

Town of Ayer

Benefits and Payroll Department



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Memorandum

Date: January 20, 2022

To: Town Manager Robert Pontbriand

From: Kevin A. Johnston *KAJ*

Subject: Monthly Report – December 2021

The December 2021 monthly report for the Benefits and Payroll Office includes the following:

Minuteman Nashoba Health Group (MNHG)

The MNHG Board met remotely on Monday, December 13th. The meeting included the following:

- Claims through October 2021 continue to trend higher than expected and as a result, the fund balance through October is now \$6.98M.
- Due to the continued volatility of claims to begin this plan year, Joe Anderson from Gallagher recommended that the Board delay discussion about FY23 renewal rates until January 2022 to include additional claims data from the current plan year.
- Medicare plan enrollments for January 2022 plan year were processed.
- The next meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2022.

Middlesex County Retirement System (MCRS)

I attended the MCRS Advisory Council meeting on December 15th; the meeting included the following:

- The Council was updated on the possibility of reducing the Actuarial Rate of Return on investments from the current rate of 7.30% to between 7.0% and 7.15% for the 1/1/22 actuarial valuation. The MCRS Board is expecting to have a decision in spring 2022.
- Investment returns continue above the actuarial rate of return (7.3%) and the Board is hopeful for a net investment gain for CY 2021.
- Work on the biennial actuarial valuation for MCRS as of January 1, 2022, has begun; this valuation will capture Ayer's forward funding pension payments made in fiscal years 2021 & 2022 and will determine assessment payment amounts for fiscal years 2024 & 2025.
- Incumbent Brian Curtin was unanimously re-elected to serve as the Second Member of the MCRS Board.

FY 2023 Budget

The FY 2023 budget proposal for the Benefits and Payroll Office was prepared and submitted.

Harpers Payroll

The year-end review for CY 2021 W-2 reporting was completed.