amended by the Town Council; 3) the actual resources, charges to appropriations, and ending balances in the General Fund; and 4) the difference or variance between the final budget and the actual resources and charges. To account for the difference between the budgetary basis of accounting and the modified accrual basis, a reconciliation showing the differences in the reported activities is shown at the end of the budgetary statement.

Proprietary Funds. The Town of Franklin has one proprietary fund. *Enterprise funds* are used to report the same functions presented as business-type activities in the government-wide financial statements. The Town of Franklin uses enterprise funds to account for its water and sewer activity. These funds are the same as those functions shown in the business-type activities in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities.

Notes to the Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements begin on page 27 of this report.

Other Information

In addition to the basic financial statements and the accompanying notes, this report includes certain required supplementary information concerning the Town of Franklin's progress in funding its obligation to provide pension benefits to its employees. Required supplementary information can be found beginning on page 67 of this report.

Interdependence with Other Entities

The Town depends on financial resources flowing from or associated with both the federal government and the state of North Carolina. Because of this dependency, the Town is subject to changes in specific flows of intergovernmental revenues based on modifications to federal and state laws and federal and state appropriations.

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

Town of Franklin's Net Position

Figure 2

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Assets:						
Current and other assets	\$ 12,112,364	\$ 9,504,564	\$ 10,775,222	\$ 9,610,547	\$ 22,887,586	\$ 19,115,111
Non-current assets	-	-	152,055	-	152,055	-
Capital assets	7,672,921	7,022,898	24,295,297	24,227,447	31,968,218	31,250,345
Total assets	<u>19,785,285</u>	<u>16,527,462</u>	<u>35,222,574</u>	<u>33,837,994</u>	<u>55,007,859</u>	<u>50,365,456</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources						
	<u>1,436,810</u>	<u>1,433,487</u>	<u>678,706</u>	<u>645,730</u>	<u>2,115,516</u>	<u>2,079,217</u>
Liabilities:						
Long-term liabilities outstanding	4,480,858	4,413,868	6,503,965	7,330,802	10,984,823	11,744,670
Other liabilities	1,118,438	1,208,044	631,611	219,991	1,750,049	1,428,035
Total liabilities	<u>5,599,296</u>	<u>5,621,912</u>	<u>7,135,576</u>	<u>7,550,793</u>	<u>12,734,872</u>	<u>13,172,705</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources						
	<u>392,621</u>	<u>420,040</u>	<u>143,257</u>	<u>126,342</u>	<u>535,878</u>	<u>546,382</u>
Net Position:						
Net investment in capital assets	7,279,418	6,494,138	19,338,792	18,327,830	26,618,210	24,821,968
Restricted	1,460,780	1,356,409	-	-	1,460,780	1,356,409
Unrestricted	6,489,980	4,068,450	9,283,655	8,478,759	15,773,635	12,547,209
Total net position	<u>\$ 15,230,178</u>	<u>\$ 11,918,997</u>	<u>\$ 28,622,447</u>	<u>\$ 26,806,589</u>	<u>\$ 43,852,625</u>	<u>\$ 38,725,586</u>

As noted earlier, net position may serve, over time, as one useful indicator of a government's financial condition. The assets and deferred outflows of the Town of Franklin exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows by \$43,852,625 as of June 30, 2024. The Town's net position increased by \$5,127,039 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. However, the largest portion (61%) reflects the Town's net investment in capital assets (e.g. land, construction in progress, buildings, improvements, equipment, vehicles, furniture, infrastructure, and distribution systems). The Town of Franklin uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the Town of Franklin's net investment in its capital assets is reported net of the outstanding related debt, the resources needed to repay that debt must be provided by other sources, since the capital assets cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities. An additional portion of the Town of Franklin's net position \$1,460,780, represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining balance of \$15,773,635 is unrestricted.

At June 30, 2024, all of the TDA's net position is restricted for tourism activity, except for \$20,419, which is restricted for stabilization by state statute. Ending net position for the TDA was \$185,370.

The following aspect of the Town's financial operations positively influenced the total unrestricted governmental net position:

- Continued diligence in the collection of property taxes, an increase in sales & use taxes, and general charges for services. The town adopted a balanced budget.

Town of Franklin's Changes in Net Position

Figure 3

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Revenues:						
Program revenues:						
Charges for services	\$ 81,462	\$ 336,157	\$ 5,087,889	\$ 4,827,973	\$ 5,169,351	\$ 5,164,130
Operating grants	581,231	611,133	791,950	43,464	1,373,181	654,597
Capital grants	159,216	221,592	-	-	159,216	221,592
General revenues:						
Property taxes	3,376,038	2,722,931	-	-	3,376,038	2,722,931
Other taxes	2,126,117	2,119,467	-	-	2,126,117	2,119,467
Miscellaneous	1,521,276	1,358,770	-	-	1,521,276	1,358,770
Investment earnings	370,859	200,779	118,232	81,294	489,091	282,073
Total revenues	<u>8,216,199</u>	<u>7,570,829</u>	<u>5,998,071</u>	<u>4,952,731</u>	<u>14,214,270</u>	<u>12,523,560</u>
Expenses:						
General government	1,178,913	1,422,911	-	-	1,178,913	1,422,911
Public safety	2,872,267	2,663,006	-	-	2,872,267	2,663,006
Transportation	391,809	508,248	-	-	391,809	508,248
Culture and recreation	10,000	-	-	-	10,000	-
Planning and economic	423,922	447,284	-	-	423,922	447,284
Interest on long-term debt	28,107	17,731	-	-	28,107	17,731
Water and sewer	-	-	4,182,213	3,504,162	4,182,213	3,504,162
Total expenses	<u>4,905,018</u>	<u>5,059,180</u>	<u>4,182,213</u>	<u>3,504,162</u>	<u>9,087,231</u>	<u>8,563,342</u>
Change in net position before transfers	3,311,181	2,511,649	1,815,858	1,448,569	5,127,039	3,960,218
Transfers	-	(375,300)	-	375,300	-	-
Change in net position	3,311,181	2,136,349	1,815,858	1,823,869	5,127,039	3,960,218
Net Position:						
Beginning of year - July 1	<u>11,918,997</u>	<u>9,782,648</u>	<u>26,806,589</u>	<u>24,982,720</u>	<u>38,725,586</u>	<u>34,765,368</u>
End of year - June 30	<u>\$ 15,230,178</u>	<u>\$ 11,918,997</u>	<u>\$ 28,622,447</u>	<u>\$ 26,806,589</u>	<u>\$ 43,852,625</u>	<u>\$ 38,725,586</u>

Governmental Activities. Governmental activities increased the Town's net position by \$3,311,181.

Key elements of this increase are as follows:

- Increases in sales and use tax as well as investment earnings have been major factors in this increase.

Business-Type Activities. Business-type activities increased the Town of Franklin's net position by \$1,815,858. Key elements of this increase are as follows:

- Water rate increase of three percent during the current year as well as unrealized project completions due to material costs and supply chain issues.

The TDA had a decrease in net position of \$70,967 during the fiscal year.

Key elements of this decrease are as follows:

- Increases in advertising services provided to the TDA combined with a decrease in Occupancy taxes collected.

Financial Analysis of the Town's Funds

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

Governmental Funds. The focus of the Town of Franklin's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of usable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Town of Franklin's financing requirements. Specifically, unassigned fund balance can be a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

The General Fund is the chief operating fund of the Town of Franklin. At the end of the current fiscal year, the Town of Franklin's fund balance available in the General Fund was \$9,676,391 while total fund balance reached \$10,873,006. The Town currently has an available fund balance of 183.8% of General Fund expenditures, while total fund balance represents 206.57% of General Fund expenditures.

At June 30, 2024, the General Fund of the Town of Franklin reported an increase in fund balance of 32.6% over last year, primarily due to increased revenues in the areas of investment earnings, property and sales & use taxes.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights. During the fiscal year, the Town revised the budget on several occasions. Generally, budget amendments fall into one of three categories: 1) amendments made to adjust the estimates that are used to prepare the original budget ordinance once exact information is available; 2) amendments made to recognize new funding amounts from external sources, such as federal and state grants; and 3) increases in appropriations that become necessary to maintain services.

Proprietary Funds. The Town of Franklin's proprietary funds provide the same type of information found in the government-wide statements, but in more detail. Unrestricted net position of the Water and Sewer Fund at the end of the fiscal year amounted to \$9,283,655. The total increase in net position for the fund was \$1,815,858. Other factors concerning the finances of the fund have already been addressed in the discussion of the Town of Franklin's business-type activities.

Capital Asset and Debt Administration

Capital Assets. The Town of Franklin’s capital assets for its governmental and business–type activities as of June 30, 2024 totals \$31,968,218 (net of accumulated depreciation/amortization). These assets include land, construction in progress, buildings, improvements, equipment, right-to-use lease assets, subscription assets, furnishings and fixtures, vehicles, infrastructure, and water and sewer distribution systems.

Town of Franklin’s Capital Assets (net of depreciation)

Figure 4

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Land	\$ 3,957,677	\$ 3,695,177	\$ 1,052,081	\$ 1,052,081	\$ 5,009,758	\$ 4,747,258
Infrastructure	926,209	712,141	-	-	926,209	712,141
Buildings	1,757,159	1,813,200	1,061,429	1,093,155	2,818,588	2,906,355
Improvements to facilities	233,536	39,735	8,999	11,627	242,535	51,362
Vehicles	381,430	388,320	115,917	121,494	497,347	509,814
Equipment and furniture	293,622	301,057	189,677	151,180	483,299	452,237
Right to use leased assets	77,851	25,429	209,640	236,744	287,491	262,173
Subscription assets	45,437	47,839	35,129	60,896	80,566	108,735
Water and sewer distribution systems	-	-	21,622,425	21,500,270	21,622,425	21,500,270
Total	\$ 7,672,921	\$ 7,022,898	\$ 24,295,297	\$ 24,227,447	\$ 31,968,218	\$ 31,250,345

Additional information on the Town’s capital assets can be found in Note 2A of the basic financial statements.

Long-Term Debt. As of June 30, 2024, the Town of Franklin had no bonded debt outstanding.

Capital Leases and Other Long-Term Liabilities

Figure 5

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Lease liabilities	\$ 73,718	\$ 24,904	\$ 192,798	\$ 228,752	\$ 266,516	\$ 253,656
Subscription liabilities	39,785	47,262	33,885	58,879	73,670	106,141
Notes from direct borrowings and direct placements	280,000	456,594	4,729,822	5,611,986	5,009,822	6,068,580
Total OPEB liability	1,196,635	1,400,363	622,306	684,140	1,818,941	2,084,503
Net pension liability (LGERS)	1,449,874	1,167,165	851,516	685,480	2,301,390	1,852,645
Total pension liability (LEOSSA)	1,253,738	1,168,065	-	-	1,253,738	1,168,065
Compensated absences	187,108	149,515	73,638	61,565	260,746	211,080
Total	\$ 4,480,858	\$ 4,413,868	\$ 6,503,965	\$ 7,330,802	\$ 10,984,823	\$ 11,744,670

Town of Franklin’s Outstanding Debt

The Town of Franklin’s total debt decreased by \$759,847 during the past fiscal year as a result of required payments made throughout the year and no new debt issued.

North Carolina General Statutes limit the amount of general obligation debt that a unit of government can issue to 8% of the total assessed value of taxable property located within that government’s boundaries. The legal debt margin for the Town of Franklin is \$81,395,684.

Additional information regarding the Town of Franklin’s long-term debt can be found in notes to the basic financial statements.

Economic Factors and Next Year’s Budgets and Rates

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

- Sales tax revenues have seen substantial growth and water and sewer revenues continue a steady increase due to development in the area. Tourism and related business remain a primary driver for the Town’s economy. Investment earnings have seen an increase this year.

Budget Highlights for the Year Ending June 30, 2025

Governmental Activities. The General Fund budget was increased by \$300,750. The tax rate remained the same.

Budgeted expenditures have been maintained at levels consistent with the fiscal year 2023-2024 through item-specific savings while continuing to provide necessary services. Employee benefits remained unchanged aside from the addition of a voluntary 457b plan offered through Empower. Employee benefit contributions remain the same.

Business-Type Activities. Water and sewer rates were increased this current fiscal year based on the detailed water rate study that was completed in fiscal year 2019-2020. The Town completed work on the Clyde Street Water Line Replacement project and Boyd's Pump Station project.

Requests for Information

This report is designed to provide an overview of the Town's finances for those with an interest in this area. Questions concerning any of the information found in this report or requests for additional information should be directed to the following: Amie Owens, Town Manager, PO Box 1479, Franklin, North Carolina 28744; phone - 828-524-2516; website - www.franklinnc.com.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2024

	Primary Government			Component Units	
	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total	Town of Franklin ABC Board	Town of Franklin Tourism Development Authority
Assets:					
Current assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 9,212,077	\$ 9,234,473	\$ 18,446,550	\$ 643,562	\$ 181,523
Receivables, net:					
Taxes	119,846	-	119,846	-	-
Accounts	575,695	660,461	1,236,156	-	-
Current portion of					
long-term note receivable	-	11,219	11,219	-	-
Due from other governments	172,098	496,035	668,133	-	-
Due from primary government	-	-	-	-	20,419
Inventories	-	328,044	328,044	382,601	-
Prepaid expenses	448,822	-	448,822	6,254	-
Restricted assets -					
cash and cash equivalents	1,583,826	44,990	1,628,816	-	-
Total current assets	12,112,364	10,775,222	22,887,586	1,032,417	201,942
Non-current assets:					
Non-current portion of long-term note receivable	-	152,055	152,055	-	-
Capital assets:					
Land and construction in progress	3,957,677	1,052,081	5,009,758	-	-
Other capital assets,					
net of depreciation	3,715,244	23,243,216	26,958,460	18,590	-
Total capital assets	7,672,921	24,295,297	31,968,218	18,590	-
Total non-current assets	7,672,921	24,447,352	32,120,273	18,590	-
Total assets	19,785,285	35,222,574	55,007,859	1,051,007	201,942
Deferred Outflows of Resources:					
OPEB deferrals	352,588	159,712	512,300	-	-
Pension deferrals	1,084,222	518,994	1,603,216	-	-
Total deferred outflows of resources	1,436,810	678,706	2,115,516	-	-
Liabilities:					
Current liabilities:					
Accounts payable	54,462	483,864	538,326	176,337	16,572
Accrued liabilities	156,448	89,303	245,751	-	-
Due to component unit	20,419	-	20,419	-	-
Accrued interest	16,270	13,454	29,724	-	-
Advance from grantor	870,839	-	870,839	-	-
Liabilities payable from					
restricted assets:					
Customer deposits	-	44,990	44,990	-	-
Total current liabilities	1,118,438	631,611	1,750,049	176,337	16,572
Long-term liabilities:					
Net pension liability - LGERS	1,449,874	851,516	2,301,390	-	-
Total pension liability - LEOSSA	1,253,738	-	1,253,738	-	-
Total OPEB liability	1,196,635	622,306	1,818,941	-	-
Due within one year	174,959	750,711	925,670	-	-
Due in more than one year	405,652	4,279,432	4,685,084	-	-
Total long-term liabilities	4,480,858	6,503,965	10,984,823	-	-
Total liabilities	5,599,296	7,135,576	12,734,872	176,337	16,572

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

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2024

	Primary Government			Component Units	
	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total	Town of Franklin ABC Board	Town of Franklin Tourism Development Authority
Deferred Inflows of Resources:					
Prepaid taxes	17,344	-	17,344	-	-
OPEB deferrals	254,318	132,257	386,575	-	-
Pension deferrals	120,959	11,000	131,959	-	-
Total deferred inflows of resources	392,621	143,257	535,878	-	-
Net Position:					
Net investment in capital assets	7,279,418	19,338,792	26,618,210	18,590	-
Restricted for:					
Stabilization by state statute	747,793	-	747,793	-	20,419
Streets	637,523	-	637,523	-	-
Public safety	75,464	-	75,464	-	-
Other purposes	-	-	-	130,743	164,951
Unrestricted	6,489,980	9,283,655	15,773,635	725,337	-
Total net position	\$ 15,230,178	\$ 28,622,447	\$ 43,852,625	\$ 874,670	\$ 185,370

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

This page left blank intentionally.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	<u>Program Revenues</u>			
	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Charges for Services</u>	<u>Operating Grants and Contributions</u>	<u>Capital Grants and Contributions</u>
Functions/Programs:				
Primary Government:				
Governmental Activities:				
General government	\$ 1,178,913	\$ 69,628	\$ 493,483	\$ -
Public safety	2,872,267	11,834	87,748	7,292
Transportation	391,809	-	-	151,924
Cultural and recreation	10,000	-	-	-
Planning and economic	423,922	-	-	-
Interest on long-term debt	28,107	-	-	-
Total governmental activities	<u>4,905,018</u>	<u>81,462</u>	<u>581,231</u>	<u>159,216</u>
Business-Type Activities:				
Water and sewer	<u>4,182,213</u>	<u>5,087,889</u>	<u>791,950</u>	<u>-</u>
Total primary government	<u>\$ 9,087,231</u>	<u>\$ 5,169,351</u>	<u>\$ 1,373,181</u>	<u>\$ 159,216</u>
Component Units:				
ABC Board	\$ 4,444,358	\$ 4,441,637	\$ -	\$ -
Tourism Development Authority	256,616	177,135	-	-
Total component units	<u>\$ 4,700,974</u>	<u>\$ 4,618,772</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

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

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position				
	Primary Government			Component Units	
	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total	Town of Franklin ABC Board	Town of Franklin Tourism Development Authority
Functions/Programs:					
Primary Government:					
Governmental Activities:					
General government	\$ (615,802)	\$ -	\$ (615,802)		
Public safety	(2,765,393)	-	(2,765,393)		
Transportation	(239,885)	-	(239,885)		
Cultural and recreation	(10,000)	-	(10,000)		
Planning and economic	(423,922)	-	(423,922)		
Interest on long-term debt	(28,107)	-	(28,107)		
Total governmental activities	<u>(4,083,109)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,083,109)</u>		
Business-Type Activities:					
Water and sewer	-	1,697,626	1,697,626		
Total primary government	<u>(4,083,109)</u>	<u>1,697,626</u>	<u>(2,385,483)</u>		
Component Units:					
ABC Board				\$ (2,721)	\$ -
Tourism Development Authority				-	(79,481)
Total component units				<u>(2,721)</u>	<u>(79,481)</u>
General Revenues:					
Taxes:					
Property taxes, levied for					
general purposes	3,376,038	-	3,376,038	-	-
Other taxes and licenses	2,126,117	-	2,126,117	-	-
Local option sales tax	1,521,276	-	1,521,276	-	-
Miscellaneous revenues	-	-	-	1,571	-
Investment earnings, unrestricted	370,859	118,232	489,091	17,358	8,514
Total general revenues	<u>7,394,290</u>	<u>118,232</u>	<u>7,512,522</u>	<u>18,929</u>	<u>8,514</u>
Change in net position	3,311,181	1,815,858	5,127,039	16,208	(70,967)
Net Position:					
Beginning of year - July 1	<u>11,918,997</u>	<u>26,806,589</u>	<u>38,725,586</u>	<u>858,462</u>	<u>256,337</u>
End of year - June 30	<u>\$ 15,230,178</u>	<u>\$ 28,622,447</u>	<u>\$ 43,852,625</u>	<u>\$ 874,670</u>	<u>\$ 185,370</u>

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

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2024

	Major		Nonmajor	
	General Fund	Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Special Revenue Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total
Assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 9,212,077	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,212,077
Receivables, net:				
Taxes	119,846	-	-	119,846
Accounts	575,695	-	-	575,695
Due from other governments	172,098	-	-	172,098
Prepaid items	448,822	-	-	448,822
Restricted assets - cash and cash equivalents	718,505	465,321	400,000	1,583,826
Total assets	<u>\$ 11,247,043</u>	<u>\$ 465,321</u>	<u>\$ 400,000</u>	<u>\$ 12,112,364</u>
Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances:				
Liabilities:				
Accounts payable	\$ 54,462	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 54,462
Due to component unit	20,419	-	-	20,419
Accrued liabilities	156,448	-	-	156,448
Advance from grantor	5,518	465,321	400,000	870,839
Total liabilities	<u>236,847</u>	<u>465,321</u>	<u>400,000</u>	<u>1,102,168</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources:				
Prepaid taxes	17,344	-	-	17,344
Property taxes receivables	119,846	-	-	119,846
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>137,190</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>137,190</u>
Fund Balances:				
Non-spendable:				
Prepaid items	448,822	-	-	448,822
Restricted:				
Stabilization by state statute	747,793	-	-	747,793
Restricted for streets	637,523	-	-	637,523
Restricted for public safety	75,464	-	-	75,464
Unassigned	8,963,404	-	-	8,963,404
Total fund balance	<u>10,873,006</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,873,006</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balances	<u>\$ 11,247,043</u>	<u>\$ 465,321</u>	<u>\$ 400,000</u>	<u>\$ 12,112,364</u>

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

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2024

	Total
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position (Exhibit A) are different because:	
Total fund balances	\$ 10,873,006
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation/amortization, used in governmental activities are not current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.	7,672,921
Net pension liability - LGERS	(1,449,874)
Total pension liability - LEOSSA	(1,253,738)
Total OPEB liability	(1,196,635)
Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions are not reported in the funds.	(120,959)
Deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB are not reported in the funds.	(254,318)
Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions are not reported in the funds.	1,084,222
Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB are not reported in the funds.	352,588
Other long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.	(393,503)
Compensated absences are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.	(187,108)
Liabilities for earned revenues considered deferred inflows of resources in fund statements.	119,846
Other long-term liabilities (accrued interest) are not due and payable in the funds.	(16,270)
Net position of governmental activities	\$ 15,230,178

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

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

	<u>Major</u>		<u>Nonmajor</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Special Revenue Fund</u>	<u>Other Governmental Funds</u>	
Revenues:				
Ad valorem taxes	\$ 3,352,350	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,352,350
Other taxes and licenses	1,288,802	-	-	1,288,802
Unrestricted intergovernmental revenues	2,358,591	-	-	2,358,591
Restricted intergovernmental revenues	338,446	362,341	-	700,787
Permits and fees	10,496	-	-	10,496
Investment earnings	370,859	-	-	370,859
Miscellaneous	110,626	-	-	110,626
Total revenues	<u>7,830,170</u>	<u>362,341</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,192,511</u>
Expenditures:				
Current:				
General government	1,278,913	-	362,341	1,641,254
Public safety	2,605,713	-	-	2,605,713
Transportation	688,191	-	-	688,191
Cultural and recreation	10,000	-	-	10,000
Planning and economic development	423,922	-	-	423,922
Debt service:				
Principal	247,065	-	-	247,065
Interest	15,637	-	-	15,637
Total expenditures	<u>5,269,441</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>362,341</u>	<u>5,631,782</u>
Revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>2,560,729</u>	<u>362,341</u>	<u>(362,341)</u>	<u>2,560,729</u>
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Transfers in	-	-	362,341	362,341
Transfers out	-	(362,341)	-	(362,341)
Lease liabilities issued	80,684	-	-	80,684
Subscription liabilities issued	31,124	-	-	31,124
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>111,808</u>	<u>(362,341)</u>	<u>362,341</u>	<u>111,808</u>
Net change in fund balances	2,672,537	-	-	2,672,537
Fund Balances:				
Beginning of year - July 1	<u>8,200,469</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,200,469</u>
End of year - June 30	<u>\$ 10,873,006</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 10,873,006</u>

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

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities (Exhibit B) are different due to the following items:

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds (Exhibit D)	\$ 2,672,537
Revenues in the Statement of Activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the governmental funds statement.	23,688
The issuance of subscription liabilities, lease liabilities and long-term debt provides current financial resources to governmental funds. The transaction does not have an effect on net position.	(111,808)
Debt principal repayments are reported as expenditures in the governmental funds statement. However, in the Statement of Activities. These transactions are not an expense, rather they are a decrease in liabilities.	247,065
Expenses related to compensated absences that do not require current financial resources are not reported as expenditures in the governmental funds statement.	(37,593)
Pension expense - LGERS	(168,580)
Pension expense - LEO	(54,987)
OPEB plan expense	103,306
Capital outlays are reported as expenditures in the governmental funds statement. However, in the Statement of Activities, capital outlay is not an expense, rather it is an increase in capital assets.	1,135,890
The sale/disposal of capital assets is reported as a revenue in the governmental funds statement without subtracting the net book value of the capital assets sold.	(51,849)
Other long-term liabilities (accrued interest) are not due and payable in the funds.	(12,470)
Depreciation/amortization expense allocates the costs of capital assets over their useful lives. It is not reported as an expenditure in the governmental funds statement.	<u>(434,018)</u>
Change in net position of governmental activities per Exhibit B	<u>\$ 3,311,181</u>

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

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

GENERAL FUND
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance Over/Under</u>
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		
Revenues:				
Ad valorem taxes	\$ 2,996,000	\$ 2,996,000	\$ 3,352,350	\$ 356,350
Other taxes and licenses	1,233,071	1,233,071	1,288,802	55,731
Unrestricted intergovernmental revenues	1,529,250	1,535,085	2,358,591	823,506
Restricted intergovernmental revenues	263,000	283,100	338,446	55,346
Permits and fees	3,500	3,500	10,496	6,996
Investment earnings	50,000	50,000	370,859	320,859
Miscellaneous	25,750	35,888	110,626	74,738
Total revenues	<u>6,100,571</u>	<u>6,136,644</u>	<u>7,830,170</u>	<u>1,693,526</u>
Expenditures:				
General government	1,436,531	1,508,817	1,278,913	229,904
Public safety	3,076,810	3,569,203	2,605,713	963,490
Transportation	912,287	952,080	688,191	263,889
Cultural and recreation	10,000	10,000	10,000	-
Planning and economic development	496,352	505,674	423,922	81,752
Debt service:				
Principal	216,469	247,065	247,065	-
Interest and fees	9,622	15,637	15,637	-
Contingency	30,000	21,172	-	21,172
Total expenditures	<u>6,188,071</u>	<u>6,829,648</u>	<u>5,269,441</u>	<u>1,560,207</u>
Revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>(87,500)</u>	<u>(693,004)</u>	<u>2,560,729</u>	<u>3,253,733</u>
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Lease liabilities issued	-	80,684	80,684	-
Subscription liabilities issued	-	31,124	31,124	-
Transfers in	87,500	87,500	-	(87,500)
Appropriated fund balance	-	493,696	-	(493,696)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>87,500</u>	<u>693,004</u>	<u>111,808</u>	<u>(581,196)</u>
Net change in fund balance	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>2,672,537</u>	<u>\$ 2,672,537</u>
Fund Balance:				
Beginning of year - July 1			<u>8,200,469</u>	
End of year - June 30			<u>\$ 10,873,006</u>	

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

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
PROPRIETARY FUND
JUNE 30, 2024

	Water and Sewer Fund
Assets:	
Current assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 9,234,473
Accounts receivable, net	660,461
Current portion of long-term note receivable	11,219
Due from other governments	496,035
Inventory	328,044
Restricted assets - cash and cash equivalents	44,990
Total current assets	10,775,222
Non-current assets:	
Non-current portion of long-term note receivable	152,055
Capital assets:	
Land	1,052,081
Other capital assets, net	23,243,216
Total capital assets	24,295,297
Total non-current assets	24,447,352
Total assets	35,222,574
Deferred Outflows of Resources:	
OPEB deferrals	159,712
Pension deferrals	518,994
Total deferred outflows of resources	678,706
Liabilities:	
Current liabilities:	
Accounts payable	483,864
Accrued liabilities	89,303
Accrued interest	13,454
Liabilities payable from restricted assets:	
Customer deposits	44,990
Current portion of notes payable	655,537
Current portion of lease liability	41,617
Current portion of subscription liability	16,738
Current portion of compensated absences payable	36,819
Total current liabilities	1,382,322

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

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
PROPRIETARY FUND
JUNE 30, 2024

	<u>Water and Sewer Fund</u>
Non-current liabilities:	
Notes payable	4,074,285
Net pension liability	851,516
Total OPEB liability	622,306
Subscription liability	17,147
Lease liability	151,181
Compensated absences payable	36,819
Total non-current liabilities	<u>5,753,254</u>
Total liabilities	<u>7,135,576</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources:	
OPEB deferrals	132,257
Pension deferrals	11,000
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>143,257</u>
Net Position:	
Net investment in capital assets	19,338,792
Unrestricted	9,283,655
Total net position	<u>\$ 28,622,447</u>

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

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES
IN NET POSITION - PROPRIETARY FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

	<u>Water and Sewer Fund</u>
Operating Revenues:	
Charges for services	\$ 5,006,368
Operating Expenses:	
Water/sewer operations	2,962,254
Depreciation/amortization	<u>1,110,874</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>4,073,128</u>
Operating income (loss)	<u>933,240</u>
Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses):	
Restricted intergovernmental revenue	745,085
Investment earnings	118,232
Interest expense	(109,085)
Macon County appropriations	46,865
Other revenues	<u>81,521</u>
Total non-operating revenues (expenses)	<u>882,618</u>
Change in net position	1,815,858
Net Position:	
Beginning of year - July 1	<u>26,806,589</u>
End of year - June 30	<u>\$ 28,622,447</u>

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

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
PROPRIETARY FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	<u>Water and Sewer Fund</u>
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:	
Cash received from customers	\$ 4,725,081
Customer deposits received	610
Cash paid for goods and services	(954,198)
Cash paid to employees	<u>(1,611,309)</u>
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	<u>2,160,184</u>
Cash Flows from Non-Capital Financing Activities:	
Macon County appropriations	46,865
Other revenues	<u>663,332</u>
Net cash provided (used) by non-capital financing activities	<u>710,197</u>
Cash Flows from Capital and Related Financing Activities:	
Acquisition and construction of capital assets	(1,178,724)
Debt principal	(943,112)
Debt interest	<u>(109,069)</u>
Net cash provided (used) by capital and related financing activities	<u>(2,230,905)</u>
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:	
Interest received	<u>118,232</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash, cash equivalents, and investments	757,708
Cash and Cash Equivalents:	
Beginning of year - July 1	<u>8,521,755</u>
End of year - June 30	<u>\$ 9,279,463</u>
Reconciliation of Operating Income (Loss) to Net Cash Provided (Used) by Operating Activities:	
Operating income (loss)	\$ 933,240
Depreciation/amortization	1,110,874
Changes in assets and liabilities:	
Accounts receivables	(281,287)
Inventories	(114,461)
Accounts payable	410,994
Customer deposits	610
OPEB liability	(61,834)
Pension liability	166,036
Deferred outflows of resources for pension	(60,954)
Deferred inflows of resources for pension	(6,075)
Deferred outflows of resources for OPEB	27,978
Deferred inflows of resources for OPEB	22,990
Accrued vacation	<u>12,073</u>
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	<u>\$ 2,160,184</u>

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

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The accounting policies of the Town of Franklin (the "Town") and its discretely presented component units conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applicable to governments. The following is a summary of the more significant accounting policies:

A. Reporting Entity

The Town is a municipal corporation that is governed by an elected Mayor and a six-member Town Council. As required by generally accepted accounting principles, these financial statements present the Town and its component units, legally separate entities for which the Town is financially accountable. The discretely presented component units presented below are reported in a separate column in the Town's financial statements in order to emphasize that they are legally separate from the Town.

Component Unit – Town of Franklin ABC Board

The members of the ABC Board's governing board are appointed by the Town. In addition, the ABC Board is required by state statute to distribute its surpluses to the General Fund of the Town. The ABC Board, which has a June 30 year-end, is presented as if it were a Proprietary Fund (discrete presentation). Complete financial statements for the ABC Board may be obtained from the entity's administrative offices at the Town of Franklin ABC Board, 149 Macon Plaza Drive, Franklin, North Carolina 28734.

Component Unit – Town of Franklin Tourism Development Authority

The members of the TDA's governing board are appointed by the Town. The TDA, which provides a financial benefit to the Town, was established to receive the proceeds of the room occupancy tax levied pursuant to Session Law SL 2004-105. The TDA is authorized to spend these proceeds to promote travel and tourism. The TDA, which has a June 30 year-end, and is presented as if it were a governmental fund (discrete presentation), has elected not to issue separate financial statements, but to include all relevant information required by generally accepted accounting principles as supplementary information in the County's Annual Financial Report.

B. Basis of Presentation

Government-Wide Statements. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the primary government and its component units. These statements include the financial activities of the overall government. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double counting of internal activities. These statements distinguish between the governmental and business-type activities of the Town. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange transactions. Business-type activities are financed, in whole or in part, by fees charged to external parties.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for the different business-type activities of the Town and for each function of the Town's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function.

Indirect expense allocations that have been made in the funds have been reversed for the Statement of Activities. Program revenues include: (a) fees and charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by the programs and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

Fund Financial Statements. The fund financial statements provide information about the Town's funds. Separate statements for each fund category, *governmental and proprietary*, are presented. The Town has no fiduciary funds to report. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental and enterprise funds, each displayed in a separate column. All remaining governmental and enterprise funds are aggregated and reported as nonmajor funds.

Proprietary fund operating revenues such as charges for services, result from exchange transactions associated with the principal activity of the fund. Exchange transactions are those in which each party receives and gives up essentially equal values. Non-operating revenues, such as subsidies and investment earnings, result from non-exchange transactions or ancillary activities.

The Town reports the following major governmental funds:

General Fund. The General Fund is the general operating fund of the Town. It is used to account for all financial resources except those that are required to be accounted for in another fund. The primary revenue sources are ad valorem taxes and state-shared revenues. The primary expenditures are for public safety, general government, transportation, and planning and economic development services.

Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Special Revenue Fund. This fund is used to account for the federal funds received in response to the American Rescue Plan Act.

The Town reports the following nonmajor governmental funds:

Construction of Fire Substation Capital Project Fund. This fund is used to account for funds for the construction of a fire substation.

Sidewalk Replacement and Reconditioning Project. This fund is used to account for funds for the sidewalk project in the Town.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

The Town reports the following major enterprise fund:

Water and Sewer Fund. The Water and Sewer Fund is used to account for the Town's water and sewer operations. The primary revenue source is charges to water and sewer customers on a monthly basis. The primary expenses are water treatment, sewer treatment, distribution and collection lines, and administration. The Water and Sewer Capital Project Fund is consolidated into the Water and Sewer Fund for financial reporting purposes. The budgetary comparison for the Water and Sewer Capital Project Fund has been included in the supplemental information.

C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

In accordance with North Carolina General Statutes, all funds of the Town are maintained during the year using the modified accrual basis of accounting.

Government-Wide and Proprietary Fund Financial Statements. The government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus. The government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned, and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash flows take place. Non-exchange transactions, in which the Town gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange, include property taxes, grants, and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. Revenue from grants and donations are recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

Amounts reported as program revenues include: 1) charges to customers or applicants for goods, services, or privileges provided; 2) operating grants and contributions; and 3) capital grants and contributions, including special assessments. Internally dedicated resources are reported as general revenues rather than as program revenues. Likewise, general revenues include all taxes.

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from non-operating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues of the Town's Enterprise Fund are charges to customers for sales and services. The Town also recognized as operating revenue the portion of tap fees intended to recover the cost of connecting new customers to the water and sewer system. Operating expenses for enterprise funds include the cost of sales and services, administrative expenses, and depreciation/amortization on capital assets. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating revenues and expenses.

Governmental Fund Financial Statements. Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, claims and judgments, and compensated absences, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of general long-term debt and acquisitions under leases and IT subscriptions are reported as other financing sources.

The Town considers all revenues available if they are collected within 90 days after year-end, except for property taxes. Ad valorem taxes receivable are not accrued as revenue because the amount is not susceptible to accrual. At June 30, taxes receivable for property other than motor vehicles are materially past due and are not considered to be an available resource to finance the operations of the current year. As of September 1, 2013, state law altered the procedures for the assessment and collection of property taxes on registered motor vehicles in North Carolina. Effective with this change in the law, the state of North Carolina is responsible for billing and collecting the property taxes on registered motor vehicles on behalf of all municipalities and special tax districts. Property taxes are due when vehicles are registered. The billed taxes are applicable to the fiscal year in which they are received. Uncollected taxes that were billed in periods prior to September 1, 2013, and for limited registration plates are shown as a receivable in these financial statements and are offset by deferred inflows of resources.

Sales taxes and certain intergovernmental revenues, such as the utilities franchise tax, collected and held by the state at year-end on behalf of the Town are recognized as revenue. Sales taxes are considered a shared revenue for the Town because the tax is levied by Macon County and then remitted to and distributed by the state. Intergovernmental revenues and sales and services are not susceptible to accrual because generally they are not measurable until received in cash. All taxes, including those dedicated for specific purposes are reported as general revenues rather than program revenues. Under the terms of grant agreements, the Town funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost-reimbursement grants, categorical block grants, and general revenues. Thus, when program expenses are incurred, there are both restricted and unrestricted net position available to finance the program. It is the Town's policy to first apply cost-reimbursement grant resources to such programs, followed by categorical block grants, and then by general revenues.

D. Budgetary Data

The Town's budgets are adopted as required by the North Carolina General Statutes. An annual budget is adopted for the General Fund and the Enterprise Fund. All annual appropriations lapse at the fiscal year-end. A project ordinance is adopted for the Water and Sewer Capital Project Fund, the Construction of Fire Substation Capital Project Fund, and the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Special Revenue Fund. The Enterprise Fund project is consolidated with the operating fund for reporting purposes. All budgets are prepared using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations at the functional level for all annually budgeted funds and at the project level for the multi-year funds. All amendments must be approved by the governing body and the Town Council must adopt an interim budget that covers that time until the annual ordinance can be adopted.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

During the year several amendments to the original budget were necessary. The budget ordinance must be adopted by July 1, of the fiscal year or the governing body must adopt an interim budget that covers that time until the annual ordinance can be adopted.

The Town Manager and/or Finance Officer are authorized to transfer appropriations within a fund as contained herein under the following conditions:

- a) The Finance Officer may transfer amounts between objects of expenditure within a department.
- b) The Town Manager may transfer amounts between departments, as defined above, with a subsequent report to the Town Council, recorded in the minutes.
- c) The funding for approved reclassifications may be transferred from the budgeted reserve with the approval of the Town Manager.
- d) No revenues may be increased, no funds may be transferred from the Contingency account in the General Fund or capital projects funds, and no transfers may be made between funds unless formal action is taken by the Town Council.

E. Assets, Liabilities and Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Fund Equity

Deposits and Investments

All deposits of the Town, ABC Board, and the Tourism Development Authority are made in Board-designated official depositories and are secured as required by state law [G.S. 159-31]. The Town, ABC Board, and the Tourism Development Authority may designate, as an official depository, any bank or savings association whose principal office is located in North Carolina. Also, the Town, ABC Board, and the Tourism Development Authority may establish time deposit accounts such as NOW and SuperNOW accounts, money market accounts, and certificates of deposit.

State law G.S. 159-30 authorizes the Town, ABC Board, and the Tourism Development Authority to invest in obligations of the United States or obligations fully guaranteed both as to principal and interest by the United States; obligations of the state of North Carolina; bonds and notes of any North Carolina local government or public authority; obligations of certain non-guaranteed federal agencies; certain high quality issues of commercial paper and bankers' acceptances and the North Carolina Capital Management Trust (NCCMT). The NCCMT Government Portfolio, a SEC-registered (2a-7) money market mutual fund that is certified by the Local Government Commission under the provisions of G.S. 159-30(c)/(8) and the North Carolina Administrative Code. The Government Portfolio is a 2a7 fund that invests in treasuries, government agencies, and repurchase agreements collateralized by treasuries. It is rated AAAM by S&P and AAAMf by Moody's Investor Services and reported at fair value.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Town pools money from several funds to facilitate disbursement and investment and to maximize investment income and considers all cash and investments to be cash and cash equivalents. All cash and investments for the ABC Board and the Tourism Development Authority are considered cash and cash equivalents.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Restricted Cash

Powell Bill funds are classified as restricted cash because they can be expended only for the purposes outlined in G.S. 136-41.1 through 136-41.4. Customer deposits held by the Town before any services are supplied are restricted to the service for which the deposit was collected. Law enforcement funds are restricted because they can only be expended for law enforcement purposes. Advances from grantors are classified as restricted assets because their use is completely restricted to the purpose for which the grant was received.

Governmental Activities:

General Fund:

Law enforcement funds	\$ 75,464
Powell Bill	637,523
Advance from grantors	<u>5,518</u>
Total General Fund	718,505

Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery

Special Revenue Fund:

Advance from grantors	465,321
Other governmental funds:	
Advance from grantors	<u>400,000</u>
Total governmental activities	<u>1,583,826</u>

Business-Type Activities:

Water and Sewer Fund:

Customer deposits	<u>44,990</u>
Total restricted cash	<u>\$ 1,628,816</u>

Ad Valorem Taxes Receivable

In accordance with state law [G.S. 105-347 and G.S. 159-13(a)], the Town levies ad valorem taxes on property other than motor vehicles on July 1, the beginning of the fiscal year. The taxes are due on September 1st (lien date); however, interest does not accrue until the following January 6th. These taxes are based on the assessed values as of January 1, 2023. There are no discounts allowed by the Town.

Allowances for Doubtful Accounts

All receivables that historically experience uncollectible accounts are shown net of an allowance for doubtful accounts. This amount is estimated by analyzing the percentage of receivables that were written off in prior years.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Inventory and Prepaid Items

The Town's Enterprise Fund inventory consists of expendable supplies that are recorded as expenditures as used rather than when purchased.

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both government-wide and fund financial statements and expensed as the items are used.

Capital Assets

Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than a certain cost and an estimated useful life in excess of two years. Minimum capitalization costs are \$5,000. Donated capital assets received prior to June 30, 2015 are recorded at their estimated fair value at the date of donation. Donated capital assets received after June 30, 2015 are recorded at acquisition value. All other purchased or constructed capital assets are reported at cost or estimated historical cost. General infrastructure assets acquired prior to July 1, 2003 consist of the road network and water and sewer system assets that were acquired or that received substantial improvements subsequent to July 1, 1980 and are reported at estimated historical cost using deflated replacement cost. The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets' lives are not capitalized.

Capital assets are depreciated/amortized using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Estimated Useful Lives</u>
Public art	100 years
Buildings	50 years
Improvements to facilities	15 years
Computer equipment	3-5 years
Equipment	8 years
Furniture and fixtures	10 years
Vehicles	6-10 years
Infrastructure	20-50 years

Capital assets of the ABC Board are depreciated over their useful lives on a straight-line basis as follows:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Estimated Useful Lives</u>
Leasehold improvements	10 years
Equipment	3 years

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Right to Use Assets

The Town has recorded right to use lease assets as a result of implementing GASB 87. The right to use assets are initially measured at an amount equal to the initial measurement of the related lease liability plus any lease payments made prior to the lease term, less lease incentives, and plus ancillary charges necessary to place the lease into service. The right to use assets are amortized on a straight-line basis over the life of the related lease.

Subscription Assets

The Town has recorded subscription assets as a result of implementing GASB 96. The subscription assets are initially measured at an amount equal to the initial measurement of the related subscription liability plus any subscription payments made prior to the subscription term, less subscription incentives, and plus ancillary charges necessary to place the subscription into service. The subscription assets are amortized on a straight-line basis over the life of the related subscription.

Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the Statement of Net Position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *Deferred Outflows of Resources*, represents a consumption of net assets that applies to a future period and so will not be recognized as an expense or expenditure until then. The Town has two items that meet the criteria for this category, pension and OPEB related deferrals.

In addition to liabilities, the Statement of Net Position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *Deferred Inflows of Resources*, represents an acquisition of net assets that applies to a future period and so will not be recognized as revenue until then. The Town has several items that meet the criteria for this category, property taxes receivable, prepaid taxes, and pension and OPEB related deferrals.

Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements and proprietary fund types in the fund financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities, business-type activities, or proprietary fund type fund Statement of Net Position. Bond premiums and discounts are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the straight-line method that approximates the effective interest method. Bonds payable is reported net of the applicable bond premiums or discount. Bond issuance costs, except for prepaid insurance costs, are expensed in the reporting period in which they are incurred. Prepaid insurance costs are expensed over the life of the debt.

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

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Compensated Absences

The vacation policy of the Town provides for the accumulation of up to thirty (30) days earned vacation leave with such leave being fully vested when earned. For the Town's government-wide statements, an expense and a liability for compensated absences, and the salary-related payments are recorded as the leave is earned. The Town has assumed a last-in, first-out method of using accumulated compensated time assuming that employees are taking leave time as it is earned.

The Town's sick leave policy provides for an unlimited accumulation of earned sick leave for full-time employees. Sick leave does not vest, but any unused sick leave accumulated at the time of retirement may be used in the determination of length of service for retirement benefit purposes. Since neither the Town has any obligation for the accumulated sick leave or comp time until it is actually taken, no accrual for sick leave or comp time has been made.

Reimbursements for Pandemic-Related Expenditures

In FY2020/21, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) established the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to support urgent COVID-19 response efforts and replace lost revenue for eligible state, local, territorial, and tribal governments. The Town was allocated \$1,308,253 of fiscal recovery funds to be paid in two equal installments. The first installment of \$654,127 was received in August 2021. The second installment was received in August of 2022. Town staff and the Town Council have elected to use all funds received under the standard allowance. The \$362,341 that was used in the current year was transferred to the General Fund from the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Special Revenue Fund. Another transfer will be made in the next fiscal year to the appropriate funds for the remaining funds received to use under the standard allowance.

Net Position/Fund Balances

Net Position

Net position in government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements are classified as net investment in capital assets, restricted, and unrestricted. Restricted net position represents constraints on resources that are either externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, laws, or regulations of other governments, or imposed by law through state statute.

Fund Balances

In the governmental fund financial statements, fund balance is composed of five classifications designed to disclose the hierarchy of constraints placed on how fund balance can be spent.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

The governmental fund types classify fund balances as follows:

Non-Spendable Fund Balance

This classification includes amounts that cannot be spent, because they are either (a) not in spendable form or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

Prepays – portion of fund balance that is not an available resource because it represents the year-end balance of prepaids, which are not spendable resources.

Restricted Fund Balance

This classification includes amounts that are restricted to specific purposes externally imposed by creditors or imposed by law.

Restricted for Stabilization by State Statute – North Carolina G.S. 159-8 prohibits units of government from budgeting or spending a portion of their fund balance. This is one of several statutes enacted by the North Carolina State Legislature in the 1930's that were designed to improve and maintain the fiscal health of local government units. Restricted by state statute (RSS), is calculated at the end of each fiscal year for all annually budgeted funds. The calculation of G.S. 159-8(a) provides a formula for determining what portion of fund balance is available for appropriation. The amount of fund balance not available for appropriation is what is known as "restricted by state statute". *Appropriated fund balance in any fund shall not exceed the sum of cash and investments minus the sum of liabilities, encumbrances, and deferred revenues arising from cash receipts, as those figures stated at the close of the fiscal year next preceding the budget.* Per GASB guidance, RSS is considered a resource upon which a restriction is "imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation." RSS is reduced by inventories and prepaids as they are classified as non-spendable. Outstanding encumbrances are included within RSS. RSS is included as a component of restricted net position and restricted fund balance on the face of the balance sheet.

Restricted for Streets - Powell Bill - portion of fund balance that is restricted by revenue source for street construction and maintenance expenditures. This amount represents the balance of total unexpended Powell Bill funds.

Restricted for Public Safety – portion of fund balance available for appropriation but legally segregated for public safety expenditures.

Committed Fund Balance

This classification represents the portion of fund balance that can only be used for specific purposes imposed by majority vote by quorum of the Town of Franklin's governing body (highest level of decision-making authority, the Town Council). Any changes or removal of specific purpose restrictions requires majority action by the governing body. Once adopted, the limitation imposed by the ordinance remains in place until a similar action is taken (the adoption of another ordinance) to remove or revise the limitation.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Assigned Fund Balance

Assigned fund balance is the portion of fund balance that the Town of Franklin intends to use for specific purposes. The Town's governing body has the authority to assign fund balance. The Manager and Finance Officer, as granted in the officially adopted budget ordinance, have been granted limited authority to assign fund balance.

Unassigned Fund Balance

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

The Town of Franklin has a revenue spending policy that provides guidance for programs with multiple revenue sources. The Finance Officer will use resources in the following order: bond/debt proceeds, federal funds, state funds, local non-Town funds, and Town funds. For purposes of fund balance classification, expenditures are to be spent from restricted fund balance first, followed in order by committed fund balance, assigned fund balance, and, lastly, unassigned fund balance. The Finance Officer has the authority to deviate from this policy if it is in the best interest of the Town or when required by grant or other contractual agreements.

The Town has also adopted a minimum fund balance policy for the General Fund which instructs management to conduct business of the Town in such a manner that unassigned fund balance is at least equal to or greater than 890% of operating expenditures. If, upon completion of the annual audit of Town finances, there is an unassigned fund balance above 100%, the Finance Director and Town Manager will make a recommendation to the Town Council to begin plans for a capital expenditure in order to utilize the excess fund balance. The excess will only be used for capital expenditures, not operating expenditures. If at any time the unassigned fund balance falls below eighty percent (80%), the Finance Director and Town Manager will make a recommendation to the Town Council of a strategic plan to restore the unassigned fund balance to appropriate levels to remain within the approved Fund Balance Policy. This plan will need to show restoration within 36 months or less.

The following schedule provides management and citizens with information on the portion of General Fund balance that is available for appropriation.

	\$ 10,873,006
Less:	
Prepaid items	448,822
Stabilization by state statute	<u>747,793</u>
Total available fund balance	<u><u>\$ 9,676,391</u></u>

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Defined Benefit Cost-Sharing Plans

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System (LGERS) and additions to/deductions from LGERS' fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by LGERS. For this purpose, plan member contributions are recognized in the period in which the contributions are due. The Town of Franklin's employer contributions are recognized when due and the Town of Franklin has a legal requirement to provide the contributions. Benefits and refunds are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of LGERS. Investments are reported at fair value.

Interfund Transactions

Interfund services provided are accounted for as revenues or expenses in the government-wide financial statements, since they would be treated as such if they involved organizations external to the Town. Transactions that constitute reimbursements to a fund or expenditures/expenses initially made from it that are properly applicable to another fund are recorded as expenditures/expenses in the reimbursing fund and as reductions of expenditures/expenses in the fund that is reimbursed. All other interfund transactions are reported as transfers.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates. Significant areas, where estimates are made, are allowance for doubtful accounts and depreciation lives.

2. Detail Notes on All Funds

A. Assets

Deposits

All of the deposits of the Town and TDA are either insured or collateralized by using one of two methods. Under the Dedicated Method, all deposits that exceed the federal depository insurance coverage are collateralized with securities held by the Town's and TDA's agent in the units' name. Under the Pooling Method, a collateral pool, all uninsured deposits are collateralized with securities held by the State Treasurer's agent in the name of the State Treasurer. Since the State Treasurer is acting in a fiduciary capacity for the Town and the TDA, these deposits are considered to be held by the agent in the entity's name. The amount of the pledged collateral is based on an approved averaging method for non-interest-bearing deposits and the actual current balance for interest-bearing deposits. Depositories using the Pooling Method report to the State Treasurer the adequacy of their pooled collateral covering uninsured deposits. The State Treasurer does not confirm this information with the Town, the TDA, or the escrow agent. Because of the inability to measure the exact amount of collateral

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

pledged for the Town and TDA under the Pooling Method, the potential exists for under collateralization, and this risk may increase in periods of high cash flows. However, the State Treasurer of North Carolina enforces strict standards of financial stability for each depository that collateralizes public deposits under the Pooling Method. The Town or TDA has no policy regarding custodial credit risk for deposits but relies on the State Treasurer to enforce standards of minimum capitalization for all pooling method financial institutions and to monitor them for compliance. The Town and TDA complies with the provisions of G.S. 159-31 when designating official depositories and verifying that deposits are properly secured. The ABC Board has no formal policy regarding custodial credit risk for deposits.

At June 30, 2024, the Town's deposits had a carrying amount of \$10,124,050 and a bank balance of \$10,130,894. Of the bank balance, \$457,937 was covered by federal depository insurance and \$9,672,957 was covered by collateral held under the Pooling Method. The Town also had cash on hand of \$600 at June 30, 2024. The Town of Franklin ABC Board's deposits had a carrying amount of \$643,562 and a bank balance of \$925,671. Of the bank balance, \$403,686 was covered by federal depository insurance and \$521,985 was covered by collateral held under the Pooling Method. The Town of Franklin Tourism Development Authority's deposits had a carrying amount of \$14,353 and a bank balance of \$14,353. All of the bank balances for the TDA were covered by federal depository insurance.

Investments

At June 30, 2024, the Town had \$9,950,716 and the TDA had \$167,170 invested with the North Carolina Capital Management Trust's Government Portfolio, which carried a credit rating of AAAM by Standard and Poor's and AAA-mf by Moody's Investor Service as of June 30, 2024. The Government Portfolio is reported at fair value. The Town has no policy regarding credit risk.

All investments are measured using the market approach: using prices and other relevant information generated by market transactions involving identical or comparable assets or a group of assets.

Level of Fair Value Hierarchy: Level 1 debt securities are valued using directly observable, quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets.

Interest Rate Risk. The Town has no formal investment policy regarding interest rate risk.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Receivables

The receivables shown in Exhibit A at June 30, 2024 were as follows:

	<u>Accounts</u>	<u>Taxes</u>	<u>Due from Other Governments</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
Governmental Activities:					
General	\$ 575,695	\$ 206,004	\$ 172,098	\$ -	\$ 953,797
Allowance for doubtful accounts	-	(86,158)	-	-	(86,158)
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 575,695</u>	<u>\$ 119,846</u>	<u>\$ 172,098</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 867,639</u>
Business-Type Activities:					
Water and Sewer Fund	\$ 983,285	\$ -	\$ 496,035	\$ -	\$ 1,479,320
Allowance for doubtful accounts	(322,824)	-	-	-	(322,824)
Total business-type activities	<u>\$ 660,461</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 496,035</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,156,496</u>

Due from Other Governments

Due from other governments that is owed to the Town consists of the following:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>June 30, 2024</u>
General Fund:	
Sales tax receivable	\$ 37,427
NCDMV	28,671
Franchise tax receivable	<u>106,000</u>
	<u>172,098</u>
Water and Sewer Fund:	
NCDEQ	\$ 448,169
Sales tax receivable	<u>47,866</u>
	<u>496,035</u>
Total	<u>\$ 668,133</u>

The Tourism Development Authority's receivables consist of occupancy taxes from local hotels of \$20,419 due from the Town of Franklin. Management expects all accounts receivable to be collected; therefore, no allowance for doubtful accounts has been recorded.

Notes Receivable

The Town issued a note receivable in August 2021 in the amount of \$200,000 in the Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund, payable in twenty-three equal monthly payments. The first said monthly payment was due and payable on or before September 1, 2021 and subsequent monthly payments of a like amount shall be due and payable on or before the first day of each

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

successive month thereafter with a final balloon payment of all outstanding principal and interest being due on or before September 1, 2023. Interest is calculated at 5% and is due monthly. The amount outstanding at June 30, 2024 is \$163,274.

Capital Assets

Governmental Capital Assets

Capital asset activity for governmental activities for the year ended June 30, 2024 was as follows:

	Balance July 1, 2023	Increases	Decreases	Balance June 30, 2024
Governmental Activities:				
Non-Depreciable/Amortizable				
Capital Assets:				
Land	\$ 3,695,177	\$ 262,500	\$ -	\$ 3,957,677
Depreciable/Amortizable				
Capital Assets:				
Buildings	2,812,022	-	-	2,812,022
Improvements to facilities	305,306	204,000	-	509,306
Computer equipment	340,009	76,515	-	416,524
Equipment	990,357	12,888	-	1,003,245
Right to use lease assets	64,265	80,684	-	144,949
Subscription assets	66,607	31,124	17,270	80,461
Furniture and fixtures	156,076	-	-	156,076
Vehicles	3,563,694	48,396	73,161	3,538,929
Infrastructure	2,530,270	419,783	-	2,950,053
Total depreciable/amortizable capital assets	10,828,606	873,390	90,431	11,611,565
Less Accumulated Depreciation/Amortization:				
Buildings	998,822	56,041	-	1,054,863
Improvements to facilities	265,571	10,199	-	275,770
Computer equipment	256,475	34,108	-	290,583
Equipment	772,835	62,730	-	835,565
Right to use lease assets	38,836	28,262	-	67,098
Subscription assets	18,768	26,922	10,666	35,024
Furniture and fixtures	156,075	-	-	156,075
Vehicles	3,175,374	10,041	27,916	3,157,499
Infrastructure	1,818,129	205,715	-	2,023,844
Total accumulated depreciation/amortization	7,500,885	434,018	38,582	7,896,321
Total depreciable/amortizable capital assets, net	3,327,721			3,715,244
Governmental activities capital assets, net	\$ 7,022,898			\$ 7,672,921

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Depreciation was charged to governmental functions as follows:

General government	\$	116,547
Public safety		200,103
Transportation		117,368
Total depreciation/amortization expense	\$	<u>434,018</u>

Proprietary Capital Assets

The capital asset activity of the proprietary fund for the year ended June 30, 2024 was as follows:

	<u>Balance</u> <u>July 1, 2023</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>June 30, 2024</u>
Business-Type Activities:				
Non-Depreciable/Amortizable Capital Assets:				
Land	\$ 1,052,081	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,052,081
Depreciable/Amortizable Capital Assets:				
Buildings	1,336,485	-	-	1,336,485
Improvement to facilities	133,469	-	-	133,469
Equipment	1,057,877	93,175	(11,899)	1,139,153
Right to use lease assets	250,379	-	-	250,379
Subscription assets	81,195	-	(10,938)	70,257
Vehicles	663,128	35,714	-	698,842
Water and sewer distribution systems	<u>34,549,990</u>	<u>1,049,835</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,599,825</u>
Total depreciable/amortizable capital assets	<u>38,072,523</u>	<u>1,178,724</u>	<u>(22,837)</u>	<u>39,228,410</u>
Less Accumulated Depreciation/Amortization:				
Buildings	243,330	31,726	-	275,056
Improvements to facilities	121,842	2,628	-	124,470
Equipment	906,697	54,678	11,899	949,476
Right to use lease assets	13,635	27,104	-	40,739
Subscription assets	20,299	25,767	10,938	35,128
Vehicles	541,634	41,291	-	582,925
Water and sewer distribution systems	<u>13,049,720</u>	<u>927,680</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,977,400</u>
Total accumulated depreciation/amortization	<u>14,897,157</u>	<u>\$ 1,110,874</u>	<u>\$ 22,837</u>	<u>15,985,194</u>
Total depreciable/amortizable capital assets, net	<u>23,175,366</u>			<u>23,243,216</u>
Business-type activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 24,227,447</u>			<u>\$ 24,295,297</u>

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Net Investment in Capital Assets

The total net investment in capital assets at June 30, 2024 is composed of the following elements:

	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities
Capital assets	\$ 7,672,921	\$ 24,295,297
Long-term debt related to capital assets	(393,503)	(4,956,505)
Net investment in capital assets	\$ 7,279,418	\$ 19,338,792

Component Unit

Capital assets of the ABC Board as of June 30, 2024, were as follows:

	Balance July 1, 2023	Increases	Decreases	Balance June 30, 2024
Depreciable Capital Assets:				
Equipment	\$ 77,231	\$ 5,710	\$ -	\$ 82,941
Leasehold improvements	210,944	-	-	210,944
Total depreciable capital assets	288,175	5,710	-	293,885
Less Accumulated Depreciation:				
Equipment	63,418	8,305	-	71,723
Leasehold improvements	201,695	1,877	-	203,572
Total accumulated depreciation	265,113	\$ 10,182	\$ -	275,295
Total depreciable capital assets, net	\$ 23,062			\$ 18,590

Construction Commitments

The Town had the following construction commitments as of year ended June 30, 2024:

	Spent-to-Date	Remaining Commitment
Construction of Fire Substation Capital Project Fund	\$ -	\$ 400,000

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

B. Liabilities

Payables

Payables at the government-wide level at June 30, 2024 were as follows:

	<u>Vendors</u>	<u>Salaries and Benefits</u>	<u>Component Unit</u>	<u>Total</u>
Governmental Activities:				
General Fund	\$ 54,462	\$ 156,448	\$ 20,419	\$ 231,329
Business-Type Activities:				
Water and Sewer Fund	\$ 483,864	\$ 89,303	\$ -	\$ 573,167

Pension Plan and Post-Employment Obligations

Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System

Plan Description. The Town of Franklin is a participating employer in the state-wide Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System (LGERS), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the state of North Carolina. LGERS membership is comprised of general employees and local law enforcement officers (LEOs) of participating local governmental entities. Article 3 of G.S. Chapter 128 assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the North Carolina General Assembly. Management of the plan is vested in the LGERS Board of Trustees, which consists of 13 members, nine appointed by the Governor, one appointed by the State Senate, one appointed by the State House of Representatives, and the State Treasurer and State Superintendent, who serve as ex-officio members. The Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System is included in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the state of North Carolina. The State's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report includes financial statements and required supplementary information for LGERS. That report may be obtained by writing to the Office of the State Controller, 1410 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1410, by calling (919) 981-5454, or at www.osc.nc.gov.

Benefits Provided. LGERS provides retirement and survivor benefits. Retirement benefits are determined as 1.85% of the member's average final compensation times the member's years of creditable service. A member's average final compensation is calculated as the average of a member's four highest consecutive years of compensation. Plan members are eligible to retire with full retirement benefits at age 65 with five years of creditable service, at age 60 with 25 years of creditable service, or at any age with 30 years of creditable service. Plan members are eligible to retire with partial retirement benefits at age 50 with 20 years of creditable service or at age 60 with five years of creditable service (age 55 for firefighters). Survivor benefits are available to eligible beneficiaries of members who die while in active service or within 180 days of their last day of service and who have either completed 20 years of creditable service regardless of age (15 years of creditable service for firefighters and rescue squad members who are killed in the line of duty) or have completed five years of service and have reached age 60. Eligible beneficiaries may elect to receive a monthly

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Survivor's Alternate Benefit for life or a return of the member's contributions. The plan does not provide for automatic post-retirement benefit increases. Increases are contingent upon actuarial gains of the plan.

LGERS plan members who are LEOs are eligible to retire with full retirement benefits at age 55 with five years of creditable service as an officer, or at any age with 30 years of creditable service. LEO plan members are eligible to retire with partial retirement benefits at age 50 with 15 years of creditable service as an officer. Survivor benefits are available to eligible beneficiaries of LEO members who die while in active service or within 180 days of their last day of service and who also have either completed 20 years of creditable service regardless of age or have completed 15 years of service as a LEO and have reached age 50 or have completed five years of creditable service as a LEO and have reached age 55 or have completed 15 years of creditable service as a LEO if killed in the line of duty. Eligible beneficiaries may elect to receive a monthly Survivor's Alternate Benefit for life or a return of the member's contributions.

Contributions. Contribution provisions are established by General Statute 128-30 and may be amended only by the North Carolina General Assembly. Town of Franklin employees are required to contribute 6% of their compensation. Employer contributions are actuarially determined and set annually by the LGERS Board of Trustees. The Town of Franklin's contractually required contribution rate for the year ended June 30, 2024 was 14.10% of compensation for law enforcement officers and 12.85% for general employees and firefighters, actuarially determined as an amount that, when combined with employee contributions, is expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year. Contributions to the pension plan from the Town of Franklin were \$386,884 for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Refunds of Contributions – Town employees who have terminated service as a contributing member of LGERS may file an application for a refund of their contributions. By state law, refunds to members with at least five years of service include 4% interest. State law requires a 60-day waiting period after service termination before the refund may be paid. The acceptance of a refund payment cancels the individual's right to employer contributions, or any other benefit provided by LGERS.

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

At June 30, 2024, the Town reported a liability of \$2,301,390 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023. The total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2022. The total pension liability was then rolled forward to the measurement date of June 30, 2023 utilizing update procedures incorporating the actuarial assumptions. The Town's proportion of the net pension liability was based on a projection of the Town's long-term share of future payroll covered by the pension plan, relative to the projected future payroll covered by the pension plan of all participating LGERS employers actuarially determined. At June 30, 2023 (measurement date), the Town's proportion was 0.03475%, which was an increase of 0.00191% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2022

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the Town recognized pension expense of \$654,472. At June 30, 2024, the Town reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 256,443	\$ 5,521
Changes of assumptions	97,796	-
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	615,953	-
Changes in proportion and differences between Town contributions and proportionate share of contributions	45,608	24,210
Town contributions subsequent to the measurement date	386,884	-
Total	\$ 1,402,684	\$ 29,731

\$386,884 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from the Town contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a decrease of the net pension liability in the year ending June 30, 2025. Other amounts reported as deferred inflows and outflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ending June 30	Total
2025	\$ 361,732
2026	177,269
2027	421,022
2028	26,046
Total	\$ 986,069

Actuarial Assumptions. The total pension liability in the December 31, 2022 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.5 percent
Salary increase	3.25 to 8.25 percent, including inflation and productivity factor
Investment rate of return	6.5 percent, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

The plan currently uses mortality tables that vary by age, gender, employee group (i.e. general, law enforcement officer), and health status (i.e. disabled and healthy). The current mortality rates are based on published tables and based on studies that cover significant portions of the U.S. population. The healthy mortality rates also contain a provision to reflect future mortality improvements.

The actuarial assumptions used in the December 31, 2022 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period as of December 31, 2019 and adopted by the Board of Trustees on January 28, 2021.

Future ad hoc COLA amounts are not considered to be substantively automatic and are, therefore, not included in the measurement.

The projected long-term investment returns and inflation assumptions are developed through review of current and historical capital markets data, sell-side investment research, consultant whitepapers, and historical performance of investment strategies. Fixed income return projections reflect current yields across the U.S. Treasury yield curve and market expectations of forward yields projected and interpolated for multiple tenors and over multiple year horizons. Global public equity return projections are established through analysis of the equity risk premium and the fixed income return projections. Other asset categories and strategies' return projections reflect the foregoing and historical data analysis. These projections are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class as of June 30, 2023 are summarized in the following table:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Fixed income	33.0%	0.9%
Global equity	38.0%	6.5%
Real estate	8.0%	5.9%
Alternatives	8.0%	8.2%
Opportunistic fixed income	7.0%	5.0%
Inflation sensitive	6.0%	2.7%
Total	<u>100.0%</u>	

The information above is based on 30-year expectations developed with an investment consulting firm as part of a study that was completed in early 2022, and is part of the asset, liability, and investment policy of the North Carolina Retirement Systems. The long-term nominal rates of return underlying the real rates of return are arithmetic annualized figures. The real rates of return are calculated from nominal rates by multiplicatively subtracting a long-term inflation assumption of 2.25%. Return projections do not include any excess return expectations over benchmark averages. All rates of return and inflation are annualized.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Discount Rate. The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 6.50%. This discount rate is in line with the long-term nominal expected return on pension plan investments. The calculation of the net pension liability is a present value calculation of the future net pension payments. These net pension payments assume that contributions from plan members will be made at the current statutory contribution rate and that contributions from employers will be made at the contractually required rates, actuarially determined. Based on these assumptions, the pension plan’s fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of the current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the Town’s Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate. The following presents the Town’s proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 6.50%, as well as what the Town’s proportionate share of the net pension asset or net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (5.50%) or one percentage point higher (7.50%) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (5.50%)	Discount Rate (6.50%)	1% Increase (7.50%)
Town's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset)	\$ 3,987,068	\$ 2,301,390	\$ 913,582

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position. Detailed information about the pension plan’s fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the state of North Carolina.

Law Enforcement Officers’ Special Separation Allowance

Plan Description. The Town administers a public employee retirement system (the “Separation Allowance”), a single employer, defined benefit pension plan that provides retirement benefits to the Town’s qualified sworn law enforcement officers under the age of 62 who have completed at least 30 years of creditable service or have attained 55 years of age and have completed five or more years of creditable service. The Separation Allowance is equal to .85 percent of the annual equivalent of the base rate of compensation most recently applicable to the officer for each year of creditable service. The retirement benefits are not subject to any increases in salary or retirement allowances that may be authorized by the General Assembly. Article 12D of G.S. Chapter 143 assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the North Carolina General Assembly. A separate report was not issued for the plan.

All full-time law enforcement officers of the Town are covered by the Separation Allowance.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

At June 30, 2023, the Separation Allowance's membership consisted of:

Retirees receiving benefits	7
Active plan members	<u>15</u>
Total	<u><u>22</u></u>

Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting. The Town has chosen to fund the Separation Allowance on a pay-as-you-go basis. Pension expenditures are made from the General Fund, which is maintained on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Benefits and refunds are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the plan.

The Separation Allowance has no assets accumulated in a trust that meets the following criteria, which are outlined in GASB Statements 73.

Actuarial Assumptions

The entry age normal actuarial cost method was used in the June 30, 2023 valuation. The total pension liability in the June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.50 percent
Salary increases	3.25 to 7.75 percent, including inflation and productivity factor
Discount rate	3.77 percent

The discount rate used to measure the TPL is the S&P Municipal Bond 20-Year High Grade Rate Index as of December 31, 2023.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2023 valuation were based on the results of an experience study completed by the Actuary for the Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System for the five-year period ending December 31, 2019.

Mortality Assumption: All mortality rates use Pub-2010 amount-weighted tables.

Mortality Projection: All mortality rates are projected from 2010 using generational improvement with Scale MP-2019.

Deaths after Retirement (Healthy): Mortality rates are based on the Safety Mortality Table for Retirees. Rates for all members are multiplied by 97% and set forward by 1 year.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Deaths after Retirement (Disabled members at Retirement): Mortality rates are based on the Non-Safety Mortality Table for Disabled Retirees. Rates are set back 3 years for all ages.

Deaths after Retirement (Survivors of Deceased Members): Mortality rates are based on the Below-median Teachers Mortality Table for Contingent Survivors. Rates for male members are set forward 3 years. Rates for female members are set forward 1 year. Because the contingent survivor tables have no rates prior to 45, the below-median Teachers Mortality Table for Employees is used for ages less than 45.

Death Prior to Retirement: Mortality rates are based on the Safety Mortality Table for Employees.

Contributions. The Town is required by Article 12D of G.S. Chapter 143 to provide these retirement benefits and has chosen to fund the amounts necessary to cover the benefits earned on a pay-as-you-go basis through appropriations made in the General Fund operation budget. There were no contributions made by the employees. The Town’s obligation to contribute to this plan is established and may be amended by the North Carolina General Assembly. Administration costs of the Separation Allowance are financed through investment earnings. The Town paid \$94,858 as benefits came due.

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

At June 30, 2024, the Town reported a total pension liability of \$1,253,738. The total pension liability was measured as of December 31, 2023 based on a June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation. The total pension liability was rolled forward to December 31, 2023 utilizing update procedures incorporating the actuarial assumptions. For the year ended June 30, 2024, the Town recognized pension expense of \$151,699.

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 92,343	\$ 12,309
Changes of assumptions	57,350	89,919
Town benefit payments and plan administrative expense made subsequent to the measurement date	50,839	-
Total	\$ 200,532	\$ 102,228

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

\$50,839 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from benefit payments made subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a decrease of the total pension liability in the year ending June 30, 2025. Other amounts reported as deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ending	
June 30	Total
2025	\$ 36,438
2026	(8,641)
2027	19,668
Total	<u>\$ 47,465</u>

Sensitivity of the Town's Total Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate. The following presents the Town's total pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 3.77%, as well as what the Town's total pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (2.77%) or 1-percentage-point higher (4.77%) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (2.77%)	Discount Rate (3.77%)	1% Increase (4.77%)
Total pension liability	<u>\$ 1,333,234</u>	<u>\$ 1,253,738</u>	<u>\$ 1,180,699</u>

Schedule of Changes in Total Pension Liability Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance

	2024
Beginning balance	<u>\$ 1,168,065</u>
Service cost	28,558
Interest on the total pension liability	48,299
Differences between expected and actual experience in the measurement of the total pension liability	64,332
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	39,342
Benefit payments	<u>(94,858)</u>
Net changes	<u>85,673</u>
Ending balance of the total pension liability	<u>\$ 1,253,738</u>

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Changes of Assumptions. Changes of assumptions and other inputs reflect a change in the discount rate from 4.31 percent at December 31, 2022 (measurement date) to 3.77 percent at December 31, 2023 (measurement date).

The plan currently uses mortality tables that vary by age, and health status (i.e. disabled and healthy) the current mortality rates are based on published tables and based on studies that cover significant portions of the U.S. population. The healthy mortality rates also contain a provision to reflect future mortality improvements.

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

Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense for all pension plans:

	LGERS	LEOSSA	Total
Pension expense	\$ 654,472	\$ 151,699	\$ 806,171
Pension liability	2,301,390	1,253,738	3,555,128
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	0.03475%	n/a	-

Deferred of Outflows of Resources

Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 256,443	\$ 92,343	\$ 348,786
Changes of assumptions	97,796	57,350	155,146
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	615,953	-	615,953
Changes in proportion and differences between contributions and proportionate share of contributions	45,608	-	45,608
Benefit payments and administrative costs paid subsequent to the measurement date	386,884	50,839	437,723
Total	\$ 1,402,684	\$ 200,532	\$ 1,603,216

Deferred of Inflows of Resources

Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 5,521	\$ 12,309	\$ 17,830
Changes of assumptions	-	89,919	89,919
Changes in proportion and differences between contributions and proportionate share of contributions	24,210	-	24,210
Total	\$ 29,731	\$ 102,228	\$ 131,959

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Supplemental Retirement Income Plan for Law Enforcement Officers

Plan Description. The Town contributes to the Supplemental Retirement Income Plan (Plan), a defined contribution pension plan administered by the Department of State Treasurer and a board of trustees. The Plan provides retirement benefits to law enforcement officers employed by the Town. Article 5 of G.S. Chapter 135 assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the North Carolina General Assembly.

The Supplemental Retirement Income Plan for Law Enforcement Officers is included in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the state of North Carolina. The state's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report includes the pension trust fund financial statements for the Internal Revenue Code Section 401(k) plan that includes the Supplemental Retirement Income Plan for Law Enforcement Officers. That report may be obtained by writing to the Office of the State Controller, 1410 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1410, or by calling (919) 981-5454.

Funding Policy. Article 12E of G.S. Chapter 143 requires the Town to contribute each month an amount equal to 5% of each officer's salary, and all amounts contributed are vested immediately. Also, the law enforcement officers may make voluntary contributions to the plan. The Town made contributions of \$37,637 for the reporting year. No amounts were forfeited.

Defined Contribution 401(k) Plan

The Town sponsors a defined contribution 401(k) plan, in which the Town currently contributes 5% to each eligible employee. The Town's portion of contributions for the year ended June 30, 2024 was \$143,621. The employees' elected deferrals to the Plan were \$35,831 for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Other Post-Employment Benefits

Healthcare Benefits

Plan Description. According to a Town resolution, the Town allows employees who retire on or after July 1, 1999 from the Town with at least 15 years of Town service before the age of 65 under the provisions set forth in the North Carolina Local Government Retirement System (LGERS) to participate in the Town's healthcare plan upon retirement, until they become eligible for Medicare. The plan is a single employer defined benefit plan. The Town will pay 100% of the premium if the employee has at least 30 years of service with the Town or has at least 20 years of service with the Town and has attained age 62. The Town will pay 75% of the premium if the employee has at least 15 years of service with the Town and has attained age 57. The Town will pay 100% of the premium for employees retiring due to medical disability, provided they have at least 20 years of service, or 75% if they are age 57 with 15 years of service and retire due to medical disability.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Also, retirees can purchase coverage for their dependents at the Town's group rates if the dependent was enrolled at the time of the employee's retirement. Dependent coverage terminates at the earliest of five years, upon the retiree becoming eligible for Medicare, attaining age 65, or upon retiree death. The Town Council may amend the benefit provisions. A separate report was not issued for the Plan.

Membership of the healthcare plan consisted of the following at June 30, 2023, the date of the latest actuarial valuation:

Inactive members or beneficiaries	
currently receiving benefits	14
Active members	<u>60</u>
Total	<u><u>74</u></u>

Total OPEB Liability

The Town's total OPEB liability of \$1,818,941 was measured as of June 30, 2023 and was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2023.

Actuarial Assumptions and Other Inputs. The total OPEB liability in the June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs, applied to all periods included in the measurement unless otherwise specified:

Inflation	2.50%
Real wage growth	0.75%
Wage inflation	3.25%
Salary increases, including wage inflation	
General employees	3.3% - 8.3%
Firefighters	3.3% - 8.0%
Law enforcement officers	3.3% - 7.8%
Municipal bond index rate	
Prior measurement date	3.54%
Measurement date	3.86%
Health care cost trend rates	
Pre-Medicare medical and Prescription Drug	7.00% for 2024 decreasing to an ultimate rate of 4.50% by 2031

The discount rate used to measure TOL was based on the June average of the Bond Buyer General Obligation 20-year Municipal Bond Index published weekly by the Bond Buyer.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Deaths Before Retirement: Pub-2010 General Employees Male and Female Mortality tables projected generationally with MP-2019.

Deaths After Retirement (Healthy): Pub-2010 General Retirees Mortality table projected generationally with MP-2019. The male rates are set forward 2 years and adjusted with the following factors: 80 and younger, 96.0%; age 81, 96.8%; age 82, 97.6%; age 83, 98.4%; age 84, 99.2%; age 85 and older, 100.0%. The female rates are adjusted with the following factors: 91 and younger, 100.0%; age 92, 102.5%; age 93, 105.0%; age 94, 107.5%; age 95 and older, 110.0%.

Deaths After Retirement (Disabled): Pub-2010 General Disabled Retirees Mortality table projected generationally with MP-2019. The male rates are set forward 3 years, and the female rates are set back 1 year.

Changes in the Total OPEB Liability

	Total OPEB Liability
Balance at July 1, 2023	<u>\$ 2,084,503</u>
Changes for the year:	
Service cost	51,899
Interest	71,537
Plan amendments	(102,434)
Differences between expected and actual experience	(115,324)
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	(43,865)
Benefit payments	<u>(127,375)</u>
Net changes	<u>(265,562)</u>
Balance at June 30, 2024	<u><u>\$ 1,818,941</u></u>

Changes in assumptions and other inputs reflect a change in the Municipal Bond Index Rate from 3.54% to 3.86%.

The Town selected a Municipal Bond Index Rate equal to the Bond Buyer 20-year General Obligation Bond Index published at the last Thursday of June by the Bond Buyer, and the Municipal Bond Index Rate as of the measurement date as the discount rate used to measure the TOL.

Mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 mortality tables, with adjustments for LGERS experience and generational mortality improvements using Scale MP-2019.

The demographic actuarial assumptions for retirement, disability incidence, withdrawal, and salary increase used in the June 30, 2023 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period January 1, 2015 - December 31, 2019, adopted by the LGERS board.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

The remaining actuarial assumptions (e.g., initial per capita costs, health care cost trends, rate of plan participation, rates of plan election, etc.) used in the June 30, 2023 valuation were based on a review of recent plan experience performed concurrently with the June 30, 2023 valuation.

Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate. The following presents the total OPEB liability of the Town, as well as what the Town's total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (2.86 percent) or one percentage point higher (4.86 percent) than the current discount rate:

	1% Decrease (2.86%)	Current Discount Rate (3.86%)	1% Increase (4.86%)
Total OPEB liability	<u>\$ 1,949,988</u>	<u>\$ 1,818,941</u>	<u>\$ 1,700,549</u>

Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rates. The following presents the total OPEB liability of the Town, as well as what the Town's total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current healthcare cost trend rates:

	1% Decrease	Current	1% Increase
Total OPEB liability	<u>\$ 1,698,671</u>	<u>\$ 1,818,941</u>	<u>\$ 1,953,220</u>

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 OPEB expense of \$22,858. At June 30, 2024, the Town reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 154,699	\$ 153,380
Changes of assumptions	219,285	233,195
Benefit payments and plan administrative expense made subsequent to the measurement date	<u>138,316</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>\$ 512,300</u>	<u>\$ 386,575</u>

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

\$138,316 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from benefit payments made and administrative expenses incurred subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a decrease of the total OPEB liability in the year ending June 30, 2025. Other amounts reported as deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Year Ending	
June 30	Total
2025	\$ 4,487
2026	14,890
2027	30,453
2028	(6,801)
2029	(50,487)
Thereafter	(5,133)
Total	<u>\$ (12,591)</u>

Other Employment Benefits

The Town has elected to provide death benefits to employees through the Death Benefit Plan for members of the Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System (Death Benefit Plan), a multiple-employer, state-administered, cost-sharing plan funded on a one-year term cost basis. The beneficiaries of those employees who die in active service after one year of contributing membership in the System, or who die within 180 days after retirement or termination of service and have at least one year of contributing membership service in the System at the time of death, are eligible for death benefits. Lump-sum death benefit payments to beneficiaries are equal to the employee's 12 highest months' salary in a row during the 24 months prior to the employee's death, but the benefit may not exceed \$50,000. Because all death benefit payments are made from the Death Benefit Plan and not by the Town, the Town does not determine the number of eligible participants. The Town has no liability beyond the payment of monthly contributions. The contributions to the Death Benefit Plan cannot be separated between the post-employment benefit amount and the other benefit amount. Contributions are determined as a percentage of monthly payroll based upon rates established annually by the state. Separate rates are set for employees not engaged in law enforcement and for law enforcement officers. The Town considers these contributions to be immaterial.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources

The Town has several deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources are comprised of the following:

	<u>Amount</u>
Benefit payments made and administration expenses for pension	\$ 437,723
Benefit payments made and administration expenses for OPEB	138,316
Differences between expected and actual experience - Pension	348,786
Differences between expected and actual experience - OPEB	154,699
Changes of assumptions - Pension	155,146
Changes of assumptions - OPEB	219,285
Net difference between projected and actual experience - Pension	615,953
Changes in proportion and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share - Pension	<u>45,608</u>
Total	<u>\$ 2,115,516</u>

Deferred inflows of resources at year-end are comprised of the following:

	<u>Amount</u>
Taxes receivable (General Fund)	\$ 119,846
Prepaid taxes	17,344
Changes in assumptions - Pension	89,919
Changes in assumptions - OPEB	233,195
Differences between expected and actual experience - Pension	17,830
Differences between expected and actual experience - OPEB	153,380
Changes in proportion and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share - Pension	<u>24,210</u>
Total	<u>\$ 655,724</u>

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Risk Management

The Town is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft of, damage to, destruction of assets, errors, omissions, injuries to employees, and natural disasters. The Town participates in risk-financing through Tokio Marine/HCC Insurance and obtains workers' compensation coverage up to statutory limits. Specific information on the limits and of the insurance purchased can be obtained by contacting the Wayah Insurance Agency, 295 East Palmer Street, Franklin, North Carolina.

Commercial flood insurance is available within the Town limits since the Town participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. The Town has Commercial Property Insurance coverage on the utility property that is subject to flooding and also carried flood insurance on the police department property.

The Town carries commercial coverage for all other risks of loss. There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage in the prior year and settled claims have not exceeded coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

In accordance with G.S. 159-29, the Town's employees that have access to \$100 or more at any given time of the Town's funds are performance bonded through a commercial surety bond. The Finance Officer is bonded for \$1,000,000, and the Tax Collector is bonded for \$25,000. The remaining employees that have access to funds are bonded under a blanket bond for \$10,000.

The Finance Officer of the Town of Franklin Tourism Development Authority, who is also the Finance Officer of the Town, is bonded under a separate bond for the Authority's operations for \$100,000.

The Town of Franklin ABC Board is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The ABC Board has commercial property, general liability, auto liability, workers' compensation, and employee health coverage. The ABC Board also has liquor legal liability coverage. Claims have not exceeded coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

Claims, Judgments, and Contingent Liabilities

At June 30, 2024, the Town periodically is subject to claims and lawsuits that arise in the ordinary course of business. It is the opinion of management that the disposition or ultimate resolution of such claims and lawsuits, if any, will not have a material adverse effect on the financial position of the Town.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Long-Term Obligations

Leases

The Town has entered into agreements to lease certain equipment. The lease agreements qualify as other than short-term leases under GASB 87 and, therefore, have been recorded at the present value of the future minimum lease payments as of the date of their inception.

On August 1, 2021, the Town entered into a 48-month lease as Lessee for the use of Toshiba Multifunction Color Printer. An initial lease liability was recorded in the amount of \$34,428. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease liability is \$8,702. The Town is required to make quarterly fixed payments of \$2,188. The lease has an interest rate of 0.8850%. The value of the right to use asset as of June 30, 2024 of \$34,428 with accumulated amortization of \$25,104 is included with the right-to-use lease assets on the capital asset rollforward schedule.

On July 1, 2021, the Town entered into a 36-month lease as Lessee for the use of Leaf Equipment - Police Department. An initial lease liability was recorded in the amount of \$43,483. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease liability is \$0. Town of Franklin is required to make annual fixed payments of \$14,652. The lease has an interest rate of 0.9950%. The value of the right to use asset as of June 30, 2024 of \$43,608 with accumulated amortization of \$43,407 is included with the right-to-use lease assets on the capital asset rollforward schedule.

On February 8, 2023, the Town entered into a 36-month lease as Lessee for the use of John Deere 60G. An initial lease liability was recorded in the amount of \$87,376. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease liability is \$68,634. Town of Franklin is required to make monthly fixed payments of \$1,612. The lease has an interest rate of 8.3428%. The value of the right to use asset as of June 30, 2024 of \$87,376 with accumulated amortization of \$12,208 is included with the right-to-use lease assets on the capital asset rollforward schedule. The Town has the option to purchase the equipment for \$45,971.

On April 5, 2023, the Town entered into a 36-month lease as Lessee for the use of John Deere 410L. An initial lease liability was recorded in the amount of \$149,231. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease liability is \$120,683. Town of Franklin is required to make monthly fixed payments of \$2,656. The lease has an interest rate of 7.1858%. The value of the right to use asset as of June 30, 2024 of \$149,231 with accumulated amortization of \$18,488 is included with the right-to-use lease assets on the capital asset rollforward schedule. The Town has the option to purchase the equipment for \$78,000.

On August 23, 2023, the Town entered into a 36-month lease as Lessee for the use of John Deere 50G. An initial lease liability was recorded in the amount of \$80,684. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the lease liability is \$68,497, and the value of the short-term lease liability is \$13,578. Town of Franklin is required to make monthly fixed payments of \$1,405. The lease has an interest rate of 5.2712%. The Equipment estimated useful life was 96 months as of the contract commencement. The value of the right to use asset as of June 30, 2024 of \$80,685 with accumulated amortization of \$8,630 is included with Equipment on the on the capital asset rollforward schedule. The Town has the option to purchase the Equipment for \$39,547.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

The future minimum lease obligations and the net present value of these minimum lease payments as of June 30, 2024 were as follows:

Governmental Activities:

<u>Year Ending June 30</u>	<u>Principal Payments</u>	<u>Interest Payments</u>
2025	\$ 18,799	\$ 3,315
2026	14,311	2,552
2027	40,608	346
Total	<u>\$ 73,718</u>	<u>\$ 6,213</u>

Business-Type Activities:

<u>Year Ending June 30</u>	<u>Principal Payments</u>	<u>Interest Payments</u>
2025	\$ 41,617	\$ 13,105
2026	151,181	7,982
Total	<u>\$ 192,798</u>	<u>\$ 21,087</u>

Subscription Liabilities

The Town has adopted GASB 96, *Subscription-Based Technology Arrangements*. The primary objective of this statement is to enhance the relevance and consistency of information about governments' subscription activities. This statement establishes a single model for subscription accounting based on the principle that subscriptions are financings of the right to use an underlying asset. Under this statement, an organization is required to recognize a subscription liability and an intangible right-to-use subscription asset.

On July 1, 2022, the Town entered into a 48-month subscription for the use of Badge Meter. An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of \$20,920. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the subscription liability is \$9,224. Town of Franklin is required to make annual fixed payments of \$7,250. The lease has an interest rate of 2.4450%. The value of the right to use asset as of June 30, 2024 of \$20,920 with accumulated amortization of \$10,460 is included with subscription assets on the capital asset rollforward schedule.

On July 1, 2022, the Town entered into a 48-month subscription for the use of Tyler Technologies. An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of \$98,674. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the subscription liability is \$49,322. Town of Franklin is required to make annual fixed payments of \$25,569. The lease has an interest rate of 2.4450%. The value of the right to use asset as of June 30, 2024 of \$98,674 with accumulated amortization of \$49,336 is included with subscription assets on the capital asset rollforward schedule.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

On July 2, 2023, the Town entered into a 36-month subscription for the use of Debt Book. An initial subscription liability was recorded in the amount of \$31,124. As of June 30, 2024, the value of the subscription liability is \$15,124. The Town is required to make annual fixed payments of \$8,000. The subscription has an interest rate of 2.4450%. The value of the right to use asset as of June 30, 2024 of \$31,124 with accumulated amortization of \$10,460 is included with subscription assets on the capital asset rollforward schedule.

Governmental Activities:

Year Ending June 30	Principal Payments	Interest Payments
2025	\$ 22,616	\$ 1,168
2026	17,169	615
Total	\$ 39,785	\$ 1,783

Business-Type Activities:

Year Ending June 30	Principal Payments	Interest Payments
2025	\$ 16,738	\$ 828
2026	17,147	419
Total	\$ 33,885	\$ 1,247

Installment Purchases and Note Payable

Governmental Activities:

Construction of Fire Substation, executed \$400,000 in February 2021, under an installment purchase contract, due in annual installments of varying amounts, including interest of 1.990% through November 2030 \$ 280,000

The Town's outstanding note from direct placements related to governmental activities of \$280,000 are secured with the mortgaged property and equipment. The Town's outstanding notes from direct borrowings related to governmental activities of \$280,000 contain provisions that an event of default would result in (1) declare the unpaid principal balance of Installment Payments immediately due and payable; 2) proceed by appropriate court action to enforce the Town's performance of the applicable covenants of this Agreement or to recover for the breach thereof; 3) pay over any balance remaining in the Project Fund to be applied against outstanding Required Payments in any manner UCB may reasonably deem appropriate; 4) avail itself of all available remedies under this Agreement, including execution and foreclosure as provided in Section 8.03 and 8.04, and recovery of attorney's fees and other expenses.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Business-Type Activities:

Water and Sewer Department, executed \$2,619,500 in June 2010, under an installment purchase contract, due in annual installments of \$254,695, including interest of 5.11%, through June 2025	\$ 242,310
Water and Sewer Department, executed \$3,073,993 in October 2018, under a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan, due in annual installments of \$153,700, 0% interest, through May 2038	2,151,795
Water and Sewer Department, executed \$5,190,484 in June 2013, under a Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan, due in annual installments of \$259,524, plus interest of 2.445%, through May 2033	<u>2,335,717</u>
Total business-type activities	<u>\$ 4,729,822</u>

The Town's outstanding notes from direct placements related to business-type activities of \$242,310 are secured with the equipment. The Town's outstanding notes from direct borrowings related to business-type activities of \$242,310 contain provisions that an event of default would result in (1) declare the whole unpaid principal balance of Installment Payments due and thereafter to become at once due and payable; 2) exercise its rights as a secured party under the Uniform Commercial Code of the state and pursuant to the grant made in Section 3.2 of Agreement, including, but not limited to, taking possession of any part on all of the Equipment pursuant to this Agreement, with or without terminating this Agreement, excluding the Town from possession, and selling or leasing the Equipment for the account of the Town; or 3) proceed by appropriate court action to enforce performance by the Town of the applicable covenants of this Agreement or to recover for the breach thereof; provided, however, that nothing contained in the Agreement shall be deemed to allow any judgment for a deficiency or waive any provision of N.C.G.S. Section 160A-20 or any defense the Town may otherwise have.

The Town's outstanding notes from direct borrowings related to business-type activities of \$2,151,795 are secured with the equipment. The Town's outstanding notes from direct borrowings related to business-type activities of \$2,151,795 contain provisions that an event of default would result in immediate repayment of note in whole and any further commitment of funds may be withdrawn.

The Town's outstanding notes from direct borrowings related to business-type activities of \$2,335,717 are secured with the equipment. The Town's outstanding notes from direct borrowings related to business-type activities of \$2,335,717 contain provisions that an event of default would result in immediate repayment of note in whole and any further commitment of funds may be withdrawn.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Annual debt service requirements to maturity are as follows:

Year Ending June 30	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities	
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest
2025	\$ 40,000	\$ 5,665	\$ 655,537	\$ 69,490
2026	40,000	4,842	413,224	50,763
2027	40,000	4,035	413,224	44,418
2028	40,000	3,228	413,224	38,072
2029	40,000	2,428	413,224	31,727
2030-2034	80,000	2,421	1,806,595	63,454
2035-2039	-	-	614,794	-
Total	<u>\$ 280,000</u>	<u>\$ 22,619</u>	<u>\$ 4,729,822</u>	<u>\$ 297,924</u>

At June 30, 2024, the Town had a legal debt margin of \$81,395,684.

Changes in Long-Term Liabilities

	Balance July 1, 2023	Increases	Decreases	Balance June 30, 2024	Current Portion
Governmental Activities:					
Notes from direct placements	\$ 456,594	\$ -	\$ 176,594	\$ 280,000	\$ 40,000
Lease liabilities	24,904	80,684	31,870	73,718	18,799
Subscription liabilities	47,262	31,124	38,601	39,785	22,616
Compensated absences	149,515	85,855	48,262	187,108	93,544
Total OPEB liability	1,400,363	-	203,728	1,196,635	-
Net pension liability (LGERS)	1,167,165	282,709	-	1,449,874	-
Total pension liability (LEOSSA)	<u>1,168,065</u>	<u>85,673</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,253,738</u>	<u>-</u>
Governmental activities long-term liabilities	<u>\$ 4,413,868</u>	<u>\$ 566,045</u>	<u>\$ 499,055</u>	<u>\$ 4,480,858</u>	<u>\$ 174,959</u>
Business-Type Activities:					
Notes from direct borrowings and direct placements	\$ 5,611,986	\$ -	\$ 882,164	\$ 4,729,822	\$ 655,537
Lease liabilities	228,752	-	35,954	192,798	41,617
Subscription liabilities	58,879	-	24,994	33,885	16,738
Total OPEB liability	684,140	-	61,834	622,306	-
Net pension liability (LGERS)	685,480	166,036	-	851,516	-
Compensated absences	<u>61,565</u>	<u>42,647</u>	<u>30,574</u>	<u>73,638</u>	<u>36,819</u>
Business-type activities long-term liabilities	<u>\$ 7,330,802</u>	<u>\$ 208,683</u>	<u>\$ 1,035,520</u>	<u>\$ 6,503,965</u>	<u>\$ 750,711</u>

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

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

C. Interfund Activity

Transfers in (out) for the year ended June 30, 2024 are summarized as follows:

From the Coronavirus State & Local Fiscal Recovery SRF to the Sidewalk Replacement and Reconditioning Project Fund to cover eligible expenditures under the American Rescue Plan Act grant	\$ 362,341
From the Water & Sewer Capital Project Fund to the Water & Sewer Fund to close out NCDOT project	33,752
From the Water & Sewer Fund to the Water & Sewer Capital Project Fund to fund project expenditures	<u>1,067,513</u>
Total	<u>\$ 1,463,606</u>

3. Jointly Governed Organization

Joint Ventures

The Town and the members of the Town's fire department each appoint two members to the five-member local Board of Trustees for the Firemen's Relief Fund. The State Insurance Commissioner appoints one additional member to the local Board of Trustees. The Firemen's Relief Fund is funded by a portion of the fire and lightning insurance premiums that insurers remit to the state. The state passes these monies to the local board of the Firemen's Relief Fund. The funds are used to assist firefighters in various ways. The participating governments do not have any equity interest in the joint venture, so no equity has been reflected in the financial statements at June 30, 2023. The Firemen's Relief Fund does not issue separate audited financial statements. Instead, the local Board of Trustees files an annual financial report with the State Firemen's Association. This report can be obtained from the Association at 323 West Jones Street, Suite 401, Raleigh, North Carolina 27603.

Related Party Transactions

During fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the Town of Franklin remitted \$171,821 to the Town of Franklin TDA, which is the collection fee of 3% of gross receipts derived from the rental of any room, lodging, or accommodation furnished by a hotel, motel, inn, tourist camp, or similar place within the Town. The Town of Franklin TDA also had an accounts receivable amount of \$20,419 owed from the Town of Franklin at year-end.

During fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the Town of Franklin received \$192,573 from the ABC Board for Profit Distributions.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

4. Summary Disclosure of Significant Contingencies

Federal and State-Assisted Programs

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

5. Subsequent Events

The Town was awarded a Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) grant for \$500,000 on August 29, 2024. The grant is to be used for the ongoing project for the Whitmore Inclusive Play Area. No expenditures have been incurred as of June 30, 2024.

Damage in certain areas of the State of North Carolina resulting from Hurricane Helene beginning September 26, 2024, and continuing, was of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant a major disaster declaration by the President. Hurricane Helene struck North Carolina and caused serious flooding and wind damage in several counties including Macon County. While there has been damage to buildings and other assets, as of the date of this report, it is unknown as to the extent of that damage.

This page left blank intentionally.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

**SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN TOTAL PENSION LIABILITY
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' SPECIAL SEPARATION ALLOWANCE
LAST EIGHT FISCAL YEARS ***

Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance				
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Beginning balance	\$ 1,168,065	\$ 1,359,037	\$ 1,223,886	\$ 995,982
Service cost	28,558	41,403	46,317	26,191
Interest on the total pension liability	48,299	29,602	23,052	31,598
Differences between expected and actual experience in the measurement of the total pension liability	64,332	(13,837)	152,799	(51,442)
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	39,342	(161,367)	(28,013)	274,989
Benefit payments	<u>(94,858)</u>	<u>(86,773)</u>	<u>(59,004)</u>	<u>(53,432)</u>
Ending balance of the total pension liability	<u>\$ 1,253,738</u>	<u>\$ 1,168,065</u>	<u>\$ 1,359,037</u>	<u>\$ 1,223,886</u>

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

* This schedule is intended to show information for ten years.
Additional years' information will be displayed as it becomes available.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

**SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN TOTAL PENSION LIABILITY
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' SPECIAL SEPARATION ALLOWANCE
LAST EIGHT FISCAL YEARS ***

Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance				
	2020	2019	2018	2017
Beginning balance	\$ 896,132	\$ 908,912	\$ 818,775	\$ 827,883
Service cost	27,875	27,316	24,311	24,957
Interest on the total pension liability	32,040	28,219	30,991	28,761
Differences between expected and actual experience in the measurement of the total pension liability	46,528	(5,964)	18,597	-
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	25,228	(30,530)	48,059	(18,311)
Benefit payments	<u>(31,821)</u>	<u>(31,821)</u>	<u>(31,821)</u>	<u>(44,515)</u>
Ending balance of the total pension liability	<u>\$ 995,982</u>	<u>\$ 896,132</u>	<u>\$ 908,912</u>	<u>\$ 818,775</u>

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

**SCHEDULE OF TOTAL PENSION LIABILITY AS A PERCENTAGE OF COVERED EMPLOYEE
PAYROLL - LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' SPECIAL SEPARATION ALLOWANCE
LAST EIGHT FISCAL YEARS ***

	Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance			
	2024	2023	2022	2021
Total pension liability	\$ 1,253,738	\$ 1,168,065	\$ 1,359,037	\$ 1,223,886
Covered employee payroll	726,975	907,158	922,638	849,120
Total pension liability as a percentage of covered employee payroll	172.46%	128.76%	147.30%	144.14%

Notes to the Schedules:

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

* This schedule is intended to show information for ten years.
Additional years' information will be displayed as it becomes available.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

**SCHEDULE OF TOTAL PENSION LIABILITY AS A PERCENTAGE OF COVERED EMPLOYEE
PAYROLL - LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' SPECIAL SEPARATION ALLOWANCE
LAST EIGHT FISCAL YEARS ***

	Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance			
	2020	2019	2018	2017
Total pension liability	\$ 995,982	\$ 896,132	\$ 908,912	\$ 818,775
Covered employee payroll	918,185	852,645	843,148	818,843
Total pension liability as a percentage of covered employee payroll	108.47%	105.10%	107.80%	99.99%

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE TOTAL OPEB
LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
LAST SEVEN FISCAL YEARS *

Schedule of Changes in Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios

	2024	2023	2022	2021
Total OPEB Liability:				
Service cost at end of year	\$ 51,899	\$ 65,867	\$ 68,423	\$ 49,929
Interest	71,537	50,517	40,919	56,482
Changes of benefit terms	-	-	-	15,302
Differences between expected and actual experience	(115,324)	(1,747)	264,331	-
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	(146,299)	(252,126)	219,784	189,050
Benefit payments and implicit subsidy credit	(127,375)	(101,257)	(106,062)	(76,844)
Net change in total OPEB liability	(265,562)	(238,746)	487,395	233,919
Total OPEB liability - beginning	2,084,503	2,323,249	1,835,854	1,601,935
Total OPEB liability - ending	<u>\$ 1,818,941</u>	<u>\$ 2,084,503</u>	<u>\$ 2,323,249</u>	<u>\$ 1,835,854</u>
Covered employee payroll	\$ 2,621,202	\$ 2,254,018	\$ 2,254,018	\$ 2,368,885
Total OPEB liability as a percentage of covered employee payroll	69.39%	92.48%	103.07%	77.50%

Notes to the Required Schedules:

Changes of Assumptions: Changes of assumptions and other inputs reflect the effects of changes in the discount rate of each period. The following are the discount rates used in each period:

Fiscal Year	Rate
2024	3.86%
2023	3.54%
2022	2.16%
2021	2.21%
2020	3.50%
2019	3.89%
2018	3.56%

* This schedule is intended to show information for ten years.
Additional years' information will be displayed as it becomes available.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN THE TOTAL OPEB
LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
LAST SEVEN FISCAL YEARS *

Schedule of Changes in Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Total OPEB Liability:			
Service cost at end of year	\$ 58,829	\$ 60,931	\$ 66,072
Interest	64,131	58,376	50,421
Changes of benefit terms	(171,334)	-	-
Differences between expected and actual experience	-	11,533	(6,572)
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	39,045	(50,071)	(86,317)
Benefit payments and implicit subsidy credit	(73,980)	(70,015)	(48,113)
Net change in total OPEB liability	(83,309)	10,754	(24,509)
Total OPEB liability - beginning	<u>1,685,244</u>	<u>1,674,490</u>	<u>1,698,999</u>
Total OPEB liability - ending	<u>\$ 1,601,935</u>	<u>\$ 1,685,244</u>	<u>\$ 1,674,490</u>
Covered employee payroll	\$ 2,368,885	\$ 2,355,213	\$ 2,355,213
Total OPEB liability as a percentage of covered employee payroll	67.62%	71.55%	71.10%

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

**LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY (ASSET)
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS***

	Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System				
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Proportion of the net pension liability (asset) (%)	0.03475%	0.03284%	0.03497%	0.03331%	0.03789%
Proportion of the net pension liability (asset) (\$)	\$ 2,301,390	\$ 1,852,645	\$ 536,299	\$ 1,190,308	\$ 1,034,746
Covered payroll	\$ 2,757,864	\$ 2,639,335	\$ 2,486,839	\$ 2,516,102	\$ 2,642,187
Proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered payroll	83.45%	70.19%	21.57%	47.31%	39.16%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability**	82.49%	84.14%	95.51%	88.61%	90.86%

* The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the prior fiscal year ended June 30.

** This will be the same percentage for all participant employers in the LGERS plan.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

**LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY (ASSET)
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS***

	Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System				
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Proportion of the net pension liability (asset) (%)	0.03844%	0.04066%	0.03954%	0.03950%	0.04056%
Proportion of the net pension liability (asset) (\$)	\$ 911,928	\$ 621,172	\$ 839,171	\$ 177,274	\$ (239,201)
Covered payroll	\$ 2,654,694	\$ 2,504,775	\$ 2,396,096	\$ 2,239,266	\$ 2,267,471
Proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered payroll	34.35%	24.80%	35.02%	7.92%	-10.55%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability**	91.63%	94.18%	91.47%	98.09%	102.64%

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
TOWN OF FRANKLIN'S CONTRIBUTIONS
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

	<u>Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System</u>				
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Contractually required contribution	\$ 386,884	\$ 341,636	\$ 306,714	\$ 259,245	\$ 232,644
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>386,884</u>	<u>341,636</u>	<u>306,714</u>	<u>259,245</u>	<u>232,644</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Covered payroll	\$ 2,932,340	\$ 2,757,864	\$ 2,639,335	\$ 2,486,839	\$ 2,516,102
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	13.19%	12.39%	11.62%	10.42%	9.25%

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

**LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
TOWN OF FRANKLIN'S CONTRIBUTIONS
LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS**

Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System					
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Contractually required contribution	\$ 212,390	\$ 206,822	\$ 189,300	\$ 165,174	\$ 161,032
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>212,390</u>	<u>206,822</u>	<u>189,300</u>	<u>165,174</u>	<u>161,032</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Covered payroll	\$ 2,642,187	\$ 2,654,694	\$ 2,504,775	\$ 2,396,096	\$ 2,239,266
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	8.04%	7.79%	7.56%	6.89%	7.19%

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance Over/Under</u>
Revenues:			
Ad valorem taxes:			
Taxes	\$ 2,989,000	\$ 3,327,146	\$ 338,146
Penalties and interest	7,000	25,204	(7,000)
Total	<u>2,996,000</u>	<u>3,352,350</u>	<u>331,146</u>
Other Taxes and Licenses:			
Fire tax	1,208,071	1,252,853	44,782
Vehicle rental tax	25,000	35,949	10,949
Total	<u>1,233,071</u>	<u>1,288,802</u>	<u>55,731</u>
Unrestricted Intergovernmental Revenues:			
Local option sales tax	850,000	1,521,276	671,276
Utility franchise tax	400,000	461,645	61,645
Beer and wine tax	16,500	20,628	4,128
ABC profit distribution	70,000	192,573	122,573
On behalf of payments - Fire and Rescue	5,835	5,835	-
Occupancy tax	192,750	156,634	(36,116)
Total	<u>1,535,085</u>	<u>2,358,591</u>	<u>823,506</u>
Restricted Intergovernmental Revenues:			
Powell Bill allocation	135,000	151,924	16,924
Federal grant	78,000	69,542	(8,458)
State Capital Infrastructure Fund Grant	50,000	50,000	-
ARC Grant	-	27,000	27,000
Miscellaneous grants	20,100	39,980	19,880
Total	<u>283,100</u>	<u>338,446</u>	<u>55,346</u>
Permits and Fees:			
Zoning permits	3,000	9,251	6,251
Sign permits	500	1,245	745
Total	<u>3,500</u>	<u>10,496</u>	<u>6,996</u>
Investment Earnings	<u>50,000</u>	<u>370,859</u>	<u>320,859</u>
Miscellaneous	<u>35,888</u>	<u>110,626</u>	<u>74,738</u>
Total revenues	<u>6,136,644</u>	<u>7,830,170</u>	<u>1,668,322</u>

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance Over/Under</u>
Expenditures:			
General Government:			
Governing Body:			
Salaries and employee benefits	34,950	32,618	2,332
Operating expenses	90,441	82,212	8,229
Professional services	90,150	80,300	9,850
Total	<u>215,541</u>	<u>195,130</u>	<u>20,411</u>
Administration:			
Salaries and employee benefits	340,859	289,599	51,260
Operating expenses	28,150	19,741	8,409
Professional services	60,150	35,646	24,504
Total	<u>429,159</u>	<u>344,986</u>	<u>84,173</u>
Finance:			
Salaries and employee benefits	216,317	179,660	36,657
Operating expenses	19,000	14,597	4,403
Professional services	1,000	-	1,000
Total	<u>236,317</u>	<u>194,257</u>	<u>42,060</u>
Billing:			
Salaries and employee benefits	71,274	54,844	16,430
Operating expenses	7,716	3,433	4,283
Total	<u>78,990</u>	<u>58,277</u>	<u>20,713</u>
Legal and Election:			
Operating expenses	17,000	8,301	8,699
Professional services	65,000	40,349	24,651
Total	<u>82,000</u>	<u>48,650</u>	<u>33,350</u>
Facilities:			
Salaries and employee benefits	67,542	65,959	1,583
Operating expenses	192,792	155,602	37,190
Professional services	27,350	13,495	13,855
Capital outlay	80,684	111,808	(31,124)
Total	<u>368,368</u>	<u>346,864</u>	<u>21,504</u>

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

**GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance Over/Under</u>
Information Technology:			
Operating expenses	40,080	32,591	7,489
Professional services	23,620	23,416	204
Capital outlay	34,742	34,742	-
Total	<u>98,442</u>	<u>90,749</u>	<u>7,693</u>
 Total general government	 <u>1,508,817</u>	 <u>1,278,913</u>	 <u>229,904</u>
Public Safety:			
Police:			
Salaries and employee benefits	1,569,520	1,313,217	256,303
Operating expenses	216,834	186,700	30,134
Capital outlay	77,600	59,391	18,209
Total	<u>1,863,954</u>	<u>1,559,308</u>	<u>304,646</u>
Fire:			
Salaries and employee benefits	868,989	821,873	47,116
Operating expenses	263,137	224,532	38,605
Capital outlay	573,123	-	573,123
Total	<u>1,705,249</u>	<u>1,046,405</u>	<u>658,844</u>
 Total public safety	 <u>3,569,203</u>	 <u>2,605,713</u>	 <u>963,490</u>
Transportation:			
Streets and Highways:			
Salaries and employee benefits	249,300	229,202	20,098
Operating expenses	366,780	294,310	72,470
Capital outlay	336,000	164,679	171,321
Total	<u>952,080</u>	<u>688,191</u>	<u>263,889</u>
 Total transportation	 <u>952,080</u>	 <u>688,191</u>	 <u>263,889</u>
Cultural and Recreational:			
Organization contributions	10,000	10,000	-

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance Over/Under</u>
Planning and Economic Development:			
Salaries and employee benefits	172,779	156,589	16,190
Operating expenses	28,996	26,082	2,914
Organization contributions	190,000	151,975	38,025
Total	<u>391,775</u>	<u>334,646</u>	<u>57,129</u>
Festivals and Events:			
Operating expenses	103,899	86,206	17,693
Capital outlay	10,000	3,070	6,930
Total	<u>113,899</u>	<u>89,276</u>	<u>24,623</u>
Total planning and economic development	<u>505,674</u>	<u>423,922</u>	<u>81,752</u>
Debt Service:			
Principal retirement	247,065	247,065	-
Interest and fees	15,637	15,637	-
Total debt service	<u>262,702</u>	<u>262,702</u>	<u>-</u>
Contingency	<u>21,172</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,172</u>
Total expenditures	<u>6,829,648</u>	<u>5,269,441</u>	<u>1,560,207</u>
Revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>(693,004)</u>	<u>2,560,729</u>	<u>108,115</u>
Other Financing Sources (Uses):			
Appropriated fund balance	493,696	-	493,696
Transfer in	87,500	-	87,500
Lease liabilities issued	80,684	80,684	-
Subscription liabilities issued	31,124	31,124	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>693,004</u>	<u>111,808</u>	<u>581,196</u>
Net change in fund balance	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>2,672,537</u>	<u>\$ 2,672,537</u>
Fund Balance:			
Beginning of year - July 1		<u>8,200,469</u>	
End of year - June 30		<u>\$ 10,873,006</u>	

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY SPECIAL REVENUE FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES -
BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FROM INCEPTION AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	<u>Project Authorization</u>	<u>Actual</u>			<u>Variance Over/Under</u>
		<u>Prior Years</u>	<u>Current Year</u>	<u>Total to Date</u>	
Revenues:					
Restricted intergovernmental revenues:					
CSLRF grant	\$ 1,308,253	\$ 480,592	\$ 362,341	\$ 842,933	\$ (465,320)
Revenues over (under) expenditures	1,308,253	480,592	362,341	842,933	(465,320)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):					
Transfers from (to) other funds:					
Operating transfers (to) other funds	<u>(1,308,253)</u>	<u>(480,592)</u>	<u>(362,341)</u>	<u>(842,933)</u>	<u>465,320</u>
Net change in fund balance	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

NONMAJOR CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS
 COMBINING BALANCE SHEET
 JUNE 30, 2024

	Construction of Fire Substation Capital Project Fund	Sidewalk Replacement and Reconditioning Project	Total Nonmajor Capital Project Funds
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Assets:			
Restricted assets - cash and cash equivalents	\$ 400,000	\$ -	\$ 400,000
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Liabilities:			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Advance from grantor	400,000	-	400,000
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total liabilities	\$ 400,000	\$ -	\$ 400,000
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

**NONMAJOR CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS
 COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,
 AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

	Construction of Fire Substation Capital Project Fund	Sidewalk Replacement and Reconditioning Project	Nonmajor Governmental Funds
Expenditures:			
General government	\$ -	\$ 362,341	\$ 362,341
Revenues over/(under) expenditures	-	(362,341)	(362,341)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):			
Transfer from (to) other funds	-	362,341	362,341
Net change in fund balances	-	-	-
Fund Balances:			
Beginning of year - July 1	-	-	-
End of year - June 30	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

**SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT AND RECONDITIONING PROJECT
 SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES -
 BUDGET AND ACTUAL
 FROM INCEPTION AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

	<u>Project Authorization</u>	<u>Actual</u>			<u>Variance Over/Under</u>
		<u>Prior Years</u>	<u>Current Year</u>	<u>Total to Date</u>	
Expenditures:					
Construction	\$ 362,341	\$ -	\$ 362,341	\$ 362,341	\$ -
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(362,341)	-	(362,341)	(362,341)	-
Other Financing Sources (Uses):					
Transfers in	362,341	-	362,341	362,341	-
Net change in fund balance	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

ENTERPRISE FUND - WATER AND SEWER FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES -
BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON-GAAP)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance Over/Under</u>
Operating Revenues:			
Charges for services:			
Water and sewer charges	\$ 3,850,000	\$ 4,691,381	\$ 841,381
Water and sewer taps	25,000	82,940	57,940
Availability fees	20,000	78,400	58,400
Dumping fees	75,000	125,828	50,828
Reconnections	15,000	27,819	12,819
Total operating revenues	<u>3,985,000</u>	<u>5,006,368</u>	<u>1,021,368</u>
Non-Operating Revenues:			
Investment earnings	25,000	118,232	93,232
Macon County appropriations	43,000	46,865	3,865
ARPA	-	745,085	745,085
Other revenues	1,000	81,521	80,521
Total non-operating revenues	<u>69,000</u>	<u>991,703</u>	<u>922,703</u>
Total revenues	<u>4,054,000</u>	<u>5,998,071</u>	<u>1,944,071</u>
Expenditures:			
Water and Sewer Operations:			
Salaries and employee benefits	1,744,260	1,611,309	132,951
Utilities	272,000	271,657	343
Supplies	371,676	225,523	146,153
Insurance and bonds	70,000	66,459	3,541
Professional services	568,458	364,429	204,029
Repairs and maintenance	353,027	223,516	129,511
Miscellaneous	194,873	99,147	95,726
Total water and sewer operations	<u>3,574,294</u>	<u>2,862,040</u>	<u>712,254</u>
Capital Outlay:			
Water extensions	235,372	-	235,372
Equipment	68,749	78,232	(9,483)
Vehicles	35,800	35,714	86
Total capital outlay	<u>339,921</u>	<u>113,946</u>	<u>225,975</u>
Debt Service:			
Principal retirement	957,564	943,112	14,452
Interest	109,069	109,069	-
Total debt service	<u>1,066,633</u>	<u>1,052,181</u>	<u>14,452</u>
Total expenditures	<u>4,980,848</u>	<u>4,028,167</u>	<u>952,681</u>

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

ENTERPRISE FUND - WATER AND SEWER FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES -
BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON-GAAP)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance Over/Under</u>
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(926,848)	1,969,904	2,896,752
Other Financing Sources (Uses):			
Transfer to other funds	(1,067,513)	(1,067,513)	-
Transfer from other funds	33,752	33,752	-
Appropriated fund balance	1,960,609	-	(1,960,609)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>926,848</u>	<u>(1,033,761)</u>	<u>(1,960,609)</u>
Revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other financing uses	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 936,143</u>	<u>\$ 936,143</u>
Reconciliation from Modified Accrual Basis to Full Accrual Basis:			
Revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other financing uses		\$ 936,143	
Reconciling items:			
Change in accrued vacation		(12,073)	
Capital outlay		113,946	
Payment of debt principal		943,112	
Change in net pension liability		(166,036)	
Deferred outflows of resources - pensions		60,954	
Deferred inflows of resources - pensions		6,075	
Change in accrued interest		(16)	
Change in deferred outflows of resources - OPEB		(27,978)	
Change in OPEB liability		61,834	
Intrafund transfers - capital projects		1,033,761	
Change in deferred inflows of resources - OPEB		(22,990)	
Depreciation/amortization		<u>(1,110,874)</u>	
Change in net position		<u>\$ 1,815,858</u>	

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

WATER AND SEWER CAPITAL PROJECT FUND
 SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES -
 BUDGET AND ACTUAL
 FROM INCEPTION AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	<u>Project Authorization</u>	<u>Actual</u>		<u>Total To Date</u>	<u>Variance Over/Under</u>
		<u>Prior Years</u>	<u>Current Year</u>		
Revenues:					
Restricted intergovernmental:					
Restricted intergovernmental	\$ 784,495	\$ 33,749	\$ -	\$ 33,749	\$ (750,746)
Expenditures:					
Wastewater Pump Station Upgrade	283,018	-	283,018	283,018	-
Clyde Street Waterline Improvements	996,520	212,025	781,760	993,785	2,735
NCDOT - ROW Utility Re-location	121,000	120,997	-	120,997	3
Total expenditures	1,400,538	333,022	1,064,778	1,397,800	2,738
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(616,043)	(299,273)	(1,064,778)	(1,364,051)	(748,008)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):					
Transfer from other funds	649,795	333,025	1,067,513	1,400,538	750,743
Transfer to other funds	(33,752)	-	(33,752)	(33,752)	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	616,043	333,025	1,033,761	1,366,786	750,743
Revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other financing uses	\$ -	\$ 33,752	\$ (31,017)	\$ 2,735	\$ 2,735

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

SCHEDULE OF AD VALOREM TAXES RECEIVABLE
JUNE 30, 2024

Fiscal Year	Uncollected Balance July 1, 2023	Additions	Collections and Credits	Uncollected Balance June 30, 2024
2023-2024	\$ -	\$ 3,369,122	\$ 3,272,234	\$ 96,888
2022-2023	67,330	-	34,846	32,484
2021-2022	28,795	-	8,803	19,992
2020-2021	16,104	-	2,401	13,703
2019-2020	16,453	-	4,514	11,939
2018-2019	15,572	-	3,556	12,016
2017-2018	10,947	-	1,326	9,621
2016-2017	7,367	-	2,165	5,202
2015-2016	4,251	-	2,152	2,099
2014-2015	4,129	-	2,069	2,060
2013-2014	3,643	-	3,643	-
Total	\$ 174,591	\$ 3,369,122	\$ 3,337,709	206,004
Less: Allowance for uncollectible ad valorem taxes receivable				(86,158)
Ad valorem taxes receivable - net				\$ 119,846
Reconciliation with Revenues:				
Taxes - ad valorem				\$ 3,352,350
Releases, refunds, and other adjustments				5,527
Amounts written off for tax years per statute of limitations				3,643
Interest collected				(23,811)
Total collections and credits				\$ 3,337,709

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

ANALYSIS OF CURRENT YEAR LEVY
TOWN-WIDE LEVY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	Town-Wide			Total Levy	
	Property Valuation	Rate	Amount of Levy	Property Excluding Registered Motor Vehicles	Registered Motor Vehicles
Original Levy:					
Property taxed at current year's rate	\$ 1,023,803,333	\$ 0.33	\$ 3,378,551	\$ 3,235,544	\$ 143,007
Penalties	319,394	0.33	1,054	1,054	-
Total	<u>1,024,122,727</u>		<u>3,379,605</u>	<u>3,236,598</u>	<u>143,007</u>
Discoveries	15,126,364	0.33	49,917	49,917	-
Releases	<u>(18,303,042)</u>	0.33	<u>(60,400)</u>	<u>(60,400)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total property valuation	<u>\$ 1,020,946,049</u>				
Net Levy			3,369,122	3,226,115	143,007
Uncollected taxes as of June 30, 2024			<u>96,888</u>	<u>96,888</u>	<u>-</u>
Current Year's Taxes Collected			<u>\$ 3,272,234</u>	<u>\$ 3,129,227</u>	<u>\$ 143,007</u>
Current Levy Collection Percentage			<u>97.12%</u>	<u>97.00%</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

DISCRETELY PRESENTED COMPONENT UNIT
 FRANKLIN TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
 BALANCE SHEET
 JUNE 30, 2024

	<u>Authority</u>
Assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 181,523
Accounts receivable	<u>20,419</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 201,942</u>
Liabilities and Fund Balance:	
Liabilities:	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	<u>\$ 16,572</u>
Total liabilities	<u>16,572</u>
Fund Balance:	
Restricted for:	
Stabilization by state statute	20,419
Tourism	<u>164,951</u>
Total fund balance	<u>185,370</u>
Total liabilities and fund balance	<u>\$ 201,942</u>

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

DISCRETELY PRESENTED COMPONENT UNIT
FRANKLIN TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES -
BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance Over/Under</u>
Revenues:			
Occupancy tax revenues	\$ 190,000	\$ 177,135	\$ (12,865)
Interest	-	8,514	8,514
Total revenues	<u>190,000</u>	<u>185,649</u>	<u>(4,351)</u>
Expenditures:			
Operating:			
Professional services	<u>265,000</u>	<u>256,616</u>	<u>8,384</u>
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(75,000)	(70,967)	4,033
Other Financing Sources (Uses):			
Fund balance appropriated	<u>75,000</u>	-	<u>(75,000)</u>
Net change in fund balance	<u>\$ -</u>	(70,967)	<u>\$ (70,967)</u>
Fund Balance:			
Beginning of year - July 1		<u>256,337</u>	
End of year - June 30		<u>\$ 185,370</u>	

MARTIN STARNES & ASSOCIATES, CPAs, P.A.

"A Professional Association of Certified Public Accountants and Management Consultants"

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*

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Honorable Mayor and
Town Council
Town of Franklin, North Carolina

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Franklin, North Carolina, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated October 9, 2024. Our report includes a reference to other auditors who audited the financial statements of the Town of Franklin ABC Board, as described in our report on the Town of Franklin's financial statements. The financial statements of the Town of Franklin ABC Board were not audited in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, and accordingly, this report does not include reporting on internal control over financial reporting or compliance and other matters associated with the Town of Franklin ABC Board or that are reported on separately by those auditors who audited the financial statements of the Town of Franklin ABC Board.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

Our consideration of the internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. 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 or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Town of Franklin's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, non-compliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. 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 non-compliance 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 Town's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Town's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A.

Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A.
Hickory, North Carolina
October 9, 2024

MARTIN STARNES & ASSOCIATES, CPAs, P.A.

"A Professional Association of Certified Public Accountants and Management Consultants"

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program and Report on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance and the State Single Audit Implementation Act

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Honorable Mayor
Town Council
Town of Franklin, North Carolina

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion of Each Major Federal Program

We have audited the Town of Franklin, North Carolina's compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* and the *Audit Manual for Governmental Auditors in North Carolina*, issued by the Local Government Commission that could have a direct and material effect on each of the Town of Franklin's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2024. The Town of Franklin's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings, Responses, and Questioned Costs.

In our opinion, the Town of Franklin complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*); the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance), and the State Single Audit Implementation Act. Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the Town of Franklin and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with 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 opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the Town of Franklin's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the Town of Franklin's federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material non-compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the Town of Franklin's compliance based on our audit. 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, *Government Auditing Standards*, the Uniform Guidance and the State Single Audit Implementation Act will always detect material non-compliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material non-compliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Non-compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgement made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the Town of Franklin's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, the Uniform Guidance, and the State Single Audit Implementation Act, we:

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material non-compliance, 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 Town of Franklin's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- obtain an understanding of the Town of Franklin's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance and the State Single Audit Implementation Act, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of Franklin's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, non-compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. *A material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material non-compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency in*

internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P.A.

Martin Starnes & Associates, CPAs, P. A.
Hickory, North Carolina
October 9, 2024

This page left blank intentionally.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS, RESPONSES, AND QUESTIONED COSTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

1. Summary of Auditor’s Results

Financial Statements

Type of auditor’s report issued on whether the financial statements audited were prepared in accordance to GAAP:

Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:

- Material weakness(es) identified? _____ Yes X No
- Significant deficiency(ies) identified? _____ Yes X None reported

Non-compliance material to financial statements noted?

_____ Yes X No

Federal Awards

Internal control over major federal programs:

- Material weakness(es) identified? _____ Yes X No
- Significant deficiency(ies) identified? _____ Yes X None reported

Type of auditor’s report issued on compliance for major federal programs

Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)?

No

Program Name

AL#

COVID-19 – Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

21.027

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs:

\$750,000

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?

No

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS, RESPONSES, AND QUESTIONED COSTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

2. Financial Statement Findings

None reported.

3. Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs

None reported.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR AUDIT FINDINGS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

Finding: 2023-001
Status: Corrected.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AND STATE AWARDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

<u>Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/Program Title</u>	<u>Federal AL Number</u>	<u>State/ Pass-through Grantor's Number</u>	<u>Fed.(Direct & Pass-through) Expenditures</u>	<u>State Expenditures</u>	<u>Passed-through to Subrecipients</u>
Federal Awards:					
U.S. Department of Treasury:					
Direct Program:					
COVID-19 - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds <u>Passed through N.C Department of Environmental Quality:</u>	21.027		\$ 362,341	\$ -	\$ -
COVID-19 - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027	SRP-D-ARP-0175	745,084	-	-
Total U.S. Department of Treasury			1,107,425	-	-
U.S. Department of Homeland Security:					
Direct Program:					
Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER)	97.083	EMW-2019-FF-00844	21,167	-	-
Total U.S. Department of Homeland Security			21,167	-	-
U.S. Department of Justice:					
<u>Passed through N.C Department of Public Safety:</u>					
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program	16.738	15PBJA-23-GG-03000-JAGX	3,983	-	-
Total U.S. Department of Justice			3,983	-	-
Appalachian Regional Commission:					
<u>Passed through N.C. Department of Commerce:</u>					
Appalachian Research, Technical Assistance, and Demonstration Projects	23.011	NC-21038-23	27,000	-	-
Total Appalachian Regional Commission			27,000	-	-
Total Federal Awards			1,159,575	-	-
State Awards:					
N.C. Office of State Budget and Management:					
<u>Passed through the Southwestern Commission Council of Government:</u>					
State Capital and Infrastructure Funds - Police			-	3,308	-
State Capital and Infrastructure Funds - Skate Park			-	50,000	-
Total N.C. Office of State Budget and Management:			-	53,308	-
N.C. Department of Environmental Quality:					
EPA TAG Funding			-	20,000	-
Total N.C. Department of Environmental Quality:			-	20,000	-
N.C. Department of Transportation:					
Powell Bill			-	78,390	-
Total N.C. Department of Transportation:			-	78,390	-
Total State Awards			-	151,698	-
Total Federal and State Awards			\$ 1,159,575	\$ 151,698	\$ -

Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards:

1. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards (SEFSA) includes the federal and State grant activity of the Town of Franklin under the programs of the federal government and the state of North Carolina for the year ended June 30, 2024. The information in this SEFSA is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Guidance Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* and the State Single Audit Implementation Act. Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the Town of Franklin, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net position or cash flows of the Town of Franklin.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Expenditures reported in the SEFSA are reported on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement.

Town of Franklin has elected not to use the 10-percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.