

# NAPERVILLE FINANCES RECEIVE 'C' GRADE



### THE FINANCIAL STATE OF NAPERVILLE

A new analysis of the latest available comprehensive annual financial report found Naperville had a Taxpayer Burden<sup>TM</sup> of \$2,000, earning it a "C" grade based on Truth in Accounting's grading scale.

Naperville's elected officials have made repeated financial decisions that have left the city with a debt burden of \$96.6 million, according to the analysis. That burden equates to \$2,000 for every city taxpayer. Naperville's financial problems stem from unfunded retirement obligations in the form of pension and other postemployment benefits. The city has promised to pay out \$142.7 million in pensions and \$10.6 million in retiree health care benefits, but hasn't set aside enough money to fully fund them.

Naperville's financial condition is not only concerning, but also misleading as government officials have failed to disclose significant amounts of retirement debt on the city's balance sheet. As a result, residents and taxpayers have been presented with an inaccurate and untruthful accounting of the city government's finances.

#### Here's the truth:

\$96.6 million Money needed to pay bills

-\$2,000
Taxpayer
Burden

C Financial grade

## NAPERVILLE FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN

### **FAST FACTS**

- + Naperville has \$172 million available in assets to pay \$268.6 million worth of bills.
- + The outcome: A \$96.6 million shortfall and a \$2,000 Taxpayer Burden.
- + Despite reporting all of its pension debt, the city continues to hide \$8.2 million of its retiree health care debt.
- + Naperville's reported net position is inflated by \$19.3 million, largely because it has delayed recognizing changes to its net pension liability.

THE CITY'S BILLS EXCEED ITS ASSETS		
Assets	\$1,187,161,000	
Minus: Capital assets	-\$1,007,197,000	
Restricted assets	-\$8,003,000	
Assets available to pay bills	\$171,961,000	
Minus: Bills	-\$268,601,000	
Money needed to pay bills	-\$96,640,000	
Each taxpayer's share of this d	<b>ebt</b> -\$2,000	

BILLS THE CITY HAS ACCUMULATED	
Bonds	\$162,164,000
Other liabilities	\$103,115,000
Minus: Debt related to	
capital assets	-\$149,980,000
Unfunded pension benefits	\$142,653,000
Unfunded retiree health care	\$10,649,000
Bills	\$268,601,000

### **GRADE: C**

Bottom line: Naperville's Taxpayer Burden is less than \$5,000, so it has received a "C" for its finances from Truth in Accounting. While better off than many other cities in Illinois, Naperville still owes more than it owns.

Truth in Accounting is committed to educating and empowering citizens with understandable, reliable, and transparent government financial information. To be knowlegable participants in their government and its budget process, citizens need truthful and transparent financial information.