

Annual Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

(With Independent Auditors' Report Thereon)

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Municipal Light Board
Town of Reading Municipal Light Department

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Town of Reading Municipal Light Department (the Department) (an enterprise fund of the Town of Reading), and the aggregate remaining fund, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020 and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Department's basic financial statements as listed in the Table of Contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

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

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the Town of Reading Municipal Light Department and the aggregate remaining fund information as of December 31, 2020, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Report on Summarized Comparative Information

We have previously audited the Department's 2019 financial statements and expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those audited financial statements in our report dated July 23, 2020. In our opinion, the summarized comparative information presented herein as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019 is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements from which it has been derived.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis and certain Pension and OPEB schedules be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with evidence sufficient to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Andover, N	1assachusetts
	, 2021

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Within this section of the Town of Reading Municipal Light Department's (the Department) annual financial report, management provides a narrative discussion and analysis of the Department's financial activities for the year ended December 31, 2020. The Department's performance is discussed and analyzed within the context of the accompanying financial statements and disclosures following this section.

Overview of the Financial Statements

The basic financial statements include (1) the Proprietary Fund Statements of Net Position, (2) the Proprietary Fund Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position, (3) the Proprietary Fund Statements of Cash Flows, (4) the Fiduciary Funds Statements of Fiduciary Net Position, (5) the Fiduciary Funds Statements of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position, and (6) Notes to Financial Statements.

Proprietary Funds

Proprietary fund reporting focuses on the determination of operating income, changes in net position (or cost recovery), financial position, and cash flows. The proprietary fund category includes enterprise funds.

Enterprise funds are used to report activity for which a fee is charged to external users, and must be used when one of the following criteria are met: (1) activity is financed with debt that is secured solely by a pledge of the net revenues from fees and charges, (2) laws or regulations require the activity's costs of providing services be recovered with fees and charges, and (3) the pricing policies of the activity establish fees and charges designed to recover its costs, including capital costs such as depreciation or debt service. The primary focus on these criteria is on fees charged to external users.

Fiduciary Funds

Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the business-type financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the Department's own programs. The accounting used for fiduciary funds is much like that used for proprietary funds.

Notes to Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the fund financial statements.

Other Information

In calendar year 2020, the Department implemented ASC 980, Accounting for the Effects of Certain Types of Regulation, which essentially adjusts for differences between how revenue/rates

are budgeted and how they are accounted for on a Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) basis. In the Department's case, contributions in aid of construction (CIAC) are set aside (deferred) and are recognized equal to the annual depreciation expense on the related assets.

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information which is required to be disclosed by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Financial Highlights

The Proprietary Fund Statement of Net Position is designed to indicate our financial position at a specific point in time. At December 31, 2020, it shows our net worth of \$119,334,812 which comprises \$82,771,713 invested in capital assets, \$8,224,591 and \$6,585,203 restricted for depreciation fund and the pension trust, and \$21,753,305 unrestricted.

The Proprietary Fund Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position summarize our operating results and reveal how much, if any, of a profit was earned for the year. As discussed in more detail below, our net profit for the year ended December 31, 2020 was \$2,625,867.

The Proprietary Fund Statement of Cash Flows provide information about cash receipts, cash payments, investing, and financing activities during the accounting period. A review of our Proprietary Fund Statement of Cash Flows indicates that cash receipts from operating activities adequately covered our operating expenses in the year ended December 31, 2020.

The following is a summary of the Department's financial data for the year ended December 31, 2020 (in thousands).

Summary of Net Position

		<u>2020</u>		<u>2019</u>
Assets: Current and other assets Capital assets	\$	66,333 82,772	\$	64,593 80,351
Total assets		149,105		144,944
Deferred outflows of resources		5,360		8,102
Total assets and deferred outflows	\$_	154,465	\$_	153,046
Liabilities: Long-term liabilities Other liabilities	\$	21,443 8,743	\$	24,176 8,244
Total liabilities		30,186		32,420
Deferred inflows of resources		4,944		3,917
Net position: Net investment in capital assets Restricted for depreciation fund Restricted for pension trust Unrestricted	_	82,772 8,225 6,585 21,753	_	80,351 8,335 6,365 21,658
Total net position	_	119,335	_	116,709
Total liabilities, deferred inflows, and net position	\$ <u>_</u>	154,465	\$_	153,046

Summary of Change in Net Position

		<u>2020</u>		<u>2019</u>
Operating revenues	\$	85,572	\$	88,312
Operating expenses	_	(81,662)		(83,725)
Operating income		3,910		4,587
Non-operating revenues	_	1,197		1,874
Income Before Contributions and Other				
Items		5,107		6,461
Contributions in aid of construction		-		339
Return on investment to Town of Reading	_	(2,481)		(2,481)
Change in net position		2,626		4,319
Beginning net position	_	116,709		112,390
Ending net position	\$	119,335	\$	116,709
Litating fiet position	-	113,333	٠,	110,703

For the year ended December 31, 2020 electric sales (net of discounts) were \$86,894,628, a decrease of 2.9% from the prior year. For the year ended December 31, 2020, kilowatt hours sold were 651,179,904, an increase of 0.6% from the prior year.

Operating expenses totaled \$81,662,888 for the year ended December 31, 2020, a decrease of 2.5%. The largest portion of this total, \$57,292,309, was for purchase power costs. Other operating expenses included \$18,064,363 for general operating and maintenance costs, \$1,607,009 for voluntary payments to Towns, and depreciation expense of \$4,699,207. For the year ended December 31, 2020 the depreciation rate was 3.0%. Change in net position of \$2,625,867 results primarily from rates and charges set at a level to fund future capital improvements.

In the year ended December 31, 2020, the Pension Trust contributed \$2,039,462 to the Town of Reading Contributory Retirement System on behalf of the Department's employees.

For the year ended December 31, 2020, the Department contributed \$386,854 to the Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust ("OPEB Trust"). Additional information on the Department's OPEB Trust Fund can be found in corresponding note on page 32 of this report.

Capital Asset and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

Total investment in land at year end amounted to \$1,265,842. Total investment in depreciable capital assets at year-end amounted to \$81,505,871 (net of accumulated depreciation), an

increase of \$2,421,259 from the prior year. This investment in depreciable capital assets includes structures and improvements, equipment and furnishings, and infrastructure assets.

Debt and Other Long-Term Obligations

At the end of the current fiscal year, the Department had no outstanding bonded debt.

Additional information on capital assets and other long-term obligations can be found in the Notes to Financial Statements.

Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Town of Reading Municipal Light Department's finances for all those with an interest in the Department's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to:

Director of Business & Finance

Town of Reading Municipal Light Department

230 Ash Street

Reading, Massachusetts 01867

Enterprise Fund Statements of Net Position December 31, 2020

(With Comparative Totals as of December 31, 2019)

	2020	2019
Assets Current:		
Unrestricted cash and short-term investments	\$ 20,158,534	\$ 20,028,398
Receivables, net of allowance for uncollectable	7,768,519	7,114,247
Prepaid expenses	2,438,307	2,433,739
Inventory	1,880,288	1,822,376
Total current assets	32,245,648	31,398,760
Noncurrent:		
Restricted cash and short-term investments	30,350,390	29,569,761
Restricted investments	2,734,900	2,659,416
Investment in associated companies	822,083	802,212
Land	1,265,842	1,265,842
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	81,505,871	79,084,612
Other	180,071	162,451
Total noncurrent assets	116,859,157	_113,544,294
Total Assets	149,104,805	144,943,054
Deferred Outflows of Resources		
Related to pensions	4,826,866	7,652,907
Related to OPEB	533,543	449,209
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	5,360,409	8,102,116
Liabilities		
Current:		
Accounts payable	6,740,339	6,400,929
Accrued liabilities	396,465	334,184
Customer deposits	1,406,058	1,308,651
Other liabilities	200,000	200,000
Current portion of long-term liabilities: Compensated absences	361,669	24,227
·		
Total current liabilities Noncurrent:	9,104,531	8,267,991
Net pension liability	12,054,935	14,610,001
Net OPEB liability	7,166,506	7,094,569
Compensated absences	1,860,068	2,447,147
Total noncurrent liabilities	21,081,509	24,151,717
Total Liabilities	30,186,040	32,419,708
Deferred Inflows of Resources	20,200,010	,,
Related to pensions	2,526,025	1,775,159
Related to OPEB	126,078	189,117
Contributions in aid of construction	2,292,259	1,952,241
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	4,944,362	3,916,517
Net Position		
Net investment in capital assets	82,771,713	80,350,454
Restricted for:		
Depreciation fund	8,224,591	8,334,981
Pension trust	6,585,203	6,365,431
Unrestricted	21,753,305	21,658,079
Total Net Position	\$ 119,334,812	\$ 116,708,945

Enterprise Fund

Statements Of Revenues, Expenses, And Changes In Net Position For the Year Ended December 31, 2020 (With Comparative Totals for the Year Ended December 31, 2019)

	2020	<u> 2019</u>
Operating Revenues		
Electric sales, net of discounts of \$4,015,220		
and \$3,938,532, respectively	\$ 86,894,628	\$ 89,475,079
Purchase power adjustments:		
Fuel charge adjustment	(1,033,746	(1,117,760)
Capacity and transmission adjustment	(288,550	(45,342)
Total Operating Revenues	85,572,332	88,311,977
Operating Expenses		
Purchase power	57,292,309	61,027,184
Operating	15,642,969	14,529,908
Maintenance	2,421,394	2,072,112
Voluntary payments to towns	1,607,009	1,569,667
Depreciation	4,699,207	4,525,997
Total Operating Expenses	81,662,888	83,724,868
Operating Income	3,909,444	4,587,109
Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)		
Interest income	390,425	969,188
Intergovernmental grants	451,761	173,550
Loss on disposal of assets	(163,530	(81,563)
Other	518,273	812,910
Total Nonoperating Revenues	1,196,929	1,874,085
Income Before Capital Contributions and Transfers	5,106,373	6,461,194
Capital contributions	-	338,448
Return on investment transfer to Town of Reading	(2,480,506	(2,480,506)
Change in Net Position	2,625,867	4,319,136
Net Position at Beginning of Year	116,708,945	112,389,809
Net Position at End of Year	\$ 119,334,812	\$ 116,708,945

Enterprise Fund Statements of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020 (With Comparative Totals for the Year Ended December 31, 2019)

		<u>2020</u>	2019
Cash Flows From Operating Activities Receipts from customers and users Payments to vendors and employees Customer purchase power adjustments	\$	83,693,173 (75,945,319) 1,322,296	\$ 91,177,144 (82,622,371) (1,163,102)
Net Cash Provided By Operating Activities		9,070,150	7,391,671
Cash Flows From Noncapital Financing Activities Return on investment to Town of Reading Other	-	(2,480,506) 518,271	(2,480,506) 834,149
Net Cash (Used For) Noncapital Financing Activities		(1,962,235)	(1,646,357)
Cash Flows From Capital and Related Financing Activities Acquisition and construction of capital assets Contributions in aid of construction Intergovernmental revenues	-	(7,283,998) 340,018 451,761	(6,474,699) 227,971 152,312
Net Cash (Used For) Capital and Related Financing Activities		(6,492,219)	(6,094,416)
Cash Flows From Investing Activities Investment income Increase in investments		390,425 (95,356)	969,188 (681,944)
Net Cash Provided By Investing Activities	_	295,069	287,244
Net Change in Cash and Short-Term Investments		910,765	(61,858)
Cash and Short-Term Investments, Beginning of Period	-	49,598,159	49,660,017
Cash and Short-Term Investments, End of Period	\$	50,508,924	\$ 49,598,159
Reconciliation of Operating Income (Loss) to Net Cash Operating income Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash provided by (used for) operating activities:	\$	3,909,444	\$ 4,587,109
Depreciation expense Changes in assets, liabilities, and deferred outflows/inflows		4,699,207	4,525,997
Accounts receivable Prepaid and other assets Inventory Deferred outflows - related to pensions Deferred outflows - related to OPEB Accounts payable and accrued liabilities Net pension liability Net OPEB liability Deferred inflows - related to pensions Deferred inflows - related to OPEB Other		(654,272) (22,186) (57,912) 2,826,041 (84,334) 152,055 (2,555,066) 71,937 750,866 (63,039) 97,409	1,591,167 (380,792) (335,906) (2,613,517) 291,259 (3,791,765) 3,828,182 (279,677) (330,401) 189,117 110,898
Net Cash Provided By Operating Activities	\$	9,070,150	\$ 7,391,671

Fiduciary Fund – Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust
Statements of Fiduciary Net Position
December 31, 2020
(With Comparative Totals as of December 31, 2019)

Other Post Employment Benefits <u>Trust Fund</u>

<u>2020</u> <u>2019</u>

Assets

Cash and short-term investments \$ 4,508,256 \$ 4,087,576

Total Assets 4,508,256 4,087,576

Net Position

Total net position held in trust for other post employment benefits \$ 4,508,256 \$ 4,087,576

Fiduciary Funds
Statement Of Changes In Fiduciary Net Position
For the Year Ended December 31, 2020
(With Comparative Totals for the Year Ended December 31, 2019)

	Other Post Employment Benefits <u>Trust Fund</u>		
	<u>2020</u>	2019	
Additions			
Contributions:			
Employers	\$ 1,042,087	\$ 1,012,408	
Investment Income:			
Interest	33,826	90,920	
Total additions	1,075,913	1,103,328	
Deductions			
Benefit payments to plan members,			
beneficiaries and other systems	655,233	577,471	
Net increase	420,680	525,857	
Net position restricted for OPEB purposes			
Beginning of year	4,087,576	3,561,719	
End of year	\$ 4,508,256	\$ 4,087,576	

Notes to Financial Statements

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The significant accounting policies of the Town of Reading Municipal Light Department (the Department) (an enterprise fund of the Town of Reading, Massachusetts) are as follows:

Business Activity

The Department purchases electricity for distribution to more than 70,000 residents within the towns of Reading, North Reading, Wilmington, and Lynnfield Center.

Regulation and Basis of Accounting

Under Massachusetts General Laws, the Department's electric rates are set by the Municipal Light Board. Electric rates, excluding the purchase power fuel charge and the purchase power capacity and transmission charge, cannot be changed more than once every three months. Rate schedules are filed with the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (DPU). While the DPU exercises general supervisory authority over the Department, the Department's rates are not subject to DPU approval. The Department's policy is to prepare its financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

The proprietary fund financial statements are reported using the *economic resources* measurement focus and the *accrual basis of accounting*. Under this method, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recorded when liabilities are incurred.

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating 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 Department's proprietary fund are charges to customers for electric sales and services. Operating expenses for the Department's proprietary fund include the cost of sales and services, administrative expenses and depreciation on capital assets. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating revenues and expenses.

Concentrations

The Department operates within the electric utility industry. In 1998, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts enacted energy deregulation legislation that restructured the Commonwealth's electricity industry to foster competition and promote reduced electric rates. Energy deregulation created a separation between the supply and delivery portions

of electricity service and enabled consumers to purchase their energy from a retail supplier of their choice. Municipal utilities are not currently subject to this legislation.

Retirement Trust

The Reading Municipal Light Department Employees' Retirement Trust (the "Pension Trust") was established by the Reading Municipal Light Board on December 30, 1966, pursuant to Chapter 64 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Pension Trust constitutes the principal instrument of a plan established by the Municipal Light Board to fund the Department's annual required contribution to the Town of Reading Contributory Retirement System (the System), a cost-sharing, multi-employer public employee retirement system.

In accordance with Government Accounting Standards Board Statement 68 (GASB 68), the Retirement Trust was consolidated into the Proprietary Fund and is reflected in net position as "restricted for pension trust."

Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust

The Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund (the "OPEB Trust") was established by the Reading Municipal Light Board pursuant to Chapter 32B, Section 20 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The OPEB Trust constitutes the principal instrument of a plan established by the Municipal Light Board to fund the Department's annual actuarially determined OPEB contribution for future retirees.

Revenues

Revenues are based on rates established by the Department and filed with the DPU. Revenues from sales of electricity are recorded on the basis of bills rendered from monthly meter readings taken on a cycle basis and are stated net of discounts. Recognition is given to the amount of sales to customers which are unbilled at the end of the fiscal year.

Cash and Short-term Investments

For the purposes of the Statements of Cash Flows, the Department considers unrestricted cash on deposit with the Town Treasurer to be cash or short-term investments. For purposes of the Statements of Net Position, both the proprietary funds and fiduciary funds consider unrestricted and restricted investments with original maturities of three months or less to be short-term investments.

Investments

State and local statutes place certain limitations on the nature of deposits and investments available. Deposits in any financial institution may not exceed certain levels within the financial institution. Non-fiduciary fund investments can be made in securities issued or unconditionally guaranteed by the U.S. Government or agencies that have a

maturity of one year or less from the date of purchase and repurchase agreements guaranteed by such securities with maturity dates of no more than 90 days from date of purchase.

Investments for the Department and the Pension Trust consist of domestic and foreign fixed income bonds which the Department intends to hold to maturity. These investments are reported at fair market value.

Inventory

Inventory consists of parts and accessories purchased for use in the utility business for construction, operation, and maintenance purposes and is stated at average cost. Meters and transformers are capitalized when purchased.

Capital Assets and Depreciation

Capital assets, which include property, plant, equipment, and utility plant infrastructure, are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost when purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of the donation.

The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized.

Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as they are acquired or constructed. Interest incurred during the construction phase of proprietary fund capital assets is included as part of the capitalized value of the constructed asset. When capital assets are retired, the cost of the retired asset, less accumulated depreciation, salvage value and any cash proceeds, is charged to the Department's unrestricted net position.

Massachusetts General Laws require utility plant in service to be depreciated at a minimum annual rate of 3%. To change this rate, the Department must obtain approval from the DPU. Changes in annual depreciation rates may be made for financial factors relating to cash flow for plant expansion, rather than engineering factors relating to estimates of useful lives.

Accrued Compensated Absences

Employee vacation leave is vested annually but may only be carried forward to the succeeding year with supervisor approval and, if appropriate, within the terms of the applicable Department policy or union contract. Generally, sick leave may accumulate according to union and Department contracts and policy and is paid upon normal termination at the current rate of pay. The Department's policy is to recognize vacation costs at the time payments are made. The Department records accumulated, unused, vested sick pay as a liability. The amount recorded is the amount to be paid upon normal termination at the current rate of pay.

Long-Term Obligations

The proprietary fund financial statements report long-term debt and other long-term obligations as liabilities in the Statements of Net Position.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures for contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of the revenues and expenses during the fiscal year. Actual results could vary from estimates that were used.

Rate of Return

The Department's rates must be set such that earnings attributable to electric operations do not exceed 8% of the net cost of plant. The Department's audited financial statements are prepared in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. To determine the net income subject to the rate of return limitations, the Department performs the following calculation. Using the net income per the audited financial statements, the return on investment to the Town of Reading is added back, the fuel charge, capacity and transmission adjustments are added or deducted, and miscellaneous debits/credits (i.e., gain/loss on disposal of fixed assets, etc.) are added or deducted, leaving an adjusted net income figure for rate of return purposes. Investment interest income is then deducted from this figure to determine the net income subject to the rate of return. The net income subject to the rate of return is then subtracted from the allowable 8% rate of return, which is calculated by adding the book value of net plant and the investment in associated companies multiplied by 8%. From this calculation, the Department will determine what cash transfers need to be made at the end of the fiscal year.

2. Cash and Investments

Total cash and investments as of December 31, 2020 are classified in the accompanying financial statements as follows:

Proprietary Fund:		
Unrestricted cash and short-term investments	\$	20,158,534
Restricted cash and short-term investments		30,350,390
Restricted investments		2,734,900
Fiduciary Funds:		4 500 256
Cash and short-term investments - OPEB Trust	_	4,508,256
Total cash and investments	\$_	57,752,080

Total cash and investments at December 31, 2020 consist of the following:

Deposits with financial institutions	\$_	57,752,080
Total cash and investments	\$	57,752,080

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in market interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. Generally, the longer the maturity of an investment, the greater the sensitivity of its fair value to changes in market interest rates. The Department manages its exposure to interest rate risk by purchasing a combination of shorter term and longer-term investments and by timing cash flows from maturities so that a portion of the portfolio is maturing or coming close to maturity evenly over time as necessary to provide the cash flow and liquidity needed for operations.

As of December 31, 2020, the Department (including the Pension Trust and OPEB Trust) held cash and short-term investments in pooled investments with the Massachusetts Municipal Depository Trust (MMDT), FDIC-insured savings accounts, and 90-day FDIC-insured bank certificates of deposit. Because of their immediate liquidity and/or short-term maturity, these funds are classified as cash and short-term investments in the accompanying financial statements and are not considered to be exposed to significant interest rate risk.

As of December 31, 2020, the Department and Pension Trust held investments in domestic and foreign fixed income bonds with varying maturity dates as follows:

	Proprietary Fund		
<u>Corporate Bonds</u>			Maturity <u>Date</u>
AT&T Inc	\$	458,478	12/01/22
General Electric Cap Corp		435,176	01/09/23
Wells Fargo & Co		436,916	08/15/23
Simon Property		433,013	06/15/27
Rabobank Nederland Bank		531,360	11/09/22
BNP Paribas	_	439,957	03/03/23
Total	\$_	2,734,900	

Credit Risk

Generally, credit risk is the risk that the issuer of an investment will not fulfill its obligation to the holder of the investment. This is measured by the assigning of a rating by a

nationally recognized statistical rating organization. As of December 31, 2020, the Department and Pension Trust held investments in domestic and foreign fixed income bonds with varying ratings as follows:

		Proprietary	
		Fund	_
		Restricted	Moody's
Investment Type	Ī	<u>nvestments</u>	<u>Rating</u>
Corporate bonds:			
AT&T Inc	\$	458,478	Baa2
General Electric Cap Corp		435,176	Baa1
Wells Fargo & Co		436,916	A3
Simon Property		433,013	A3
Rabobank Nederland Bank		531,360	Baa1
BNP Paribas	_	439,957	Aa3
Total	\$_	2,734,900	

Concentration of Credit Risk

The Department follows the Town of Reading's investment policy, which does not limit the amount that can be invested in any one issuer beyond that stipulated by Massachusetts General Laws. At December 31, 2020, the Department and Pension Trust investments were held in domestic and foreign fixed income bonds, as detailed in the sections above. Five of the bonds each individually represent approximately 16% of the Department's and System's total investments, while the investment in Rabobank Nederland Bank represents approximately 19%.

Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial Credit Risk for *deposits* is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, the Department will not be able to recover its deposits or will not be able to recover collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The custodial credit risk for *investments* is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty (e.g., broker-dealer) to a transaction, the Department will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of another party. Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 55, limits deposits "in a bank or trust company or banking company to an amount not exceeding sixty per cent of the capital and surplus of such bank or trust company or banking company, unless satisfactory security is given to it by such bank or trust company or banking company for such excess." The Department follows the Massachusetts statute as written, as well as the Town of Reading's deposit policy for custodial credit risk.

Because the Department pools its cash and short-term investments with the Town of Reading, and bank accounts are maintained in the name of the Town, the amount of the

Department's balance exposed to custodial credit risk at December 31, 2020, cannot be reasonably determined.

As of December 31, 2020, none of the Department or Pension Trust investments were exposed to custodial credit risk because the related securities are registered in the Department's name.

Fair Value

The Department categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by *Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 72 Fair Value Measurement and Application (GASB 72).* The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets; Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs.

The Reading Municipal Light Department categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 72 Fair Value Measurement and Application (GASB 72).

The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset and give the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (level 3 measurements). The hierarchy categorizes the inputs to valuation techniques used for fair value measurement into three levels as follows:

- Level 1 inputs that reflect quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the fund has the ability to access at the measurement date.
- Level 2 inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for an asset or liability either directly or indirectly, including inputs in markets that are not considered to be active. Because they must often be priced on the basis of transactions involving similar but not identical securities or do not trade with sufficient frequency, certain directly held securities are categorized as level 2.
- Level 3 unobservable inputs based on the best information available, using assumptions in determining the fair value of investments and derivative instruments.

The net asset value (NAV) per share is the amount of net assets attributable to each share of capital stock outstanding at the close of the period. Investments measured at the NAV for fair value are not subject to level classification.

In instances where inputs used to measure fair value fall into different levels in the fair value hierarchy, fair value measurements in their entirety are categorized based on the

lowest level input that is significant to the valuation. The Department's pension Plan's assessment of the significance of particular inputs to these fair value measurements requires judgment and considers factors specific to each asset or liability.

The Reading Municipal Light Department has the following fair value measurements as of December 31, 2020:

			Fair Value Measurements Using:					
			Quoted in ac marke identica	tive ts for I assets		Significant observable inputs	unobs in	ificant ervable outs
<u>Description</u>		<u>Value</u>	(Leve	<u>el 1)</u>		<u>(Level 2)</u>	<u>(Le</u>	<u>vel 3)</u>
Investments by fair value level: Debt securities								
Corporate bonds	\$_	2,734,900	\$	-	\$	2,734,900	\$	-
Total	\$_	2,734,900						

3. Restricted Cash and Investments

The Department's proprietary fund restricted cash and investment balances represent the following reserves:

	12/31/20				
	<u>Cash</u>		<u>Investments</u>		
Depreciation fund	\$ 8,224,591	\$	-		
Construction fund	2,103,969		-		
Deferred fuel reserve	3,127,002		-		
Deferred energy					
conservation reserve	33,417		-		
Rate stabilization	8,433,313		-		
Reserve for uncollectible					
accounts	200,000		-		
Sick leave benefits	854,287		1,367,450		
Hazardous waste fund	750,000		-		
Customer deposits	1,406,058		-		
Pension trust	5,217,753		1,367,450		
Total	\$ 30,350,390	\$	2,734,900		

The Department maintains the following reserves:

- <u>Depreciation fund</u> The Department is normally required to reserve 3.0% of capital assets each year to fund capital improvements.
- <u>Construction fund</u> This account represents amounts set aside by the Department for construction-related projects.
- <u>Deferred fuel reserve</u> The Department transfers the difference between the customers' monthly fuel charge adjustment and actual fuel costs into this account to be used in the event of a sudden increase in fuel costs.
- <u>Deferred energy conservation reserve</u> This account is used to reserve monies collected from a special energy charge added to customer bills. Customers who undertake measures to conserve and improve energy efficiency can apply for rebates that are paid from this account.
- <u>Rate stabilization</u> This represents amounts set aside to help stabilize cost increases resulting from fluctuations in purchase power costs.
- Reserve for uncollectible accounts This account was set up to offset a portion of the Department's bad debt reserve.
- <u>Sick leave benefits</u> This account is used to offset the Department's compensated absence liability.
- <u>Hazardous waste fund</u> -This reserve was set up by the Board of Commissioners to cover the Department's insurance deductible in the event of a major hazardous materials incident.
- Customer deposits Customer deposits that are held in escrow.
- Pension trust The principal instrument of a plan established by the Municipal Light Board to fund the Department's annual required contribution to the Town of Reading Contributory Retirement System (the System), a cost-sharing, multiemployer public employee retirement system.

4. Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable consists of the following at December 31, 2020:

Customer Accounts:

Billed \$ 2,621,522

Less allowances:

Uncollectible accounts (200,000) Sales discounts (112,792)

Total billed 2,308,730

Unbilled, net of sales discounts 5,086,505

Total customer accounts 7,395,235

Other Accounts:

Liens and other 373,284

Total other accounts 373,284

Total net receivables \$ 7,768,519

5. Prepaid Expenses

Prepaid expenses consist of the following:

Insurance and other	\$ 1,742,663
Purchase power	20,708
NYPA prepayment fund	307,573
WC Fuel - Watson	 367,363
Total	\$ 2,438,307

6. Inventory

Inventory comprises supplies and materials at December 31, 2020, and is valued using the average cost method.

7. Investment in Associated Companies

Investment in associated companies consists of the following, at December 31, 2020:

New England Hydro-Transmission (NEH & NHH)	\$	285,822
Energy New England		488,233
Black Rock Funding - Saddleback Ridge	_	48,028
Total	\$	822,083

Under agreements with the New England Hydro-Transmission Electric Company, Inc. (NEH) and the New England Hydro-Transmission Corporation (NHH), the Department has made the advances to fund its equity requirements for the Hydro-Quebec Phase II interconnection. The Department is carrying its investment at fair value, reduced by shares repurchased. The Department's equity position in the Project is less than one-half of one percent.

In April 2019, the Department invested in 8.334% shares of Energy New England (ENE). The Department's equity position at December 31, 2020 is based on ENE's capital, retained earnings, and the net profit from April through December of 2020.

In December 2013, the Department signed a purchase power agreement with Saddleback Ridge Wind, LLC for the output of Saddleback Ridge Wind located in Carthage, Maine. The contract for Saddleback Ridge Wind is effective from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2035. The Department receives energy plus all attributes for this contract. The average annual generation is estimated to be approximately 15,820 megawatt-hours per year.

8. Capital Assets

The following is a summary of the year ended December 31, 2020 activity in capital assets (in thousands):

	Beginning					Ending		
		<u>Balance</u>		<u>Increases</u>	D	<u>ecreases</u>		<u>Balance</u>
Business-Type Activities								
Capital assets, being depreciated:								
Structures and improvements	\$	20,633	\$	328	\$	-	\$	20,961
Equipment and furnishings		35,502		902		(253)		36,151
Infrastructure	-	100,505		6,036		(860)	-	105,681
Total capital assets, being depreciated		156,640		7,266		(1,113)		162,793
Less accumulated depreciation for:								
Structures and improvements		(10,783)		(562)		-		(11,345)
Equipment and furnishings		(23,671)		(804)		253		(24,222)
Infrastructure	_	(43,102)		(3,333)		715	-	(45,720)
Total accumulated depreciation	_	(77,556)		(4,699)		968	-	(81,287)
Total capital assets, being depreciated, net		79,084		2,567		(145)		81,506
Capital assets, not being depreciated:								
Land	_	1,266					-	1,266
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	_	1,266		-			-	1,266
Capital assets, net	\$.	80,350	\$	2,567	\$	(145)	\$	82,772

9. Deferred Outflows of Resources

Deferred outflows of resources represent the consumption of net position by the Department that is applicable to future reporting periods. Deferred outflows of resources have a positive effect on net position, similar to assets. Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions and OPEB, in accordance with GASB Statements No. 68 and 75, are more fully discussed in the corresponding pension and OPEB notes.

10. Accounts Payable

Accounts payable represent fiscal 2020 expenses that were paid after December 31, 2020.

11. Accrued Liabilities

Accrued liabilities consist of the following at December 31, 2020:

Accrued payroll	\$	292,246
Accrued sales tax		74,549
Other	_	29,670
Total	\$	396,465

12. Customer Deposits

This balance represents deposits received from customers that are held in escrow.

13. Accrued Employee Compensated Absences

Department employees are granted sick leave in varying amounts. Upon retirement, normal termination, or death, employees are compensated for unused sick leave (subject to certain limitations) at their then current rates of pay.

14. Long-Term Debt

Changes in General Long-Term Liabilities

During the year ended December 31, 2020, the following changes occurred in long-term liabilities (in thousands):

		eginning <u>Balance</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>dditions</u>	<u>Re</u>	ductions		Ending Balance	Cı	Less urrent ortion	Lc	Equals ong-Term Portion
Net pension liability Net OPEB liability Compensated absences	\$	14,610 7,095 2,471	\$	- 72 -	\$	(2,555) - (249)	\$	12,055 7,167 2,222	\$	- - (362)	\$	12,055 7,167 1,860
Totals	\$_	24,176	\$	72	\$_	(2,804)	\$_	21,444	\$_	(362)	\$	21,082

15. Deferred Inflows of Resources

Deferred inflows of resources are the acquisition of net position by the Department that are applicable to future reporting periods. Deferred inflows of resources have a negative effect on net position, similar to liabilities. Deferred inflows of resources are related to pension and OPEB, and contributions in aid of construction. Pension and OPEB will be recognized as expense in future years and is more fully described in the corresponding pension and OPEB notes.

The application of ASC 980 results in certain revenues and expenses being removed from the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Position and reflected in the Statement of Net Position as deferred outflows or deferred inflows. The revenues that have been removed from the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Net Position and added to the Statement of Net Position as deferred inflows of resources are the Department's contributions in aid of construction. These deferred inflows will be amortized over the life of the corresponding capital assets.

16. Reading Contributory Retirement System

The Department follows the provisions of GASB Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions – An Amendment of GASB Statement No. 27*, with respect to the employees' retirement funds.

Plan Description

Substantially all employees of the Department are members of the Town of Reading Contributory Retirement System (the System), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer public employee retirement system (PERS). Eligible employees must participate in the System. The pension plan provides pension benefits, deferred allowances, and death and disability benefits. Chapter 32 of the Massachusetts General Laws establishes the authority of the

System, as well as contribution percentages and benefits paid. The System Retirement Board does not have the authority to amend benefit provisions. Additional information is disclosed in the System's annual financial reports, which are publicly available from the System's administrative offices located at Reading Town Hall, 16 Lowell Street, Reading, Massachusetts, 01867.

Participant Contributions

Participants contribute a set percentage of their gross regular compensation annually. Employee contribution percentages are specified in Chapter 32 of the Massachusetts General Laws. The employee's individual contribution percentage is determined by their date of entry into the system. In addition, all employees hired on or after January 1, 1979 contribute an additional 2% on all gross regular compensation over the rate of \$30,000 per year. The percentages are as follows:

Before January 1, 1975	5%
January 1, 1975 - December 31, 1983	7%
January 1, 1984 - June 30, 1996	8%
Beginning July 1, 1996	9%

For those members entering a Massachusetts System on or after April 2, 2012 in Group 1, the contribution rate will be reduced to 6% when at least 30 years of creditable service has been attained.

Participant Retirement Benefits

A retirement allowance consists of two parts: an annuity and a pension. A member's accumulated total deductions and a portion of the interest they generate constitute the annuity. The difference between the total retirement allowance and the annuity is the pension. The average retirement benefit is approximately 80-85% pension and 15-20% annuity.

The System provides for retirement allowance benefits up to a maximum of 80% of a member's highest 3-year average annual rate of regular compensation for those hired prior to April 2, 2012 and the highest 5-year average annual rate of regular compensation for those first becoming members of the Massachusetts System on or after that date. However, per Chapter 176 of the Acts of 2011, for members who retire on or after April 2, 2012, if in the 5 years of creditable service immediately preceding retirement, the difference in the annual rate of regular compensation between any 2 consecutive years exceeds 100%, the normal yearly amount of the retirement allowance shall be based on the average annual rate of regular compensation received by the member during the period of 5 consecutive years preceding retirement. Benefit payments are based upon a member's age, length of creditable service, level of compensation, and group classification.

There are four classes of membership in the retirement system, but one of these classes, Group 3, is made up exclusively of the Massachusetts State Police. The other three classes are as follows:

- Group 1 General employees, including clerical, administrative, technical, and all other employees not otherwise classified.
- Group 2 Certain specified hazardous duty positions.
- Group 4 Police officers, firefighters, and other specified hazardous positions.

A retirement allowance may be received at any age, upon attaining 20 years of service. The plan also provides for retirement at age 55 if the participant was a member prior to January 1, 1978, with no minimum vesting requirements. If the participant was a member on or after January 1, 1978 and a member of Groups 1 or 2, then a retirement allowance may be received if the participant (1) has at least 10 years of creditable service, (2) is age 55, (3) voluntarily left Department employment on or after that date, and (4) left accumulated annuity deductions in the fund. Members of Group 4 have no minimum vesting requirements, however, must be at least age 55. Groups 2 and 4 require that participants perform the duties of the Group position for at least 12 months immediately prior to retirement.

A participant who became a member on or after April 2, 2012 is eligible for a retirement allowance upon 10 years creditable service and reaching ages 60 or 55 for Groups 1 and 2, respectively. Participants in Group 4 must be at least age 55. Groups 2 and 4 require that participants perform the duties of the Group position for at least 12 months immediately prior to retirement.

Methods of Payment

A member may elect to receive his or her retirement allowance in one of three forms of payment as follows:

- Option A Total annual allowance, payable in monthly installments, commencing at retirement and terminating at the member's death.
- Option B A reduced annual allowance, payable in monthly installments, commencing
 at retirement and terminating at the death of the member, provided however, that if
 the total amount of the annuity portion received by the member is less than the amount
 of his or her accumulated deductions, including interest, the difference or balance of
 his accumulated deductions will be paid in a lump sum to the retiree's beneficiary or
 beneficiaries of choice.
- Option C A reduced annual allowance, payable in monthly installments, commencing
 at retirement. At the death of the retired employee, 2/3 of the allowance is payable
 to the member's designated beneficiary (who may be the spouse, or former spouse
 who has not remarried, child, parent, sister, or brother of the employee) for the life of

the beneficiary. For members who retired on or after January 12, 1988, if the beneficiary pre-deceases the retiree, the benefit payable increases (or "pops up" to Option A) based on the factor used to determine the Option C benefit at retirement. For members who retired prior to January 12, 1988, if the System has accepted Section 288 of Chapter 194 of the Acts of 1998 and the beneficiary pre-deceases the retiree, the benefit payable "pops up" to Option A in the same fashion. The Option C became available to accidental disability retirees on November 7, 1996.

Participant Refunds

Employees who resign from service and who are not eligible to receive a retirement allowance are entitled to request a refund of their accumulated total deductions. Members voluntarily withdrawing with at least 10 years of service or involuntarily withdrawing, receive 100% of the regular interest that has accrued on those accumulated total deductions. Members voluntarily withdrawing with less than 10 years of service get credited interest each year at a rate of 3%.

Employer Contributions

Employers are required to contribute at actuarially determined rates as accepted by the Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission (PERAC).

The Department's contribution to the System for the year ended December 31, 2020 was \$2,039,462 which was equal to its actuarially determined contribution.

Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

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 System and additions to/deductions from System's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by System. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

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

At December 31, 2020, the Department reported a liability of \$12,054,935 for its proportionate share of the System's net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of December 31, 2019, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of January 1, 2019. The Department's proportion of the net pension liability was based on an actuarially determined projection of the Department's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating employers. At December 31, 2019, the Department's proportion was 28.35%.

For the year ended December 31, 2020, the Department recognized pension expense of \$3,061,302 In addition, the Department reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred (inflows) of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

Deferred	Deferred
Outflows of	(Inflows) of
Resources	Resources
\$ 2,342,274	\$ (122,257)
406,031	(963,893)
-	(1,272,480)
39,099	(167,395)
2,039,462	
\$ 4,826,866	\$ (2,526,025)
	Outflows of Resources \$ 2,342,274

The amount reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from contributions subsequent to the measurement date and before the end of the fiscal year will be included as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended December 31, 2021.

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

Year	end	hal	Dec	ρm	her	21.
rear	enu	eu	レビし	еш	nei	ЭΙ.

2021		\$ 313,252
2022		(25,960)
2023		499,148
2024		(525,044)
2025		 (17)
	Total	\$ 261,379

Actuarial Assumptions

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

Valuation Date January 1, 2019

Actuarial Cost Method Entry Age Normal Cost Method

Actuarial Assumptions:

Investment rate of return 7.50%, net of pension plan investment

expense, including inflation

Projected salary increases 4.25%-6.00% for Groups 1 and 2

Inflation rate 2.40% Annually

Post-retirement cost-of-living 3.00% of first \$12,000

adjustment

Mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 Mortality Table (base year 2009) with full generational mortality improvement using Scale BB. For disabled members, RP-2000 Mortality Table (base year 2012) with full generational mortality improvement using Scale BB.

Target Allocations

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges 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. Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the pension plan's target asset allocation as of December 31, 2019 are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Asset <u>Allocation</u>	Long-term Expected Rates of Return
Global equity	39.00%	4.68%
Fixed income	15.00%	59.00%
Private equity	13.00%	8.50%
Portfolio completion	11.00%	3.40%
Real estate	10.00%	3.70%
Value-added fixed income	8.00%	4.40%
Timberland	4.00%	4.30%
Total	100.00%	

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.50%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that the plan member contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that employer contributions will be made at contractually required rates, actuarially determined. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current active and inactive 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 Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following table presents the Department's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) calculated using the current discount rate of 7.50%, as well as what the Department's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage-point lower or 1 percentage-point higher than the current rate:

	Current	
1%	Discount	1%
Decrease	Rate	Increase
(6.50%)	<u>(7.50%)</u>	<u>(8.50%)</u>
\$18,138,213	\$12,054,935	\$6,890,006

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued System financial report.

Town of Reading Municipal Light Department Employees Retirement Trust ("Pension Trust")

The Department has established an irrevocable trust for the purpose of currently funding its annual required contribution to the Town of Reading Contributory Retirement System (RCRS). Annual contributions to the trust are actuarially determined to be the net normal cost for funding the Department's liability for pension benefits for covered employees, and both the principal and income of the trust is restricted for the exclusive benefit of Department employees and their beneficiaries. This Pension Trust is included in the proprietary fund statements in the Department's basic financial statements.

As noted in the first paragraph of this section, the Department's proportionate share of the RCRS net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of January 1, 2019. However, the actuarial valuation does not take into account the fiduciary net position of the Department's Pension Trust at December 31, 2019 (the measurement date). As of December 31, 2019, the value of the pension trust was \$6,365,431.

17. Other Post-Employment Benefits (GASB 74 and GASB 75)

GASB Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans (OPEB), replaces the requirements of Statement No. 43, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans. This applies if a trust fund has been established to fund future OPEB costs. In fiscal year 2010, the Department established a single employer defined benefit OPEB Trust Fund to provide funding for future employee health care costs. The OPEB Trust Fund does not issue a stand-alone financial report.

GASB Statement No. 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions, replaces the requirements of Statement No. 45, Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions. The Statement establishes standards for recognizing and measuring liabilities, deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflows of resources, and expense/expenditures. This Statement identifies the methods and assumptions that are required to be used to project benefit payments, discounted projected benefit payments to their actuarial present value, and attribute that present value to periods of employee service.

All the following OPEB disclosures are based on a measurement date of December 31, 2020.

General Information about the OPEB Plan

Plan Description

The Department provides post-employment healthcare benefits for retired employees through the Department's plan. The Department provides health insurance coverage through Blue Cross Blue Shield. The benefits, benefit levels, employee contributions, and employer contributions are governed by Chapter 32 of the Massachusetts General Laws.

Benefits Provided

The Department provides medical and prescription drug insurance to retirees and their covered dependents. All active employees who retire from the Department and meet the eligibility criteria will receive these benefits.

Funding Policy

The Department's funding policy includes financing the implicit subsidy on a pay-as-yougo basis, as required by statute. Additional contributions are based on actuarially determined amounts.

Plan Membership

At June 30, 2018 (Actuarial Valuation date), the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

Inactive employees or beneficiaries	
currently receiving benefit payments	95
Active employees	56
Total	151

Investments

The OPEB trust fund assets consist of cash and short-term investments. The plan expects to invest with the State Retiree Benefit Trust Fund (SRBTF) in the Pension Reserves Investment Trust (PRIT).

Rate of return. For the year ended December 31, 2020, the annual money-weighted rate of return on investments, net of investment expense, was not available. The money-weighted rate of return expresses investment performance, net of investment expense, adjusted for the changing amounts actually invested.

Actuarial Assumptions and Other Inputs

The net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2018, and rolled forward June 30, 2020 to using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement, unless otherwise specified:

Inflation	3.00%
	6.00% decreasing to 4.25% based on service for Group 1
Salary increases	and Group 2
Investment rate of return	7.25%
Municipal bond rate	Unknown
Discount rate	7.25%
Healthcare cost trend rates	Medical/Prescription Drug: 7.00% decreasing by 0.25%
	for 10 years to an ultimate level of 4.50% per year.
	Contributions: Retiree contributions are expected to
	increase with medical trend.
Participation rate	100% of active employees
r articipation rate	100/0 of delive employees

Mortality rates were based on:

- Pre-Retirement: RP-2014 Blue Collar Employee Mortality Table projected generationally using Scale MP-2018
- Healthy: RP-2014 Blue Collar Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table projected generationally using Scale MP-2018

 Disabled: RP-2014 Blue Collar Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table set forward one year projected generationally using Scale MP-2018

The actuarial assumptions used in the valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study as of June 30, 2018.

Target Allocations

The long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges 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. Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the target asset allocation as of June 30, 2018 are summarized in the following table.

	Target	Long-term
	Asset	Expected Real
<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Allocation</u>	Rate of Return
Domestic equity	21.00%	6.15%
Core fixed income	15.00%	1.11%
International developed markets equity	13.00%	6.78%
Private equity	13.00%	9.99%
Hedge fund, GTAA, risk parity	11.00%	3.19%
Real estate	10.00%	4.33%
High-yield fixed income	8.00%	3.51%
International emerging markets equity	5.00%	8.65%
Commodities	4.00%	4.13%
Total	100.00%	

Contributions

In addition to the implicit subsidy contribution, the Department's policy is to contribute the ADC.

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the net OPEB liability was 7.25%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current contribution rate.

Based on those assumptions, the OPEB plan fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members.

Net OPEB Liability

The components of the net OPEB liability, measured as of December 31, 2020, were as follows:

Total OPEB liability	\$	11,674,762
Plan fiduciary net position		4,508,256
Net OPEB liability	\$_	7,166,506
Plan fiduciary net position as a		
percentage of the total OPEB liability		38.62%

The fiduciary net position has been determined on the same basis used by the OPEB Plan. For this purpose, the Plan recognizes benefit payments when due and payable.

Changes in the Net OPEB Liability

The following summarizes the changes in the net OPEB liability for the past year.

	_	Increase (Decrease)						
		Plan						
		Total OPEB		Fiduciary		Net OPEB		
		Liability		Net Position		Liability		
		<u>(a)</u>		<u>(b)</u>		<u>(a) - (b)</u>		
Balances, beginning of year	\$	11,182,145	\$	4,087,576	\$	7,094,569		
Changes for the year:								
Service cost		336,113		-		336,113		
Interest		811,737		-		811,737		
Contributions - employer		-		1,042,087		(1,042,087)		
Net investment income		-		33,826		(33,826)		
Benefit payments	_	(655,233)	•	(655,233)	_			
Net Changes	_	492,617		420,680	_	71,937		
Balances, end of year	\$_	11,674,762	\$	4,508,256	\$_	7,166,506		

Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the net OPEB liability, as well as what the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage-point lower or one percentage-point higher than the current discount rate:

	Current	
1%	Discount	1%
Decrease	Rate	Increase
<u>(6.25%)</u>	<u>(7.25%)</u>	<u>(8.25%)</u>
\$ 8.454.414	\$ 7.166.506	\$ 6.030.023

Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rates

The following presents the net OPEB liability, as well as what the net 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:

	Current	
	Healthcare	
1%	Cost Trend	1%
Decrease	Rates	Increase
<u>(6.00%)</u>	<u>(7.00%)</u>	(8.00%)
\$ 5,728,921	\$ 7.166.506	\$ 8.836.014

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

For the year ended December 31, 2020, the Department recognized an OPEB expense of \$966,651. At December 31, 2020, the Department reported deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred			Deferred
	Outflows of		((Inflows) of
		Resources		<u>Resources</u>
Difference between expected and				
actual experience	\$	130,124	\$	-
Changes in assumptions		-		(126,078)
Net difference between projected and				
actual earnings on OPEB investment	_	403,419	_	-
Total	\$_	533,543	\$_	(126,078)

Amounts reported as deferred outflows and (inflows) of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Year Ended December 31:								
2021	\$	129,172						
2022		129,171						
2023		93,813						
2024		55,309						
Total	\$	407,465						

18. Participation in Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company

Town of Reading acting through its Light Department is a Participant in certain Projects of the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC).

MMWEC is a public corporation and a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, created as a means to develop a bulk power supply for its Members and other utilities. MMWEC is authorized to construct, own or purchase ownership interests in, and to issue revenue bonds to finance, electric facilities (Projects). MMWEC has acquired ownership interests in electric facilities operated by other entities and also owns and operates its own electric facilities. MMWEC operates the Stony Brook Intermediate Project and the Stony Brook Peaking Project, both fossil-fueled power plants. MMWEC has the Nuclear Mix No 1 Project, Nuclear Project Three, Nuclear Project Four, Nuclear Project Five and Project Six, which comprise an 11.6% ownership interest in the Seabrook Station nuclear generating unit operated by NextEra Energy Seabrook, LLC and a 4.8% ownership interest in the Millstone Unit 3 nuclear unit, operated by Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc. The operating license for Seabrook Station extends to March 15, 2050. The operating license for the Millstone Unit 3 nuclear unit extends to November 25, 2045. On July 19, 2019, MMWEC sold its 3.7% interest in the W.F. Wyman Unit No. 4 plant, which is operated and owned by its majority owner, FPL Energy Wyman IV, LLC.

MMWEC sells all of the capability (Project Capability) of each of its Projects to its Members and other utilities (Project Participants) under Power Sales Agreements (PSAs). The Light Department has entered into PSAs with MMWEC. Under the PSAs the Department is required to make certain payments to MMWEC payable solely from Municipal Light Department revenues. Among other things, the PSAs require each Project Participant to pay its pro rata share of MMWEC's costs related to the Project, which costs include debt service on the revenue bonds issued by MMWEC to finance the Project. In addition, should a Project Participant fail to make any payment when due, other Project Participants of that Project may be required to increase (step-up) their payments and correspondingly their Participant's share of that Project's Project Capability. Project Participants have covenanted to fix, revise and collect rates at least sufficient to meet their obligations under the PSAs. Each Participant is unconditionally obligated to make payments due to MMWEC whether or not the Project(s) is completed or operating and notwithstanding the suspension or interruption of the output of the Project(s).

Pursuant to the PSAs, the MMWEC Project Participants are liable for their proportionate share of the costs associated with decommissioning the plants, which costs are being funded through monthly Project billings. Also, the Millstone and Seabrook Project Participants are liable for their proportionate share of the uninsured costs of a nuclear incident that might be imposed under the Price-Anderson Act (Act). Originally enacted in 1957, the Act has been renewed several times. In July 2005, as part of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, Congress extended the Act until the end of 2025.

As of July 1, 2019, MMWEC has no debt service obligations outstanding relating to the Projects. MMWEC is involved in various legal actions. In the opinion of management, the outcome of such litigation or claims will not have a material adverse effect on the financial position of the company.

The total capital expenditures and annual capacity, fuel and transmission costs (which include debt service and decommissioning expenses as discussed above) associated with the Department's Project Capability of the Projects in which it participates for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively are listed in the table below.

	Reading Municipal Light Department								
	Years Ended								
		Total		Total	(Capacity, Fuel &		Capacity, Fuel &	
		Capital		Capital		Transmission	Transmission		
	Percentage	Expenditures		Expenditures		Billed		Billed	
Projects	Share	2020		2019		2020		2019	
Stony Brook Peaking Project	19.5163% \$	11,804,463	\$	11,655,859	\$	737,155	\$	712,108	
Stony Brook Intermediate Project	15.9249%	28,760,974		28,510,622		2,211,613		2,065,782	
Nuclear Mix No. 1-Seabrook	14.7191%	1,498,043		1,487,536		69,035		80,366	
Nuclear Mix No. 1-Millstone	14.7191%	9,042,897		8,911,367		874,492		863,083	
Nuclear Project No. 3-Millstone	5.2617%	7,883,321		7,789,578		626,561		620,134	
Nuclear Project No. 4-Seabrook	12.5560%	37,820,072		37,581,471		1,572,540		1,835,491	
Nuclear Project No. 5-Seabrook	6.1186%	4,990,509		4,961,078		196,683		229,475	
	\$	101,800,279	\$	100,897,511	\$	6,288,079	\$	6,406,439	

19. Renewable Energy Certificates

In 2003, the Massachusetts Department of Energy and Environmental Affairs adopted the Massachusetts Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard (RPS), a regulation that requires Investor Owned Utilities (IOUs) to purchase mandated amounts of energy generated by renewable resources (Green Energy) as a percentage of their overall electricity sales. The Massachusetts RPS applies only to IOUs, so the Department is currently exempt from this mandate.

Energy suppliers meet their annual RPS obligations by acquiring a sufficient quantity of RPS-qualified renewable energy certificates (RECs) that are created and recorded at the New England Power Pool (NEPOOL) Generation Information System (GIS). Suppliers can purchase RECs from electricity generators or from other utilities that have acquired RECs.

As part of its ongoing commitment to Green Energy, the Department has entered into Purchase Power Agreements (PPAs) with Swift River Hydro LLC and Concord Steam Corporation to purchase power generated from renewable energy resources. These PPAs include the Department taking title to RECs, which certify that the energy produced was the product of a renewable resource. Because the Department is exempt from the RPS provisions, it has the option of holding these RECs until they expire or selling them through the NEPOOL GIS.

Information regarding the Department's year ending December 31, 2020 REC activity and balances is as follows:

REC Holdings at December 31, 2020								
	F	Projected	Estimated					
	<u>C</u>	<u>ertificate</u>	<u>Value</u>					
ME Class I	\$	4,206	\$	4,206				
MA/CT/RI/NH I		4,149		190,854				
MA Class I & II		97,593						
MA/RI/NH I/ME		109,480						
CT/RI Class I		39,422						
CT Class I		24,748						
VT Class I		201						
Total	\$_	15,425	\$	466,504				

A projected REC is the Department's estimate of what will be received based on invoices generated by REC-producing projects that the Department has entitlements to.

Because there is no formal accounting guidance under GAAP or IFRS for RECs and the Department does not have a formal policy for the future disposition of RECs, the estimated fair value of the Department's REC holdings at December 31, 2020 are not recognized as an asset on the proprietary fund Statements of Net Position.

20. Leases

Related Party Transaction - Property Sub-Lease

The Department is the lessor of facilities that are currently sub-leased to the Reading Town Employees Federal Credit Union. The original sub-lease agreement commenced in December 2000 and was extended by various amendments through November 30, 2021. Following is the future minimum rental income to be received by the Department under the terms of this lease for the year ending December 31:

2021	\$ 8,984
Total	\$ 8,984

Operating Lease - Warehouse

The Department is the lessee of a warehouse facility owned by JCM Real Estate Trust. The original lease agreement for this facility commenced in December 1998 and was extended by various amendments through May 31, 2018. Under the terms of the most recent lease amendment, the Department has exercised the option to extend the lease for an

additional 60 months until May 31, 2025. Following is the future minimum rental expense to be paid by the Department for the year ending December 31:

2021	\$ 161,347
2022	161,347
2023	161,347
2024	161,347
2025	67,228
Total	\$ 712,616

21. Subsequent Events

Management has evaluated subsequent events through ________, 2021, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

22. Commitments and Contingencies

COVID-19

The COVID-19 outbreak in the United States and across the globe has resulted in economic uncertainties. There is considerable uncertainty around the duration and scope of the economic disruption. The extent of the impact of COVID-19 on our operational and financial performance will depend on certain developments, including the duration and spread of the outbreak, special acts or legislation by the state or federal government, and the impact on our customers, employees, and vendors, all of which are uncertain and cannot be predicted. At this point, the extent to which COVID-19 may impact our financial condition or results of operations is uncertain. Additionally, the Department has not experienced any disruptions in operations or supply chains as of the date of the financial statements.

Outstanding Legal Issues

On an ongoing basis, there are typically pending legal issues in which the Department is involved. The Department's management is of the opinion that the potential future settlement of these issues would not materially affect its financial statements taken as a whole.

23. New Pronouncements

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has issued Statement No. 87, *Leases*, effective for the Department beginning with its calendar year ending December 31, 2022. This statement establishes new reporting and disclosure requirements, including the recording of various operating leases in the financial statements.

Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability

December 31, 2020 (Unaudited)

Reading Contributory Retirement System

Fiscal <u>Year</u>	Measurement <u>Date</u>	Proportion of the Net Pension <u>Liability</u>	Proportionate Share of the Net Pension <u>Liability</u>	Covered Payroll	Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position Percentage of the Total <u>Pension Liability</u>
December 31, 2020	December 31, 2019	28.35%	\$12,054,935	\$ 6,754,079	178.48%	78.24%
December 31, 2019	December 31, 2018	28.35%	\$14,610,001	\$ 6,513,347	224.31%	72.56%
December 31, 2018	December 31, 2017	29.15%	\$10,781,819	\$ 6,938,057	155.40%	79.32%
June 30, 2018	December 31, 2017	29.15%	\$10,781,819	\$ 6,938,057	155.40%	79.32%
June 30, 2017	December 31, 2016	29.15%	\$13,076,538	\$ 6,393,765	204.52%	73.43%
June 30, 2016	December 31, 2015	28.25%	\$12,862,732	\$ 6,147,851	209.22%	72.17%
June 30, 2015	December 31, 2014	28.25%	\$8,464,663	\$ 5,908,694	143.26%	79.89%

Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

Required Supplementary Information Schedule of Pension Contributions

December 31, 2020 (Unaudited)

Reading Contributory Retirement System

Fiscal <u>Year</u>	Measurement <u>Date</u>	Actuarially Determined <u>Contribution</u>	Contributions in Relation to the Actuarially Determined Contribution	Contr Defi	ibution ciency cess)	Covered <u>Payroll</u>	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
December 31, 2020 December 31, 2019 December 31, 2018 June 30, 2018 June 30, 2017	December 31, 2019 December 31, 2018 December 31, 2017 December 31, 2017 December 31, 2016	\$ 2,039,462 \$ 1,781,345 \$ 1,691,058 \$ 1,650,416 \$ 1,579,345	\$ 2,039,462 \$ 1,781,345 \$ 1,691,058 \$ 1,650,416 \$ 1,579,345	\$ \$ \$ \$	- - - -	\$ 6,754,079 \$ 6,513,347 \$ 6,938,057 \$ 6,938,057 \$ 6,393,765	30.20% 27.35% 24.37% 23.79% 24.70%
June 30, 2016 June 30, 2015	December 31, 2015 December 31, 2014	\$ 1,461,650 \$ 1,401,638	\$ 1,461,650 \$ 1,401,638	\$ \$	-	\$ 6,147,851 \$ 5,908,694	23.77% 23.72%

Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

Required Supplementary Information Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Schedule of Changes in the Net OPEB Liability

(Unaudited)

		<u>2020</u>		<u>2019</u>		<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Total OPEB Liability							
Service cost	\$	336,113	\$	245,905	\$	238,384	\$ 230,880
Interest		811,737		799,729		766,539	733,280
Differences between expected and actual experience		-		260,248		-	-
Changes of assumptions		-		(252,156)		-	-
Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions	_	(655,233)	_	(577,471)	-	(552,351)	(504,917)
Net change in total OPEB liability		492,617		476,255		452,572	459,243
Total OPEB liability - beginning	_	11,182,145	_	10,705,890	_	10,253,318	9,794,075
Total OPEB liability - ending (a)		11,674,762		11,182,145		10,705,890	10,253,318
Plan Fiduciary Net Position							
Contributions - employer		1,042,087		1,012,408		1,159,476	813,663
Net investment income		33,826		90,920		75,522	35,045
Benefit payments, including refunds of member contributions	_	(655,233)	_	(577,471)	-	(552,351)	(504,917)
Net change in plan fiduciary net position		420,680		525,857		682,647	343,791
Plan fiduciary net position - beginning	_	4,087,576	_	3,561,719	_	2,879,072	2,535,281
Plan fiduciary net position - ending (b)	_	4,508,256	_	4,087,576	-	3,561,719	2,879,072
Net OPEB liability - ending (a-b)	\$_	7,166,506	\$_	7,094,569	\$	7,144,171	\$ 7,374,246

Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

See notes to the Department's financial statements for summary of significant actuarial methods and assumptions.

See Independent Auditors' Report.

Required Supplementary Information
Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)
Schedules of Net OPEB Liability, Contributions, and Investment Returns

(Unaudited)

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	2017
Schedule of Net OPEB Liability				
Total OPEB liability Plan fiduciary net position	\$ 11,674,762 4,508,256	\$ 11,182,145 <u>4,087,576</u>	\$ 10,705,890 3,561,719	\$ 10,253,318 2,879,072
, '				
Net OPEB liability	\$ <u>7,166,506</u>	\$ <u>7,094,569</u>	\$ <u>7,144,171</u>	\$ 7,374,246
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability	38.62%	36.55%	33.27%	28.08%
Covered employee payroll	\$ unavailable	unavailable	\$ unavailable	unavailable
Participating employer net OPEB liability (asset) as a percentage of covered employee payroll	\$ unavailable	unavailable	\$ unavailable	unavailable
Schedule of Contributions	2020	<u>2019</u>	2018	2017
Actuarially determined contribution	\$ 1,136,780	\$ 1,146,987	\$ 991,048	\$ 932,387
Contributions in relation to the actuarially determined contribution	1,042,087	1,012,408	1,159,476	813,663
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$ 94,693	\$ 134,579	\$ (168,428)	\$118,724
Schedule of Investment Returns	2020	2019	2018	2017
Annual money weighted rate of return, net of investment expense	unavailable	unavailable	unavailable	unavailable

Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

See notes to the Department's financial statements for summary of significant actuarial methods and assumptions.

See Independent Auditors' Report.