

TOWN OF COPAKE
INVESTMENT POLICY
Last Updated: April 13, 2023

Section 1. Scope.

This investment policy applies to all moneys and other financial resources available for deposit and investment by the Town of Copake on its own behalf or on behalf of any other entity or individual.

Section 2. Objectives.

The primary objective of the local government's investment activities are, in priority order:

- To conform with all applicable federal, State, and other legal requirements (legality);
- To adequately safeguard principal (safety);
- To provide sufficient liquidity to meet all operating requirements (liquidity); and
- To obtain a reasonable rate of return (yield).

Section 3. Delegation of Authority.

The Town Board's responsibility for administration of the investment program is delegated to the Town Supervisor, who shall establish written procedures for the operation of the investment program consistent with this Investment Policy. Such procedures shall include internal controls to provide a satisfactory level of accountability based upon records incorporating the description and amounts of investments, the fund(s) for which they are held, the place(s) where kept, and other relevant information, including dates of sale or other dispositions and amounts realized. In addition, the internal control procedures shall describe the responsibilities and levels of authority for key individuals involved in the investment program.

Section 4. Prudence.

All participants in the investment process shall seek to act responsibly as custodians of the public trust and shall avoid any transaction that might impair public confidence in the Town of Copake to govern effectively.

Investments shall be made with prudence, diligence, skill, judgment and care, under circumstances then prevailing, which knowledgeable and prudent persons acting in like capacity would use, not for speculation, but for investment, considering the safety of the principal as well as the probable income to be derived.

All participants involved in the investment process shall refrain from personal business activity that could conflict with proper execution of the investment program or which could impair their ability to make impartial investment decisions.

Section 5. Diversification.

It is the policy of the Town of Copake to diversify its deposits and investment by financial institution, by investment instrument, and by maturity scheduling.

The Town Board shall establish appropriate limits for the amount of investments which can be made with each financial institution or dealer, and shall evaluate this listing at least annually.

Section 6. Internal Controls.

It is the policy of the Town of Copake for all moneys to be collected by any officer or employee to transfer those funds to the Town Supervisor within 10 days of deposit, or within the time period specified by law, whichever is shorter.

The Town Supervisor is responsible for establishing and maintaining internal control procedures to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that deposits and investments are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization, properly recorded, and managed in compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Section 7. Designation of Depositaries.

The banks and trust companies that are authorized for the deposit of moneys, and the maximum amount which may be kept on deposit at any time, shall be established by resolution of the Town Board.

Section 8. Securing Deposits and Investments.

All deposits and investments at a bank or trust company, including all demand deposits, certificates of deposit and special time deposits (hereinafter, collectively, "deposits") made by officers of the Town of Copake that are in excess of the amount insured under the provisions of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, including pursuant to a Deposit

Placement Program in accordance with law, shall be secured by one or more of the following:

- A. A pledge of “eligible securities” with an aggregate “market value” (as provided by General Municipal Law § 10) that is at least equal to the aggregate amount of deposits by the officers. See Schedule A of this policy for a listing of “eligible securities.”
- B. A pledge of a pro rata portion of a pool of eligible securities, having in the aggregate a market value at least equal to the aggregate amount of deposits from all officers within the State at the bank or trust company.
- C. An “eligible surety bond” payable to the Town of Copake for an amount at least equal to 100 percent of the aggregate amount of deposits and the agreed-upon interest, if any, executed by an insurance company authorized to do business in New York State, whose claims-paying ability is rated in the highest rating category by at least two nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. The governing board shall approve the terms and conditions of the surety bond.
- D. An “eligible letter of credit”, payable to the Town of Copake as security for the payment of 140 percent of the aggregate amount of deposits and the agreed-upon interest, if any. An “eligible letter of credit” shall be an irrevocable letter of credit issued in favor of the Town of Copake, for a term not to exceed 90 days, by a qualified bank (other than the bank where the secured money is deposited). A qualified bank is either one whose commercial paper and other unsecured short-term debt obligations (or, in the case of a bank which is the principal subsidiary of a holding company, whose holding company’s commercial paper and other unsecured short- term debt obligations) are rated in one of the three highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization, or one that is in compliance with applicable federal minimum risk-based capital requirements.
- E. An “irrevocable letter of credit” issued in favor of the Town of Copake by a federal home loan bank whose commercial paper and other unsecured short-term debt obligations are rated in the highest rating category by a least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization, as security for the payment of 100 percent of the aggregate amount of deposits and agreed-upon interest, if any.

Section 9. Collateralization and Safekeeping.

Eligible securities used for collateralizing deposits made by officers of the Town of Copake shall be held by the depository or a third party bank or trust company subject to security and custodial agreements.

The security agreement shall provide that eligible securities (or the pro rata

portion of a pool of eligible securities) are being pledged to secure such deposits together

with agreed-upon interest, if any, and any costs or expenses arising out of the collection of such deposits upon a default. It shall also provide the conditions under which the securities (or pro rata portion of a pool of eligible securities) held may be sold, presented for payment, substituted or released and the events of default which will enable the Town of Copake to exercise its rights against the pledged securities.

In the event that the pledged securities are not registered or inscribed in the name of the Town of Copake, such securities shall be delivered in a form suitable for transfer or with an assignment in blank to the Town of Copake or the custodial bank or trust company. Whenever eligible securities delivered to the custodial bank or trust company are transferred by entries on the books of a federal reserve bank or other book-entry system operated by a federally regulated entity without physical delivery of the evidence of the obligations, then the records of the custodial bank or trust company shall be required to show, at all times, the interest of the Town of Copake in the securities (or the pro rata portion of a pool of eligible securities) as set forth in the security agreement.

The custodial agreement shall provide that pledged securities (or the pro rata portion of a pool of eligible securities) will be held by the custodial bank or trust company as agent of, and custodian for, the Town of Copake, will be kept separate and apart from the general assets of the custodial bank or trust company and will not be commingled with or become part of the backing of any other deposit or other bank liability. The agreement shall also describe how the custodian shall confirm the receipt, substitution or release of the collateral and it shall provide for the frequency of revaluation of collateral by the custodial bank or trust company and for the substitution of collateral when a change in the rating of a security causes ineligibility. The security and custodial agreements shall also include all other provisions necessary to provide the Town of Copake with a perfected security interest in the eligible securities and to otherwise secure the Town of Copake's interest in the collateral, and may contain other provisions that the Town Board deems necessary.

Section 10. Permitted Investments.

As provided by General Municipal Law § 11, the Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to invest moneys not required for immediate expenditure for terms not to exceed the Town's projected cash flow needs in the following types of investments:

- Special time deposit accounts in, or certificates of deposit issued by, a bank or trust company located and authorized to do business in the State of New York;
- Through a Deposit Placement Program, certificates of deposit in one or more "banking institutions", as defined in Banking Law § 9-r;

- Obligations of the United States of America;

- Obligations guaranteed by agencies of the United States of America, where the payment of principal and interest are guaranteed by the United States of America;
- Obligations of the State of New York;
- With the approval of the State Comptroller, obligations issued pursuant to Local Finance Law §§ 24.00 or 25.00 (i.e., Tax Anticipation Notes and Revenue Anticipation Notes) by any municipality, school district or district corporation in the State of New York other than the Town of Copake; and
- Obligations of the Town of Copake, but only with moneys in a reserve fund established pursuant to General Municipal Law §§ 6-c, 6-d, 6-e, 6-f, 6-g, 6-h, 6-j, 6-k, 6-l, 6-m, or 6-n (as applicable).

All investment obligations shall be payable or redeemable at the option of the Town of Copake within such times as the proceeds will be needed to meet expenditures for purposes for which the moneys were provided and, in the case of obligations purchased with the proceeds of bonds or notes, shall be payable or redeemable in any event at the option of the Town of Copake within two (2) years of the date of purchase. Time deposit accounts and certificates of deposit shall be payable within such times as the proceeds will be needed to meet expenditures for which the moneys were obtained, and shall be secured as provided in Sections 8 and 9 herein.

Except as may otherwise be provided in a contract with bondholders or noteholders, any moneys of the Town of Copake authorized to be invested may be commingled for investment purposes, provided that any investment of commingled moneys shall be payable or redeemable at the option of the Town of Copake within such time as the proceeds shall be needed to meet expenditures for which such moneys were obtained, or as otherwise specifically provided in General Municipal Law § 11. The separate identity of the sources of these funds shall be maintained at all times and income received shall be credited on a pro rata basis to the fund or account from which the moneys were invested.

Any obligation that provides for the adjustment of its interest rate on set dates is deemed to be payable or redeemable on the date on which the principal amount can be recovered through demand by the holder.

Section 11. Authorized Financial Institutions and Dealers.

All financial institutions and dealers with which the Town of Copake transacts business shall be creditworthy, and have an appropriate level of experience, capitalization, size and other factors that make the financial institution or the

dealer capable and

qualified to transact business with the Town of Copake. The Town Supervisor shall evaluate the financial position and maintain a listing of proposed depositaries, trading partners, and custodians. Recent Reports of Condition and Income (call reports) shall be obtained for proposed banks, and security dealers that are not affiliated with a bank shall be required to be classified as reporting dealers affiliated with the New York Federal Reserve Bank, as primary dealers.

The Town of Copake shall maintain a list of financial institutions and dealers approved for investment purposes and establish appropriate limits to the amounts of investments that can be made with each financial institution or dealer.

Section 12. Purchase of Investments.

The Town Supervisor is authorized to contract for the purchase of investments:

1. Directly, from an authorized trading partner; and/or
2. By participation in a cooperative investment agreement with other authorized municipal corporations pursuant to Article 5-G of the General Municipal Law and in accordance with Article 3-A of the General Municipal Law.

All purchased obligations, unless registered or inscribed in the name of the Town of Copake, shall be purchased through, delivered to and held in the custody of a bank or trust company. Such obligations shall be purchased, sold or presented for redemption or payment by such bank or trust company only in accordance with prior written authorization from the officer authorized to make the investment. All such transactions shall be confirmed in writing to the Town of Copake by the bank or trust company.

Any obligation held in the custody of a bank or trust company shall be held pursuant to a written custodial agreement as described in General Municipal Law § 10(3)(a). The agreement shall provide that securities held by the bank or trust company, as agent of, and custodian for, the Town of Copake, will be kept separate and apart from the general assets of the custodial bank or trust company and will not be commingled with or become part of the backing of any other deposit or bank liability. The agreement shall also describe how the custodian shall confirm the receipt and release of the securities. Such agreement shall include all provisions necessary to secure the local government's perfected interest in the securities, and the agreement may also contain other provisions that the governing board deems necessary. The security and custodial agreements shall also include all other provisions necessary to provide the Town of Copake with a perfected security interest in the securities.

The Town Supervisor, where authorized, can direct the bank or trust company

to register and hold the evidences of investments in the name of its nominee,
or may

deposit or authorize the bank or trust company to deposit, or arrange for the deposit of any such evidences of investments with a federal reserve bank or other book-entry transfer system operated by a federally regulated entity. The records of the bank or trust company shall show, at all times, the ownership of such evidences of investments, and they shall be, when held in the possession of the bank or trust company, at all times, kept separate from the assets of the bank or trust company. All evidences of investments delivered to a bank or trust company shall be held by the bank or trust company pursuant to a written custodial agreement as set forth in General Municipal Law § 10(3)(a), and as described earlier in this section. When any such evidences of investments are so registered in the name of a nominee, the bank or trust company shall be absolutely liable for any loss occasioned by the acts of such nominee with respect to such evidences of investments.

Section 13. Annual Review and Amendments.

The Town of Copake Town Board shall review this Investment Policy annually, and it shall have the power to amend this Investment Policy at any time.

Section 14. Definitions.

The terms “public funds”, “public deposits”, “bank”, “trust company”, “eligible securities”, “eligible surety bond”, and “eligible letter of credit” shall have the same meanings as set forth in General Municipal Law § 10.

SCHEDULE A

Schedule of Eligible Securities for Collateralizing Deposits and Investments in Excess of FDIC Coverage

(Reference: Investment Policy, Section 8)

*****Note: This is not a list of Permitted Investments.*** Please see Investment Policy, Section 10, for Permitted Investments.**

“Eligible Securities” for Collateral

Valued at the following percentages
for
determining aggregate “market
value”

- | | |
|---|--|
| (i) Obligations issued, or fully insured or guaranteed as to the payment of principal and interest, by the United States of America, an agency thereof, or a United States government-sponsored corporation. | 100% |
| (ii) Obligations issued or fully guaranteed by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the African Development Bank. | 100% |
| (iii) Obligations partially insured or guaranteed by any agency of the United States of America, at a proportion of the market value of the obligation that represents the amount of the insurance or guaranty. | 100% |
| (iv) Obligations issued or fully insured or guaranteed by the State of New York, obligations issued by a municipal corporation, school district or district corporation of this State or obligations of any public benefit corporation which under a specific State statute may be accepted as security for deposit of public moneys. | 100% |
| (v) Obligations issued by states (other than the State of New York) of the United States rated in one of the three highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization. | 100% if rated in the highest category
90% for second highest category
80% for third highest category |
| (vi) Obligations of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico rated in one of the three highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization. | 100% if rated in the highest category
90% for second highest category
80% for third highest category |

(vii) Obligations of counties, cities and other governmental entities of another state having the power to levy taxes that are backed by the full faith and credit of such governmental entity and rated in one of the three highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

100% if rated in the highest category
90% for second highest category
80% for third highest category

(viii) Obligations of domestic corporations rated in one of the two highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

“Eligible Securities” for Collateral

80%
Valued at the following percentages for
determining aggregate “market value”

(ix) Any mortgage-related securities, as defined in the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended which may be purchased by banks under the limitations established by federal bank regulatory agencies.

70%

(x) Commercial paper and bankers’ acceptances issued by a bank (other than a bank which the money is being deposited or invested) rated in the highest short-term category by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization and having maturities of not longer than 60 days from the date they are pledged.

80%

(xi) Zero-coupon obligations of the United States government marked as “Treasury STRIPS”.

80%