

Small enough
to know you.
Large enough
to help you.®

2020 Annual Report



Flushing Financial Corporation

(Nasdaq: FFIC) is the holding company for Flushing Bank®, a New York State-chartered commercial bank insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). The Bank serves consumers, businesses, professionals, corporate clients, and public entities by offering a full complement of deposit, loan, equipment finance, and cash management services through its banking offices located in Queens, Brooklyn, Manhattan, and on Long Island. As a leader in real estate lending, the Bank's experienced lending teams create mortgage solutions for real estate owners and property managers both within and outside the New York City metropolitan area. Flushing Bank is an Equal Housing Lender. The Bank also operates an online banking division consisting of iGObanking®, which offers competitively priced deposit products to consumers nationwide, and BankPurely®, an eco-friendly, healthier lifestyle community brand.



Financial Highlights

(Dollars in thousands, except per share data)

At or for the years ended
December 31,

Selected Financial Condition Data

	2020	2019
Total assets	\$7,976,394	\$7,017,776
Loans, net	\$6,659,521	\$5,750,455
Total Securities	\$ 705,806	\$ 831,388
Total Deposits	\$6,136,355	\$5,066,424
Stockholders' equity	\$ 618,997	\$ 579,672
Dividends paid per common share	\$ 0.84	\$ 0.84
Book value per common share	\$ 20.11	\$ 20.59

Selected Operating Data

Net interest income	\$ 195,199	\$ 161,940
Net income	\$ 34,674	\$ 41,279
Basic earnings per common share	\$ 1.18	\$ 1.44
Diluted earnings per common share	\$ 1.18	\$ 1.44

Selected Financial Ratios and Other Data

Performance ratios:

Return on average assets	0.48%	0.59%
Return on average equity	5.98%	7.35%
Net interest margin	2.85%	2.47%
Efficiency ratio	58.69%	63.89%
Equity to total assets	7.76%	8.26%
Nonperforming assets to total assets	0.26%	0.19%
Allowance for loan losses to gross loans	0.67%	0.38%
Allowance for loan losses to total nonperforming loans	214.27%	164.05%

To Our Valued Shareholders,

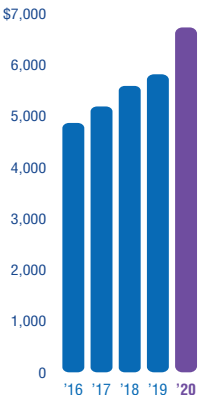
I am extremely proud of the employees of Flushing Bank and the commitment shown to our customers and communities, considering the unique and challenging circumstances faced in 2020. It is because of their perseverance that we achieved our strategic objectives and posted strong financial results. With the initial rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine and recovery in the economy, we are confident in our ability to execute our strategy and build upon our strong track record of delivering favorable total shareholder returns, which since our IPO in 1995 have totaled 926%¹.

For 2020, we reported GAAP earnings per diluted share of \$1.18, which included nonrecurring expenses related to the Empire merger and actions taken during the year to improve our funding profile. Our core EPS² for 2020 was \$1.70, representing a 3% increase over the prior year. We effectively managed our funding costs and achieved strong loan growth of 16% for the year while maintaining our industry-leading credit quality.

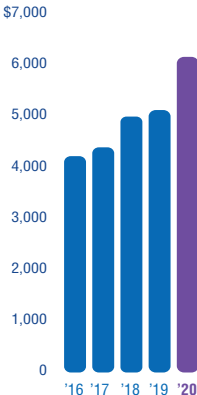
The following 2020 accomplishments supported our efforts to position our Company for continued profitable growth:

- Completed the acquisition of Empire Bancorp, Inc., creating Long Island’s second-largest bank by deposit share among regional and community banks³. We successfully integrated the Empire customers into our systems. With the integration behind us, we are well positioned to expand these relationships and realize greater operating efficiencies.
- In March, as the pandemic was first escalating in our communities, we launched our new digital platforms, which were instrumental in our ability to successfully service our customers remotely. We expect these enhancements will help deepen existing customer relationships and assist in attracting customers who may be outside our existing footprint.
- In the midst of the pandemic when many midsize and large banks fell short in serving customers, we actively

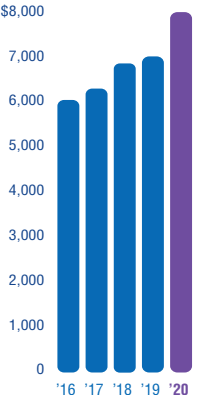
Net Loan Portfolio (in millions)



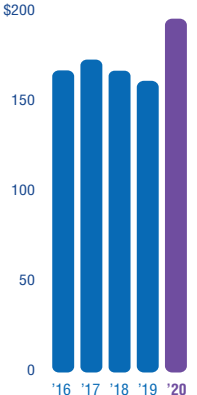
Deposits (in millions)



Total Assets (in millions)



Net Interest Income (in millions)



¹ As of February 26, 2021

² As defined in the Reconciliation of GAAP and Core Earnings table provided in Exhibit 99.1 on the Company’s current report on Form 8-K filed on January 28, 2021

³ Based on FDIC “Deposits Market Share” as of June 30, 2020, on aggregate deposit market share for Kings, Queens, Nassau and Suffolk counties for community banks <\$20 billion in assets

participated and offered Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans to businesses within our community. In the second offering of PPP, our partnership with a fintech company has improved the efficiency of our application processing, resulting in an increase in applications processed compared with 2020.

- As we worked closely with our customers to navigate the challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic, we reduced loans in forbearance by 76% from their 2020 peak.
- For a fifth consecutive year, we reaffirmed our investment grade rating from the Kroll Bond Rating Agency.
- Continued our active community involvement through volunteering and sponsorship of numerous cultural events and local organizations, including Chinatown Health Clinic Foundation, Neighborhood Housing Services of New York City, United Way of Long Island, The Child Center of NY, and Jamaica Center for Arts & Learning.
- In our newest Jamaica and Suffolk County markets, we launched a brand-building campaign inclusive of media and community relations.

As we look ahead to 2021, the future holds many uncertainties: the continued

impact of the pandemic, the pace of the vaccine distribution, and the potential for policy shifts from the new presidential administration, to name a few. Our strategic plan, however, remains focused on diversified growth of assets with the best risk-adjusted returns while maintaining a conservative risk management approach. We continue to leverage our strong banking relationships and execute our strategic objectives, which include:

- Manage cost of funds and continue to improve funding mix
- Resume historical loan growth while achieving appropriate risk-adjusted returns
- Enhance core earnings power by improving scalability and efficiency
- Manage credit risk
- Remain well capitalized

The challenges of the past year highlight the enduring relevance of our brand message: “Small enough to know you. Large enough to help you.” In the multicultural markets in which we operate, this idea continues to perfectly capture our vision to be the preeminent bank by exceeding customer expectations. We have sufficient scale to facilitate banking and lending solutions offered by larger commercial banks while being nimble enough to offer customized solutions

“Flushing Bank’s PPP team led us through the process with tremendous care, attention, and professionalism. We cannot imagine having done it with any of our other lenders.”

—David Weinman, President, Fabco Enterprises, Inc.

“There’s a lot to be said for working with a personal banker who sees your relationship as a partnership, not a transaction.”

—John P. Amalfe, President, AutoPartSource

that meet the unique individual needs of our customers. Our collective goal is to ensure total customer satisfaction by delivering a consistent and superior customer experience at every touchpoint and providing new account access, product choices, and delivery channels that enable our customers to bank where, when, and how they choose.

We expect that a superior level of service will create value and attract new customers.

We remain confident that our strong brand, consistent strategy, and experienced leadership team will continue to execute and drive positive momentum. Our proven track record of delivering solid risk-adjusted returns, consistent profitable growth, and long-term value to our shareholders allowed us to manage through these uncertain times, and we are well positioned to move the Company forward.

“Through this crisis, I’ve heard from other small business colleagues and it’s clear that we’ve been treated exceptionally well compared to their experiences with other larger national banks. Flushing Bank has been understanding, flexible, communicative, and helped us move quickly, securing both bank support to our existing loans and relief funds via government interventions.”

—Matthew Viragh, Founder/Executive Director, Nitehawk Cinema

As a community bank, we believe it is important to staff our branches with dedicated employees who understand the culture and speak the language of our communities. We believe we derive a significant competitive advantage from our exceptional employees, who speak over 20 languages and are the face of our brand and our connection to our neighborhoods.

In closing, we appreciate the dedication and commitment of our employees throughout the challenges of the past year, and we thank our customers for their continued trust. As a community-focused bank, we truly care about our customers and the communities we serve. To our valued shareholders, we are honored to serve you, and we thank you for your continued trust and support.



Alfred A. DelliBovi

Alfred A. DelliBovi
Chairman of the Board



John R. Buran

John R. Buran
President and Chief Executive Officer



Community-based approach

For more than 90 years, Flushing Bank has been integrally connected to the communities we serve, supporting their diversity and helping them to thrive. We offer the products, services, and conveniences associated with larger commercial banks combined with the highly personalized and relationship-based attention you would expect from a community bank.

Across Queens, Brooklyn, Manhattan, and Long Island, we've distinguished ourselves as a leader in serving multicultural neighborhoods, and we are proud to sponsor cultural and charitable events throughout our markets. We pride ourselves on staffing our branches with bankers who can communicate in the languages and dialects prevalent within our multicultural customer base to help ensure a first-rate experience for every customer.

As you look for new and better ways of banking and brighter financial opportunities, we invite you to learn more about Flushing Bank, where at the heart of our community-based approach to banking relationships is the philosophy that we are **“Small enough to know you. Large enough to help you.”**

Small enough to know you.

Our size allows us to be nimble, offer choices to our customers, and customize solutions specifically for them.



We serve a variety of banking needs with our comprehensive financial solutions. Our banking professionals are ready to listen, answer questions, and offer valuable insight to help you decide which products and services are right for you.



Retail Banking

Our retail branch network focuses on providing a consistent and superior customer experience and expanding relationships with our customers in the New York metropolitan area. Our online banks, iGObanking and BankPurely, strive for the same while serving consumers nationwide.



Real Estate Lending

Our real estate team, composed of experienced lenders with local market knowledge, takes a community-based approach that features solutions with competitive rates, such as long-term, fixed-rate loan programs. Our prudent lending philosophy enables us to grow our loan portfolio while maintaining high credit standards.



Business Banking

Our business team is inspired by our commitment to local business owners and by our certainty that we will continue to grow together. We offer a full suite of products and lending solutions, including credit lines, term loans, equipment financing, owner-occupied commercial real estate mortgages, SBA loans, deposit products, and cash management services designed for small, middle market, and large corporate clients.



Government Banking

Our government banking team focuses exclusively on serving the unique needs of public entities, municipalities, and school districts across the New York area. We offer expert service, customized solutions (including operating and investment accounts), traditional collateral options, letters of credit, and reciprocal deposits with full FDIC coverage.



Large enough to help you.

We provide a full range of sophisticated services
formerly available only at the largest banks.

We have upgraded our digital platforms to provide a superior experience with online and mobile solutions that offer the latest technology and provide customers access to their accounts when and where they need it.



Online and Mobile Banking

Provides on-the-go account management from most devices, including the ability to pay bills, check balances, view recent transactions, and transfer funds between accounts.



Remote Deposit

Allows business customers to deposit checks into their accounts from their offices using a scanner attached to their computers.



Mobile Check Deposit

Enables customers to securely deposit checks remotely into their Flushing Bank accounts anywhere, anytime, using their iPhone® or Android™ smartphone or tablet.



Cash Management Services

Provides Cash Manager Direct business customers online access to view their account balances and transaction details and initiate transactions. Flushing Bank Online Escrow assists in the digital management of escrow and subaccount requirements.

The perfect size for you.

We offer timely, innovative, and flexible solutions to meet the changing needs of our customers.



Our goal is to be a reliable financial partner small enough to place the customer at the center of everything we do yet large enough to offer accessibility to the latest banking conveniences.



Appointment Banking

Offers customers the opportunity to meet with branch staff safely during the COVID-19 crisis for more complex transactions, such as account servicing and access to traditional loans, including lines of credit and mortgages.



Universal Banker

Provides a highly skilled banker as a single point of contact for all the customer's financial needs, supplemented with cutting-edge technology, including state-of-the-art ATMs, creating a stronger banking relationship and a superior banking experience.



Video Banker

Enables face-to-face live banker service at the touch of a screen through a video-chat platform. Customers can simply touch "Help" on the ATM screen to request assistance, such as temporarily increasing their debit card withdrawal limit for an emergency or other situation.



Assisted Service Kiosk (ASK)

Allows customers to choose to self-serve for routine transactions. These enhanced ATMs handle almost any type of transaction that a teller can do, from cashing a check to providing cash in preferred denominations.



In Recognition

When the COVID-19 crisis hit, we did our best to be responsive, lend a helping hand, and to come through for our customers, small businesses, and community with personalized support. We offered PPP loans to businesses and facilitated access to other programs, such as the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York Small Business Recovery Grant Program and Main Street Lending Program. We aided customers with digital banking assistance, provided safe, in-person access to meet with branch staff for more complex transactions, supported the virtual events of many charitable organizations, collected food for a local food bank, and arranged for food deliveries to healthcare workers.

While we hope that our actions made a positive difference, we are humbled by the service of the essential frontline workers and sectors in our communities that helped to keep all of us safe through this terrible pandemic. They are the unsung and true heroes, and we owe them our utmost gratitude for their selfless sacrifices.

The pandemic has taken the lives of people in our community, and we are deeply saddened by this. We want to recognize and celebrate the lives of those people and to express our deepest sympathy to their families and friends.



2020 FORM 10-K

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF
THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020

Commission file number 001-33013

FLUSHING FINANCIAL CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

11-3209278

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

220 RXR Plaza, Uniondale, New York 11556

(Address of principal executive offices)

(718) 961-5400

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, \$0.01 par value	FFIC	The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None.

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. X Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). X Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company" and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has filed a report on and attestation to its management's assessment of the effectiveness of its internal control over financial reporting under section 404(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (15 U.S.C. 7262(b)) by the registered public accounting firm that prepared or issued its audit report. X Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes No

As of June 30, 2020, the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter; the aggregate market value of the voting stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant was \$307,789,000. This figure is based on the closing price on that date on the NASDAQ Global Select Market for a share of the registrant's Common Stock, \$0.01 par value, which was \$11.52.

The number of shares of the registrant's Common Stock outstanding as of February 28, 2021 was 30,954,155 shares.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the Company's definitive Proxy Statement for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on May 18, 2021 are incorporated herein by reference in Part III.

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CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

Statements contained in this Annual Report on Form 10-K (this “Annual Report”) relating to plans, strategies, economic performance and trends, projections of results of specific activities or investments and other statements that are not descriptions of historical facts may be forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Forward-looking information is inherently subject to risks and uncertainties, and actual results could differ materially from those currently anticipated due to a number of factors, which include, but are not limited to, factors discussed under the captions “Business — General — Allowance for Loan Losses” and “Business — General — Market Area and Competition” in Item 1 below, “Risk Factors” in Item 1A below, in “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Overview” in Item 7 below, and elsewhere in this Annual Report and in other documents filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission from time to time. Forward-looking statements may be identified by terms such as “may,” “will,” “should,” “could,” “expects,” “plans,” “intends,” “anticipates,” “believes,” “estimates,” “predicts,” “goals,” “forecasts,” “potential” or “continue” or similar terms or the negative of these terms. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot guarantee future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements. We have no obligation to update these forward-looking statements.

PART I

As used in this Report, the words “we,” “us,” “our” and the “Company” are used to refer to Flushing Financial Corporation (the “Holding Company”) and its direct and indirect wholly owned subsidiaries, Flushing Bank (the “Bank”), Flushing Preferred Funding Corporation, Flushing Service Corporation, and FSB Properties Inc.

Item 1. Business.

GENERAL

Overview

The Holding Company is a Delaware corporation organized in 1994. The Bank was organized in 1929 as a New York State-chartered mutual savings bank. Today the Bank operates as a full-service New York State commercial bank. Our primary business is the operation of the Bank. The Bank owns three subsidiaries: Flushing Preferred Funding Corporation, Flushing Service Corporation, and FSB Properties Inc. The Bank also operates an internet branch (the “Internet Branch”), which operates under the brands of iGObanking.com® and BankPurely®. The activities of the Holding Company are primarily funded by dividends, if any, received from the Bank, issuances of subordinated debt and junior subordinated debt, and issuances of equity securities. The Holding Company’s common stock is traded on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol “FFIC.”

The Holding Company also owns Flushing Financial Capital Trust II, Flushing Financial Capital Trust III, and Flushing Financial Capital Trust IV (the “Trusts”), which are special purpose business trusts formed to issue a total of \$60.0 million of capital securities and \$1.9 million of common securities (which are the only voting securities). The Holding Company owns 100% of the common securities of the Trusts. The Trusts used the proceeds from the issuance of these securities to purchase junior subordinated debentures from the Holding Company. The Trusts are not included in our consolidated financial statements as we would not absorb the losses of the Trusts if losses were to occur.

Unless otherwise disclosed, the information presented in this Annual Report reflects the financial condition and results of operations of the Company. Management views the Company as operating a single unit – a community bank. Therefore, segment information is not provided. At December 31, 2020, the Company had total assets of \$8.0 billion, deposits of \$6.1 billion and stockholders’ equity of \$619.0 million.

On October 30, 2020, the Company completed its acquisition of Empire Bancorp, Inc. (“Empire”), in a transaction valued at \$87.5 million upon closing, all outstanding shares of Empire voting and non-voting common stock were exchanged for consideration consisting of \$54.8 million in cash and 2,557,028 shares of Holding Company common stock. Goodwill of \$1.5 million was recorded as a result of the Empire acquisition. Under the terms of the merger agreement, each share of Empire common stock was exchanged for either 0.6548 shares of the Company’s common stock or \$14.04 in cash, based upon the election of each Empire shareholder, subject to the election and proration procedures specified in the merger agreement (which provided for an aggregate split of total consideration of 50% Company common stock and 50% cash). In connection with the transaction, Empire National Bank (“Empire Bank”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Empire, merged with and into the Bank, with the Bank as the surviving entity.

Our principal business is attracting retail deposits from the general public and investing those deposits together with funds generated from ongoing operations and borrowings, primarily in (1) originations and purchases of multi-family residential properties, commercial business loans, commercial real estate mortgage loans and, to a lesser extent, one-to-four family (focusing on mixed-use properties, which are properties that contain both residential dwelling units and commercial units); (2) construction loans; (3) Small Business Administration (“SBA”) loans; (4) mortgage loan surrogates such as mortgage-backed securities; and (5) U.S. government securities, corporate fixed-income securities and other marketable securities. We also originate certain other consumer loans including overdraft lines of credit. At December 31, 2020, we had gross loans outstanding of \$6,701.6 million (before the allowance for loan losses and net deferred costs), with gross mortgage loans totaling \$5,228.3 million, or 78.0% of gross loans, and non-mortgage loans totaling \$1,473.4 million, or 22.0% of gross loans. Mortgage loans are primarily multi-family, commercial and one-to-four family mixed-use properties, which represent 73.0% of gross loans. Our revenues are derived principally from interest on our mortgage and other loans and mortgage-backed securities portfolio, and interest and dividends on other investments in our securities portfolio. Our primary sources of funds are deposits, Federal Home Loan Bank of New York (“FHLB-NY”) borrowings, principal and interest payments on loans, mortgage-backed, other securities and to a lesser extent proceeds from sales of securities and loans. The Bank’s primary regulator is the New York State Department of Financial Services (“NYDFS”), and its primary federal regulator is the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (“FDIC”). Deposits are insured to the maximum allowable amount by the FDIC. Additionally, the Bank is a member of the Federal Home Loan Bank (“FHLB”) system.

Our operating results are significantly affected by changes in interest rates as well as national and local economic conditions, including the strength of the local economy. The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic has adversely impacted a broad range of industries in which the Company’s customers operate and impaired to some extent the ability of some customers to fulfill their financial obligations to the Company. The spread of the outbreak has caused significant disruptions in the U.S. economy and has disrupted banking and other financial activity in the areas in which the Company operates.

On March 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (“CARES”) Act was signed into law in response to the coronavirus pandemic. This legislation provided relief for individuals and businesses negatively impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. On December 27, 2020, the 2021 Consolidated Appropriations Act (“CAA”) was signed into law, providing for, among other things, further suspension of the exception for loan modifications to not be classified as “troubled debt restructuring” (“TDR”) if certain criteria are met, as described below.

The CARES Act, as amended, includes provisions for the Company to temporarily opt out of applying the TDR accounting guidance in Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) 310-40 for certain loan modifications. Loan modifications have been eligible for this relief if the related loans were not more than 30 days past due as of December 31, 2019. The Bank adopted this provision and at December 31, 2020, we had 134 active forbearances for loans with an aggregate outstanding loan balance of approximately \$364.4 million.

According to the New York Department of Labor, the unemployment rate for the New York City region increased to 11.4% at December 2020 from 3.6% at December 2019, primarily resulting from the impact of COVID-19. Non-performing loans totaled \$21.1 million, \$13.3 million and \$16.3 million at December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively. We had net charge-offs of impaired loans in 2020 totaling \$3.6 million compared to net charge-offs of \$2.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2019 and net recoveries of \$19,000 for the year ended December 31, 2018. Additionally, primarily as a result of economic deterioration resulting from the impact of COVID-19, our provision for

credit losses increased to \$23.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2020 from \$2.8 million and \$0.6 million for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Our operating results are also affected by extensions, renewals, modifications and restructuring of loans in our loan portfolio. All extensions, renewals, restructurings and modifications must be approved by either the Board of Directors of the Bank (the “Bank Board of Directors”) or its Loan Committee (the “Loan Committee”).

We obtain a reappraisal by an independent third party when a loan becomes twelve months delinquent. We generally obtain such a reappraisal for loans over 90 days delinquent when the outstanding loan balance is at least \$1.0 million. We also obtain such a reappraisal when our internal valuation of a property indicates there has been a decline in value below the outstanding balance of the loan, or when a property inspection has indicated significant deterioration in the condition of the property. Such an internal valuation is prepared for a loan over 90 days delinquent.

Market Area and Competition

We are a community oriented financial institution offering a wide variety of financial services to meet the needs of the communities we serve. The Bank’s main office is in Uniondale, New York, located in Nassau County. At December 31, 2020, the Bank operated 25 full-service offices and the Internet Branch. We have offices located in the New York City Boroughs of Queens, Brooklyn, and Manhattan, and in Nassau and Suffolk County, New York. We also maintain our executive offices in Uniondale in Nassau County, New York. Substantially the vast majority of all of our mortgage loans are secured by properties located in the New York City metropolitan area.

We face intense competition both in making loans and in attracting deposits. Our market area has a high density of financial institutions, many of which have greater financial resources, name recognition and market presence, and all of which are competitors to varying degrees. Particularly intense competition exists for deposits, as we compete with 115 banks and thrifts in the counties in which we have branch locations. Our market share of deposits, as of June 30, 2020, in these counties was 0.34% of the total deposits of these FDIC insured competing financial institutions, and we are the 22nd largest financial institution.¹ In addition, we compete with credit unions, the stock market and mutual funds for customers’ funds. Competition for deposits in our market and for national brokered deposits is primarily based on the types of deposits offered and rate paid on the deposits. Particularly intense competition also exists in all of the lending activities we emphasize.

In addition to the financial institutions mentioned above, we compete against mortgage banks and insurance companies located both within our market and available on the internet. Competition for loans in our market is primarily based on the types of loans offered and the related terms for these loans, including fixed-rate versus adjustable-rate loans and the interest rate on the loan. For adjustable rate loans, competition is also based on the repricing period, the index to which the rate is referenced, and the spread over the index rate. Also, competition is influenced by the ability of a financial institution to respond to customer requests and to provide the borrower with a timely decision to approve or deny the loan application. The internet banking arena also has many larger financial institutions which have greater financial resources, name recognition and market presence. Our future earnings prospects will be affected by our ability to compete effectively with other financial institutions and to implement our business strategies. Our strategy for attracting deposits includes using various marketing techniques, delivering enhanced technology and customer friendly banking services, and focusing on the unique personal and small business banking needs of the multi-ethnic communities we serve. Our strategy for attracting new loans is primarily dependent on providing timely response to applicants and maintaining a network of quality brokers and other business sources. See “Risk Factors – The Markets in Which We Operate Are Highly Competitive” included in Item 1A of this Annual Report.

For a discussion of our business strategies, see “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations — Overview — Management Strategy” included in Item 7 of this Annual Report.

¹ Includes Empire Bank branches acquired on October 30, 2020, per June 2020 FDIC Summary of Deposits for the New York State Counties of New York, Kings, Queens, Nassau and Suffolk

Lending Activities

Loan Portfolio Composition. Our loan portfolio consists primarily of mortgage loans secured by multi-family residential, commercial real estate, one-to-four family mixed-use property, one-to-four family residential property, and commercial business loans. In addition, we also offer construction loans, SBA loans and other consumer loans. The vast majority of our mortgage loans are secured by properties located within our market area. At December 31, 2020, we had gross loans outstanding of \$6,701.6 million (before the allowance for loan losses and net deferred costs).

We have focused our loan origination efforts on multi-family residential mortgage loans, commercial real estate and commercial business loans with full banking relationships. All of these loan types generally have higher yields than one-to-four family residential properties, and include prepayment penalties that we collect if the loans pay in full prior to the contractual maturity. We expect to continue this emphasis through marketing and by maintaining competitive interest rates and origination fees. Our marketing efforts include frequent contact with mortgage brokers and other professionals who serve as referral sources.

Fully underwritten one-to-four family residential mortgage loans generally are considered by the banking industry to have less risk than other types of loans. Multi-family residential, commercial real estate and one-to-four family mixed-use property mortgage loans generally have higher yields than one-to-four family residential property mortgage loans and shorter terms to maturity, but typically involve higher principal amounts and may expose the lender to a greater risk of credit loss than one-to-four family residential property mortgage loans. The greater risk associated with multi-family residential, commercial real estate and one-to-four family mixed-use property mortgage loans could require us to increase our provisions for loan losses and to maintain an allowance for loan losses as a percentage of total loans in excess of the allowance we currently maintain. We continually review the composition of our mortgage loan portfolio to manage the risk in the portfolio. See “General – Overview” in this Item 1 of this Annual Report.

Our loan portfolio consists of adjustable rate (“ARM”) and fixed-rate loans. Interest rates we charge on loans are affected primarily by the demand for such loans, the supply of money available for lending purposes, the rate offered by our competitors and the creditworthiness of the borrower. Many of those factors are, in turn, affected by local and national economic conditions, and the fiscal, monetary and tax policies of the federal, state and local governments.

In general, consumers show a preference for ARM loans in periods of high interest rates and for fixed-rate loans when interest rates are low. In periods of declining interest rates, we may experience refinancing activity in ARM loans, as borrowers show a preference to lock-in the lower rates available on fixed-rate loans. In the case of ARM loans we originated, volume and adjustment periods are affected by the interest rates and other market factors as discussed above as well as consumer preferences. We have not in the past, nor do we currently, originate ARM loans that provide for negative amortization.

The majority of our commercial business loans are generated by the Company’s business banking group which focuses on loan and deposit relationships to businesses located within our market area. These loans are generally personally guaranteed by the owners, and may be secured by the assets of the business, which at times may include real estate. The interest rate on these loans is generally an adjustable rate based on a published index. These loans, while providing us a higher rate of return, also present a higher level of risk. The greater risk associated with commercial business loans could require us to increase our provision for loan losses, and to maintain an allowance for loan losses as a percentage of total loans in excess of the allowance we currently maintain.

At times, we may purchase whole or participations in loans from banks, mortgage bankers and other financial institutions when the loans complement our loan portfolio strategy. Loans purchased must meet our underwriting standards when they were originated. Our lending activities are subject to federal and state laws and regulations. See “— Regulation.”

The following table sets forth the composition of our loan portfolio at the dates indicated:

	At December 31,									
	2020		2019		2018		2017		2016	
	Amount	Percent of Total	Amount	Percent of Total	Amount	Percent of Total	Amount	Percent of Total	Amount	Percent of Total
<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>										
Mortgage Loans:										
Multi-family residential	\$ 2,533,952	37.81 %	\$ 2,238,591	38.88 %	\$ 2,269,048	41.00 %	\$ 2,273,595	44.08 %	\$ 2,178,504	45.21 %
Commercial real estate	1,754,754	26.18	1,582,008	27.48	1,542,547	27.86	1,368,112	26.51	1,246,132	25.86
One-to-four family - mixed-use property	602,981	9.00	592,471	10.29	577,741	10.44	564,206	10.93	558,502	11.59
One-to-four family - residential ⁽¹⁾	245,211	3.66	188,216	3.27	190,350	3.44	180,663	3.50	185,767	3.85
Co-operative apartment ⁽²⁾	8,051	0.12	8,663	0.15	8,498	0.15	6,895	0.13	7,418	0.15
Construction	83,322	1.24	67,754	1.18	50,600	0.91	8,479	0.16	11,495	0.24
Gross mortgage loans	5,228,271	78.01	4,677,703	81.25	4,638,784	83.80	4,401,950	85.31	4,187,818	86.90
Non-mortgage loans:										
Small Business Administration	167,376	2.50	14,445	0.25	15,210	0.27	18,479	0.36	15,198	0.32
Taxi medallion	2,757	0.04	3,309	0.06	4,539	0.08	6,834	0.13	18,996	0.39
Commercial business and other	1,303,225	19.45	1,061,478	18.44	877,763	15.85	732,973	14.20	597,122	12.39
Gross non-mortgage loans	1,473,358	21.99	1,079,232	18.75	897,512	16.20	758,286	14.69	631,316	13.10
Gross loans	6,701,629	100.00 %	5,756,935	100.00 %	5,536,296	100.00 %	5,160,236	100.00 %	4,819,134	100.00 %
Unearned loan fees and deferred costs, net										
	3,045		15,271		15,188		16,763		16,559	
Less: Allowance for loan losses	(45,153)		(21,751)		(20,945)		(20,351)		(22,229)	
Loans, net	\$ 6,659,521		\$ 5,750,455		\$ 5,530,539		\$ 5,156,648		\$ 4,813,464	

- (1) One-to-four family residential mortgage loans also include home equity and condominium loans. At December 31, 2020, gross home equity loans totaled \$31.7 million and condominium loans totaled \$30.5 million.
- (2) Consists of loans secured by shares representing interests in individual co-operative units that are generally owner occupied.

The following table sets forth our loan originations (including the net effect of refinancing) and the changes in our portfolio of loans, including purchases, sales and principal reductions for the years indicated:

<i>(In thousands)</i>	For the years ended December 31,		
	2020	2019	2018
Mortgage Loans			
At beginning of year	\$ 4,677,703	\$ 4,638,784	\$ 4,401,950
Mortgage loans originated:			
Multi-family residential	207,101	245,775	275,409
Commercial real estate	157,592	178,336	240,755
One-to-four family mixed-use property	35,131	66,128	73,471
One-to-four family residential	21,805	25,024	41,402
Co-operative apartment	704	2,117	2,448
Construction	12,059	16,153	36,155
Total mortgage loans originated	<u>434,392</u>	<u>533,533</u>	<u>669,640</u>
Mortgage loans purchased:			
Multi-family residential	5,628	1,832	64,323
Commercial real estate	34,260	—	30,030
One-to-four family mixed-use property	—	—	685
One-to-four family residential	—	—	1,258
Construction	9,800	17,766	3,440
Total mortgage loans purchased	<u>49,688</u>	<u>19,598</u>	<u>99,736</u>
Acquisition of Empire loans:			
Multi-family residential	287,239	—	—
Commercial real estate	81,349	—	—
One-to-four family mixed-use property	25,151	—	—
One-to-four family residential	54,437	—	—
Construction	12,912	—	—
Total mortgage loans acquired	<u>461,088</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Less:			
Principal reductions	394,099	505,099	523,064
Mortgage loan sales	498	8,482	8,737
Charge-offs	3	392	103
Loans transferred to OREO	—	239	638
At end of year	<u>\$ 5,228,271</u>	<u>\$ 4,677,703</u>	<u>\$ 4,638,784</u>
Non-mortgage loans			
At beginning of year	\$ 1,079,232	\$ 897,512	\$ 758,286
Loans originated:			
Small Business Administration ⁽¹⁾	112,352	3,426	3,843
Commercial business	254,121	402,127	280,704
Other	9,960	1,992	1,920
Total other loans originated	<u>376,433</u>	<u>407,545</u>	<u>286,467</u>
Non-mortgage loans purchased:			
Commercial business	143,601	201,624	194,948
Total non-mortgage loans purchased	<u>143,601</u>	<u>201,624</u>	<u>194,948</u>
Acquisition of Empire loans:			
Small Business Administration ⁽²⁾	62,778	—	—
Commercial business	161,495	—	—
Other	43	—	—
Total non-mortgage loans acquired	<u>224,316</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Less:			
Non-mortgage loan sales	6,876	5,213	5,266
Principal reductions	339,346	419,850	336,094
Charge-offs	4,002	2,386	829
At end of year	<u>\$ 1,473,358</u>	<u>\$ 1,079,232</u>	<u>\$ 897,512</u>

(1) Includes \$111.6 million of SBA PPP loans for the year ended 2020.

(2) Includes \$55.5 million of SBA PPP loans acquired from Empire.

Loan Maturity and Repricing. The following table shows the maturity of our total loan portfolio at December 31, 2020. Scheduled repayments are shown in the maturity category in which the payments become due.

<i>(In thousands)</i>	Mortgage loans						Non-mortgage loans			Total loans
	Multi-family residential	Commercial real estate	One-to-four family mixed-use property	One-to-four family residential	Co-operative apartment	Construction	Small Business Administration	Taxi Medallion	Commercial business and other	
Amounts due within one year	\$ 288,649	\$ 288,739	\$ 41,714	\$ 14,967	\$ 264	\$ 59,223	\$ 106,872	\$ 2,376	\$ 441,378	\$ 1,244,182
Amounts due after one year:										
One to two years	276,977	212,809	41,957	15,363	271	9,058	36,652	164	243,516	836,767
Two to three years	239,291	183,510	41,631	16,006	282	8,942	5,453	170	192,877	688,162
Three to five years	218,899	170,166	40,090	15,790	290	2,375	5,405	36	131,908	584,959
Over five years	1,510,136	899,530	437,589	183,085	6,944	3,724	12,994	11	293,546	3,347,559
Total due after one year	2,245,303	1,466,015	561,267	230,244	7,787	24,099	60,504	381	861,847	5,457,447
Total amounts due	\$ 2,533,952	\$ 1,754,754	\$ 602,981	\$ 245,211	\$ 8,051	\$ 83,322	\$ 167,376	\$ 2,757	\$ 1,303,225	\$ 6,701,629
Sensitivity of loans to changes in interest rates - loans due after one year :										
Fixed rate loans	\$ 441,015	\$ 223,688	\$ 160,403	\$ 29,117	\$ 497	\$ —	\$ 46,657	\$ 381	\$ 438,835	\$ 1,340,593
Adjustable rate loans	1,804,288	1,242,327	400,864	201,127	7,290	24,099	13,847	—	423,012	4,116,854
Total loans due after one year	\$ 2,245,303	\$ 1,466,015	\$ 561,267	\$ 230,244	\$ 7,787	\$ 24,099	\$ 60,504	\$ 381	\$ 861,847	\$ 5,457,447

Multi-Family Residential Lending. Loans secured by multi-family residential properties were \$2,534.0 million, or 37.81% of gross loans at December 31, 2020. Our multi-family residential mortgage loans had an average principal balance of \$1.1 million at December 31, 2020, and the largest multi-family residential mortgage loan held in our portfolio had a principal balance of \$33.4 million. We offer both fixed-rate and adjustable-rate multi-family residential mortgage loans, with maturities of up to 30 years.

In underwriting multi-family residential mortgage loans, we review the expected net operating income generated by the real estate collateral securing the loan, the age and condition of the collateral, the financial resources and income level of the borrower and the borrower's experience in owning or managing similar properties. We typically require debt service coverage of at least 125% of the monthly loan payment. We generally originate these loans up to only 75% of the appraised value or the purchase price of the property, whichever is less. Any loan with a final loan-to-value ratio in excess of 75% must be approved by the Bank Board of Directors or the Loan Committee as an exception to policy. We generally rely on the income generated by the property as the primary means by which the loan is repaid. However, personal guarantees may be obtained for additional security from these borrowers. We typically order an environmental report on our multi-family and commercial real estate loans.

Loans secured by multi-family residential property generally involve a greater degree of risk than residential mortgage loans and carry larger loan balances. The increased credit risk is the result of several factors, including the concentration of principal in a smaller number of loans and borrowers, the effects of general economic conditions on income producing properties and the increased difficulty in evaluating and monitoring these types of loans. Furthermore, the repayment of loans secured by multi-family residential property is typically dependent upon the successful operation of the related property, which is usually owned by a legal entity with the property being the entity's only asset. If the cash flow from the property is reduced, the borrower's ability to repay the loan may be impaired. If the borrower defaults, our only remedy may be to foreclose on the property, for which the market value may be less than the balance due on the related mortgage loan. Loans secured by multi-family residential property also may involve a greater degree of environmental risk. We seek to protect against this risk through obtaining an environmental report. See "—Asset Quality — Environmental Concerns Relating to Loans."

At December 31, 2020, \$2,123.0 million, or 83.77%, of our multi-family mortgage loans consisted of ARM loans. We offer ARM loans with adjustment periods typically of five years and for terms of up to 30 years. Interest rates on ARM loans currently offered by us are adjusted at the beginning of each adjustment period based upon a fixed spread above the FHLB-NY corresponding Regular Advance Rate. From time to time, due to competitive forces, we may originate ARM loans at an initial rate lower than the fully indexed rate as a result of a discount on the spread for the initial adjustment period. Multi-family adjustable-rate mortgage loans generally are not subject to limitations on interest rate increases either on an adjustment period or aggregate basis over the life of the loan; however, the loans generally contain interest rate floors. We originated and purchased multi-family ARM loans totaling \$173.6 million, \$206.2 million and \$281.8 million during 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

At December 31, 2020, \$411.4 million, or 16.23%, of our multi-family mortgage loans consisted of fixed rate loans. Our fixed-rate multi-family mortgage loans are generally originated for terms up to 15 years and are competitively priced based on market conditions and our cost of funds. We originated and purchased \$39.1 million, \$41.4 million and \$57.9 million of fixed-rate multi-family mortgage loans in 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Commercial Real Estate Lending. Loans secured by commercial real estate were \$1,754.8 million, or 26.18% of gross loans, at December 31, 2020. Our commercial real estate mortgage loans are secured by properties such as office buildings, hotels/motels, small business facilities, strip shopping centers and warehouses. At December 31, 2020, our commercial real estate mortgage loans had an average principal balance of \$2.2 million and the largest of such loans, which is secured by a multi-tenant shopping center, had a principal balance of \$43.0 million. Commercial real estate mortgage loans are generally originated in a range of \$100,000 to \$10.0 million.

In underwriting commercial real estate mortgage loans, we employ the same underwriting standards and procedures as are employed in underwriting multi-family residential mortgage loans.

Commercial real estate mortgage loans generally carry larger loan balances than residential mortgage loans and involve a greater degree of credit risk for the same reasons applicable to multi-family residential mortgage loans.

At December 31, 2020, \$1,531.2 million, or 87.26%, of our commercial mortgage loans consisted of ARM loans. We offer ARM loans with adjustment periods of one to five years and generally for terms of up to 15 years. Interest rates on ARM loans currently offered by us are adjusted at the beginning of each adjustment period based upon a fixed spread above the FHLB-NY corresponding Regular Advance Rate. From time to time, we may originate ARM loans at an initial rate lower than the index as a result of a discount on the spread for the initial adjustment period. Commercial adjustable-rate mortgage loans generally are not subject to limitations on interest rate increases either on an adjustment period or aggregate basis over the life of the loan; however, the loans generally contain interest rate floors. We originated and purchased commercial ARM loans totaling \$134.0 million, \$158.0 million and \$243.6 million during 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

At December 31, 2020, \$223.5 million, or 12.74%, of our commercial mortgage loans consisted of fixed-rate loans. Our fixed-rate commercial mortgage loans are generally originated for terms up to 20 years and are competitively priced based on market conditions and our cost of funds. We originated and purchased \$57.9 million, \$20.3 million and \$27.2 million of fixed-rate commercial mortgage loans in 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

One-to-Four Family Mortgage Lending – Mixed-Use Properties. We offer mortgage loans secured by one-to-four family mixed-use properties. These properties contain up to four residential dwelling units and include a commercial component. We offer both fixed-rate and adjustable-rate one-to-four family mixed-use property mortgage loans with maturities of up to 30 years and a general maximum loan amount of \$1.0 million. One-to-four family mixed-use property mortgage loans were \$603.0 million, or 9.00% of gross loans, at December 31, 2020.

In underwriting one-to-four family mixed-use property mortgage loans, we employ the same underwriting standards as are employed in underwriting multi-family residential mortgage loans.

At December 31, 2020, \$423.3 million, or 70.20%, of our one-to-four family mixed-use property mortgage loans consisted of ARM loans. We offer adjustable-rate one-to-four family mixed-use property mortgage loans with adjustment periods typically of five years and for terms of up to 30 years. Interest rates on ARM loans currently offered by the Bank are adjusted at the beginning of each adjustment period based upon a fixed spread above the FHLB-NY corresponding Regular Advance Rate. From time to time, we may originate ARM loans at an initial rate lower than the index as a result of a discount on the spread for the initial adjustment period. One-to-four family mixed-use property adjustable-rate mortgage loans generally are not subject to limitations on interest rate increases either on an adjustment period or aggregate basis over the life of the loan; however, the loans generally contain interest rate floors. We originated and purchased one-to-four family mixed-use property ARM loans totaling \$10.0 million, \$22.4 million and \$34.5 million during 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

At December 31, 2020, \$179.7 million, or 29.80%, of our one-to-four family mixed-use property mortgage loans consisted of fixed-rate loans. Our fixed-rate one-to-four family mixed-use property mortgage loans are originated for terms of up to 15 years and are competitively priced based on market conditions and the Bank's cost of funds. We originated and purchased \$25.2 million, \$43.8 million and \$39.7 million of fixed-rate one-to-four family mixed-use property mortgage loans in 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

One-to-Four Family Mortgage Lending – Residential Properties. We offer mortgage loans secured by one-to-four family residential properties, including townhouses and condominium units. For purposes of the description contained in this section, one-to-four family residential mortgage loans, co-operative apartment loans and home equity loans are collectively referred to herein as “residential mortgage loans.” We offer both fixed-rate and adjustable-rate residential mortgage loans with maturities of up to 30 years and a general maximum loan amount of \$1.0 million. Residential mortgage loans were \$245.2 million, or 3.66% of gross loans, at December 31, 2020.

We generally originate residential mortgage loans in amounts up to 80% of the appraised value or the sale price, whichever is less. Private mortgage insurance is required whenever loan-to-value ratios exceed 80% of the appraised value of the property securing the loan.

At December 31, 2020, \$213.3 million, or 86.98%, of our residential mortgage loans consisted of ARM loans. We offer ARM loans with adjustment periods of one, three, five, seven or ten years. Interest rates on ARM loans currently offered by us are adjusted at the beginning of each adjustment period based upon a fixed spread above the FHLB-NY corresponding Regular Advance Rate. From time to time, we may originate ARM loans at an initial rate lower than the index as a result of a discount on the spread for the initial adjustment period. ARM loans generally are subject to limitations on interest rate increases of 2% per adjustment period and an aggregate adjustment of 6% over the life of the loan and have interest rate floors. We originated and purchased residential ARM loans totaling \$18.3 million, \$22.6 million and \$40.8 million during 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

The retention of ARM loans in our portfolio helps us reduce our exposure to interest rate risks. However, in an environment of rapidly increasing interest rates, it is possible for the interest rate increase to exceed the maximum aggregate adjustment on one-to-four family residential ARM loans and negatively affect the spread between our interest income and our cost of funds.

ARM loans generally involve credit risks different from those inherent in fixed-rate loans, primarily because if interest rates rise, the underlying payments of the borrower rise, thereby increasing the potential for default. However, this potential risk is lessened by our policy of originating one-to-four family residential ARM loans with annual and lifetime interest rate caps that limit the increase of a borrower's monthly payment.

At December 31, 2020, \$31.9 million, or 13.02%, of our residential mortgage loans consisted of fixed-rate loans. Our fixed-rate residential mortgage loans typically are originated for terms of 15 and 30 years and are competitively priced based on market conditions and our cost of funds. We originated and purchased \$4.2 million, \$2.4 million and \$4.3 million in 15-year fixed-rate residential mortgages in 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively. We did not originate or purchase any 30-year fixed-rate residential mortgages in 2020, 2019 and 2018.

At December 31, 2020, home equity loans totaled \$31.7 million, or 0.47%, of gross loans. Home equity loans are included in our portfolio of residential mortgage loans. These loans are offered as adjustable-rate “home equity lines of credit” on which interest only is due for an initial term of 10 years and thereafter principal and interest payments sufficient to liquidate the loan are required for the remaining term, not to exceed 30 years. These adjustable “home equity lines of credit” may include a “floor” and/or a “ceiling” on the interest rate that we charge for these loans. These loans also may be offered as fully amortizing closed-end fixed-rate loans for terms up to 15 years. The majority of home equity loans originated are owner occupied one-to-four family residential properties and condominium units. To a lesser extent, home equity loans are also originated on one-to-four residential properties held for investment and second homes. All home equity loans are subject to an 80% loan-to-value ratio computed on the basis of the aggregate of the first mortgage loan amount outstanding and the proposed home equity loan. They are generally granted in amounts from \$25,000 to \$300,000.

Construction Loans. At December 31, 2020, construction loans totaled \$83.3 million, or 1.24%, of gross loans. Our construction loans primarily are adjustable rate loans to finance the construction of one-to-four family residential properties, multi-family residential properties and owner-occupied commercial properties. We also, to a limited extent, finance the construction of commercial properties. Our policies provide that construction loans may be made in amounts up to 70% of the estimated value of the developed property and only if we obtain a first lien position on the underlying real estate. However, we generally limit construction loans to 60% of the estimated value of the developed property. In addition, we generally require personal guarantees on all construction loans. Construction loans are generally made with terms of two years or less. Advances are made as construction progresses and inspection warrants, subject to continued title searches to ensure that we maintain a first lien position. We made construction loans of \$21.9 million, \$33.9 million and \$39.6 million during 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Construction loans involve a greater degree of risk than other loans because, among other things, the underwriting of such loans is based on an estimated value of the developed property, which can be difficult to ascertain in light of uncertainties inherent in such estimations. In addition, construction lending entails the risk that the project may not be completed due to cost overruns or changes in market conditions.

Small Business Administration Lending. At December 31, 2020, SBA loans totaled \$167.4 million, representing 2.50%, of gross loans. These loans are extended to small businesses and are guaranteed by the SBA up to a maximum of 85% of the loan balance for loans with balances of \$150,000 or less, and to a maximum of 75% of the loan balance for loans with balances greater than \$150,000. We also provide term loans and lines of credit up to \$350,000 under the SBA Express Program, on which the SBA provides a 50% guaranty. The maximum loan size under the SBA guarantee program is \$5.0 million, with a maximum loan guarantee of \$3.75 million. All SBA loans are underwritten in accordance with SBA Standard Operating Procedures which requires collateral and the personal guarantee of the owners with more than 20% ownership from SBA borrowers. Typically, SBA loans are originated in the range of \$25,000 to \$2.0 million with terms ranging from one to seven years and up to 25 years for owner occupied commercial real estate mortgages. SBA loans are generally offered at adjustable rates tied to the prime rate (as published in the *Wall Street Journal*) with adjustment periods of one to three months. At times, we may sell the guaranteed portion of certain SBA term loans in the secondary market, realizing a gain at the time of sale, and retaining the servicing rights on these loans, collecting a servicing fee of approximately 1%.

The CARES Act created within the SBA the “Paycheck Protection Program” (PPP) loan program. Under the PPP, the SBA guarantees 100% of the amounts loaned by preferred lending banks. These loans are extended to small businesses with less than 500 employees that were in business prior to February 15, 2020 with balances of \$10.0 million or less and to cover their payroll costs, health care benefits (including paid sick or medical leave, and insurance premiums), mortgage interest obligations of business, rent obligations, utility payments, interest on other debt obligations with terms ranging up to two years with no interest payments required for six months from the date of disbursement. We originated and purchased \$112.4 million (including \$111.6 million PPP loans), \$3.4 million and \$3.8 million of SBA loans during 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Taxi Medallion. At December 31, 2020, taxi medallion loans consisted of loans made primarily to New York City taxi medallion owners and to a lesser extent Chicago taxi medallion owners, which are secured by liens on the taxi medallions, totaling \$2.8 million, or 0.04%, of gross loans. In 2015, we decided to no longer originate or purchase taxi medallion loans.

Commercial Business and Other Lending. At December 31, 2020, commercial business and other loans totaled \$1,303.2 million, or 19.45%, of gross loans. We originate and purchase commercial business loans and other loans for business, personal, or household purposes. Commercial business loans are provided to businesses in the New York City metropolitan area with annual sales of up to \$250.0 million. Our commercial business loans include lines of credit and term loans including owner occupied mortgages. These loans are secured by business assets, including accounts receivables, inventory, equipment and real estate and generally require personal guarantees. The Bank also enters into participations/syndications on senior secured commercial business loans, which are serviced by other banks. Commercial business loans are generally originated in a range of \$100,000 to \$10.0 million. We generally offer adjustable rate loans with adjustment periods of five years for owner occupied mortgages and for lines of credit the adjustment period is generally monthly. Interest rates on adjustable rate loans currently offered by us are adjusted at the beginning of each adjustment period based upon a fixed spread above the FHLB-NY corresponding Regular Advance Rate for owner occupied mortgages and a fixed spread above the London Interbank Offered Rate (“LIBOR”) or Prime Rate for lines of credit. Commercial business adjustable-rate loans generally are not subject to limitations on interest rate increases either on an adjustment period or aggregate basis over the life of the loan, however they generally are subject to interest rate floors. Our fixed-rate commercial business loans are generally originated for terms up to 20 years and are competitively priced based on market conditions and our cost of funds. We originated and purchased \$397.7 million, \$603.8 million and \$475.7 million of commercial business loans during 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Other loans generally consist of overdraft lines of credit. Generally, unsecured consumer loans are limited to amounts of \$5,000 or less for terms of up to five years. We originated and purchased \$10.0 million, \$1.9 million and \$1.9 million of other loans during 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively. The underwriting standards employed by us for consumer and other loans include a determination of the applicant’s payment history on other debts and assessment of the applicant’s ability to meet payments on all of his or her obligations. In addition to the creditworthiness of the applicant, the underwriting process also includes a comparison of the value of the collateral, if any, to the proposed loan amount. Unsecured loans tend to have higher risk, and therefore command a higher interest rate.

Loan Extensions, Renewals, Modifications and Restructuring. Extensions, renewals, modifications or restructuring a loan, other than a loan that is classified as a troubled debt restructured (“TDR”), requires the loan to be fully underwritten in accordance with our policy. The borrower must be current to have a loan extended, renewed or restructured. Our policy for modifying a mortgage loan due to the borrower’s request for changes in the terms will depend on the changes requested. The borrower must be current and have a good payment history to have a loan modified. If the borrower is seeking additional funds, the loan is fully underwritten in accordance with our policy for new loans. If the borrower is seeking a reduction in the interest rate due to a decline in interest rates in the market, we generally limit our review as follows: (1) for income producing properties and commercial business loans, to a review of the operating results of the property/business and a satisfactory inspection of the property, and (2) for one-to-four residential properties, to a satisfactory inspection of the property. Our policy on restructuring a loan when the loan will be classified as a TDR requires the loan to be fully underwritten in accordance with Company policy. The borrower must demonstrate the ability to repay the loan under the new terms. When the restructuring results in a TDR, we may waive some requirements of Company policy provided the borrower has demonstrated the ability to meet the requirements of the restructured loan and repay the restructured loan. While our formal lending policies do not prohibit making additional loans to a borrower or any related interest of the borrower who is past due in principal or interest more than 90 days, it has been our practice not to make additional loans to a borrower or a related interest of the borrower if the borrower is past due more than 90 days as to principal or interest. During the most recent three fiscal years, we did not make any additional loans to a borrower or any related interest of the borrower who was past due in principal or interest more than 90 days. All extensions, renewals, restructurings and modifications must be approved by the appropriate Loan Committee.

Covid-19 Modifications. Pursuant to the CARES Act, certain loan modifications are not classified as TDRs if the related loans were not more than 30 days past due as of December 31, 2019. The Company has elected that loans temporarily modified for borrowers directly impacted by COVID-19 are not considered TDR, assuming the above criteria is met and as such, these loans are considered current and continue to accrue interest at its original contractual terms. Deferrals granted under the Cares Act are deemed in accrual status and interest income is accrued until the end of deferral period even if there are no payments being collected. When the forbearance period is over, borrowers are expected to resume contractual payments. The determination of whether a loan is past due is based on the modified terms of the

agreement. Once the deferral period is over, the borrower will resume making payments and normal delinquency-based non-accrual policies will apply.

Loan Approval Procedures and Authority. The Board of Directors of the Company (the “Board of Directors”) approved lending policies establishing loan approval requirements for our various types of loan products. Our Residential Mortgage Lending Policy (which applies to all one-to-four family mortgage loans, including residential and mixed-use property) establishes authorized levels of approval. One-to-four family mortgage loans that do not exceed \$750,000 require two signatures for approval, one of which must be from either the President, Senior Executive Vice President Chief of Real Estate Lending, the Executive Vice President of Residential, Mixed Use & Small Multifamily Lending or Executive Vice President Real Estate Credit Center (collectively, “Authorized Officers”) and the other from a Senior Underwriter, Manager, Underwriter or Junior Underwriter in the Residential Mortgage Loan Department (collectively, “Loan Officers”), and ratification by the Management Loan Committee. For one-to-four family mortgage loans in excess of \$750,000 up to \$2.0 million, three signatures are required for approval, at least two of which must be from Authorized Officers, and the other one may be a Loan Officer, and ratification by the Management Loan Committee and the Director’s Loan Committee. The Director’s Loan Committee or the Bank Board of Directors also must approve one-to-four family mortgage loans in excess of \$2.0 million up to and including \$5.0 million after obtaining two signatures from authorized officers and one signature from loan officers with Management Loan Committee approval. One-to-four family mortgage loan in excess of \$5.0 million may require Director’s inspection. Pursuant to our Commercial Real Estate Lending Policy, loans secured by commercial real estate and multi-family residential properties up to \$2.0 million are approved by the Executive Vice President of Commercial Real Estate and the Senior Executive Vice President, Chief of Real Estate Lending or Executive Vice President Credit Center Manager and then ratified by the Management Loan Committee and/or the Director’s Loan Committee. Loans provided in excess of \$2.0 million and up to and including \$5.0 million must be submitted with the two signatures of the officers to the Management Loan Committee for final approval and then to the Director’s Loan Committee and/or Board of Directors for ratification. Loans in excess of \$5.0 million and up to and including \$25.0 million must be submitted subsequently to the Director’s Loan Committee and/ or the Board of Directors for approval. Loan amounts in excess of \$25.0 million must be approved by the Board of Directors.

In accordance with our Business Banking Credit Policy, Commercial business and other loans require two signatures from the Business Loan Committee for approval up to \$0.5 million. All commercial business loans and SBA loans over \$0.5 million and up to \$2.5 million must be approved by obtaining two signatures from the Business Loan Committee and ratified by the Management Loan Committee with the exception of SBA Paycheck Protection Program (“PPP”) loans. SBA PPP loans must be approved by Business Loan Committee regardless of the lending limit and ratified by Management Loan Committee. Commercial business loans and SBA loans in excess of \$2.5 million up to \$5.0 million must be approved by the Management Loan Committee and ratified by the Director’s Loan Committee. However, SBA PPP loans are exempt from the loan lending limit. Loans in excess of \$5.0 million must be submitted to the Director’s Loan Committee and/ or the Board of Directors for approval.

Our Construction Loan Policy requires construction loans up to and including \$2.0 million must be approved by the Senior Executive Vice President, Chief of Real Estate Lending and the Executive Vice President of Commercial Real Estate, and ratified by the Management Loan Committee or the Director’s Loan Committee. Such loans in excess of \$2.0 million up to and including \$5.0 million require the same officer approvals, approval of the Management Loan Committee, and ratification of the Director’s Loan Committee or the Bank Board of Directors. Loan proposals in excess of \$5.0 million up to and including \$25.0 million that are approved by Management Loan Committee will subsequently be submitted to either the Directors Loan Committee and/or the Board of Directors for their approval. Construction loans in excess of \$25.0 million require the subsequent approval of the Bank Board of Directors. Any loan, regardless of type, that deviates from our written credit policies must be approved by the Director’s Loan Committee or the Bank Board of Directors.

For all loans originated by us, upon receipt of a completed loan application, a credit report is ordered and certain other financial information is obtained. An appraisal of the real estate intended to secure the proposed loan is required to be received. An independent appraiser designated and approved by us currently performs such appraisals. Our staff appraisers review all appraisals. The Bank Board of Directors annually approves the independent appraisers used by the Bank and approves the Bank’s appraisal policy. It is our policy to require borrowers to obtain title insurance and hazard insurance on all real estate loans prior to closing. For certain borrowers, and/or as required by law, the Bank may require

escrow funds on a monthly basis together with each payment of principal and interest to a mortgage escrow account from which we make disbursements for items such as real estate taxes and, in some cases, hazard insurance premiums.

Loan Concentrations. The maximum amount of credit that the Bank can extend to any single borrower or related group of borrowers generally is limited to 15% of the Bank's unimpaired capital and surplus, or \$110.0 million at December 31, 2020. Applicable laws and regulations permit an additional amount of credit to be extended, equal to 10% of unimpaired capital and surplus, if the loan is secured by readily marketable collateral, which generally does not include real estate. See "-Regulation." However, it is currently our policy not to extend such additional credit. At December 31, 2020, there were no loans in excess of the maximum dollar amount of loans to one borrower that the Bank was authorized to make. At that date, the three largest concentrations of loans to one borrower consisted of loans secured by commercial real estate, multi-family income producing properties and commercial business loans with an aggregate principal balance of \$87.8 million, \$79.5 million and \$65.7 million for each of the three borrowers, respectively.

Loan Servicing. At December 31, 2020, we were servicing \$62.0 million of loans for others. Our policy is to retain the servicing rights to the mortgage and SBA loans that we sell in the secondary market, other than sales of delinquent loans, which are sold with servicing released to the buyer. On mortgage loans and commercial business loan participations purchased by us for whom the seller retains the servicing rights, we receive monthly reports with which we monitor the loan portfolio. Based upon servicing agreements with the servicers of the loans, we rely upon the servicer to contact delinquent borrowers, collect delinquent amounts and initiate foreclosure proceedings, when necessary, all in accordance with applicable laws, regulations and the terms of the servicing agreements between us and our servicing agents. The servicers are required to submit monthly reports on their collection efforts on delinquent loans. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, we held \$778.1 million and \$856.9 million, respectively, of loans that were serviced by others.

Asset Quality

Loan Collection. When a borrower fails to make a required payment on a loan, except for serviced loans as described above, we take a number of steps to induce the borrower to cure the delinquency and restore the loan to current status. In the case of mortgage loans, personal contact is made with the borrower after the loan becomes 30 days delinquent. We take a proactive approach to managing delinquent loans, including conducting site examinations and encouraging borrowers to meet with one of our representatives. When deemed appropriate, we develop short-term payment plans that enable borrowers to bring their loans current, generally within six to nine months. We review delinquencies on a loan by loan basis, diligently exploring ways to help borrowers meet their obligations and return them back to current status.

In the case of commercial business or other loans, we generally send the borrower a written notice of non-payment when the loan is first past due. In the event payment is not then received, additional letters and phone calls generally are made in order to encourage the borrower to meet with one of our representatives to discuss the delinquency. If the loan still is not brought current and it becomes necessary for us to take legal action, which typically occurs after a loan is delinquent 90 days or more, we may attempt to repossess personal or business property that secures an SBA loan, commercial business loan or consumer loan.

When the borrower has indicated that they will be unable to bring the loan current, or due to other circumstances which, in our opinion, indicate the borrower will be unable to bring the loan current within a reasonable time, the loan is classified as non-performing. All loans classified as non-performing, which includes all loans past due 90 days or more, are on non-accrual status unless there is, in our opinion, compelling evidence the borrower will bring the loan current in the immediate future. At December 31, 2020, there were three loans for \$2.7 million, which were past due 90 days or more and still accruing interest.

Upon classifying a loan as non-performing, we review available information and conditions that relate to the status of the loan, including the estimated value of the loan's collateral and any legal considerations that may affect the borrower's ability to continue to make payments. Based upon the available information, we will consider the sale of the loan or retention of the loan. If the loan is retained, we may continue to work with the borrower to collect the amounts due or start foreclosure proceedings. If a foreclosure action is initiated and the loan is not brought current, paid in full, or

refinanced before the foreclosure sale, the real property securing the loan is sold at foreclosure or by us as soon thereafter as practicable.

Once the decision to sell a loan is made, we determine what we would consider adequate consideration to be obtained when that loan is sold, based on the facts and circumstances related to that loan. Investors and brokers are then contacted to seek interest in purchasing the loan. We have been successful in finding buyers for some of our non-performing loans offered for sale that are willing to pay what we consider to be adequate consideration. Terms of the sale include cash due upon closing of the sale, no contingencies or recourse to us, servicing is released to the buyer and time is of the essence. These sales usually close within a reasonably short time period.

This strategy of selling non-performing loans has allowed us to optimize our return by quickly converting our non-performing loans to cash, which can then be reinvested in earning assets. This strategy also allows us to avoid lengthy and costly legal proceedings that may occur with non-performing loans. There can be no assurances that we will continue this strategy in future periods, or if continued, we will be able to find buyers to pay adequate consideration.

The following tables show delinquent and non-performing loans sold during the period indicated:

<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	For the years ended December 31,		
	2020	2019	2018
Count	2	11	12
Proceeds	\$ 580	\$ 13,048	\$ 8,739
Net (charge-offs) recoveries	—	(1)	68
Gross gains	42	—	38
Gross losses	—	756	263

Troubled Debt Restructured . We have restructured certain problem loans for borrowers who are experiencing financial difficulties by either: reducing the interest rate until the next reset date, extending the amortization period thereby lowering the monthly payments, deferring a portion of the interest payment, or changing the loan to interest only payments for a limited time period. At times, certain problem loans have been restructured by combining more than one of these options. These restructurings have not included a reduction of principal balance. We believe that restructuring these loans in this manner will allow certain borrowers to become and remain current on their loans. These restructured loans are classified TDR. Loans which have been current for six consecutive months at the time they are restructured as TDR remain on accrual status. Loans which were delinquent at the time they are restructured as a TDR are placed on non-accrual status until they have made timely payments for six consecutive months. The CARES Act , as amended, includes provisions for the Company to temporarily opt out of applying the TDR accounting guidance in ASC 310-40 for certain loan modifications.

The following table shows our recorded investment in loans classified as TDR at amortized cost that are performing according to their restructured terms at the periods indicated:

<i>(In thousands)</i>	At December 31,				
	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Accrual Status:					
Multi-family residential	\$ 1,700	\$ 1,873	\$ 1,916	\$ 2,518	\$ 2,572
Commercial real estate	7,702	—	—	1,986	2,062
One-to-four family - mixed-use property	1,459	1,481	1,692	1,753	1,800
One-to-four family - residential	507	531	552	572	591
Taxi medallion	—	—	—	—	9,735
Commercial business and other	1,588	—	279	462	420
Total	<u>12,956</u>	<u>3,885</u>	<u>4,439</u>	<u>7,291</u>	<u>17,180</u>
Non-Accrual Status:					
One-to-four family - mixed-use property	272	—	—	—	—
Taxi medallion	440	1,668	3,926	5,916	—
Commercial business and other	2,243	941	—	—	255
Total	<u>2,955</u>	<u>2,609</u>	<u>3,926</u>	<u>5,916</u>	<u>255</u>
Total performing troubled debt restructured	<u>\$ 15,911</u>	<u>\$ 6,494</u>	<u>\$ 8,365</u>	<u>\$ 13,207</u>	<u>\$ 17,435</u>

Loans that are restructured as TDR but are not performing in accordance with the restructured terms are excluded from the TDR table above, as they are placed on non-accrual status and reported as non-performing loans. At December 31, 2020, there were 12 loans totaling \$2.2 million which were restructured as TDR not performing in accordance with its restructured terms. At December 31, 2019, there were five loans totaling \$1.3 million which were restructured as TDR not performing in accordance with its restructured terms.

Delinquent Loans and Non-performing Assets. We generally discontinue accruing interest on delinquent loans when a loan is 90 days past due. At that time, previously accrued but uncollected interest is reversed from income. Loans in default 90 days or more as to their maturity date but not their payments, however, continue to accrue interest as long as the borrower continues to remit monthly payments.

The following table shows our non-performing assets at the dates indicated. During the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, the amounts of additional interest income that would have been recorded on non-accrual loans, had they been current, totaled \$1.4 million, \$1.1 million and \$1.0 million, respectively. These amounts were not included in our interest income for the respective periods.

<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	At December 31,				
	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Loans 90 days or more past due and still accruing:					
Multi-family residential	\$ 201	\$ 445	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Commercial real estate	2,547	—	—	2,424	—
One-to-four family mixed-use property	—	—	—	—	386
Total	2,748	445	—	2,424	386
Non-accrual mortgage loans:					
Multi-family residential	2,524	2,296	2,410	3,598	1,837
Commercial real estate	1,683	367	1,379	1,473	1,148
One-to-four family mixed-use property ⁽¹⁾	1,366	274	928	1,867	4,025
One-to-four family residential	5,854	5,139	6,144	7,808	8,241
Total	11,427	8,076	10,861	14,746	15,251
Non-accrual non-mortgage loans:					
Small Business Administration	1,151	1,151	1,267	46	1,886
Taxi medallion ⁽¹⁾	2,317	1,641	613	918	3,825
Commercial business and other ⁽¹⁾	3,430	1,945	3,512	—	68
Total	6,898	4,737	5,392	964	5,779
Total non-accrual loans	18,325	12,813	16,253	15,710	21,030
Total non-performing loans	21,073	13,258	16,253	18,134	21,416
Other non-performing assets:					
Real Estate Owned	—	239	—	—	533
Other assets acquired through foreclosure	35	35	35	—	—
Total	35	274	35	—	533
Total non-performing assets	\$ 21,108	\$ 13,532	\$ 16,288	\$ 18,134	\$ 21,949
Non-performing loans to gross loans	0.31 %	0.23 %	0.29 %	0.35 %	0.44 %
Non-performing assets to total assets	0.26 %	0.19 %	0.24 %	0.29 %	0.36 %

(1) Not included in the above analysis are non-accrual TDR taxi medallion loans that are performing according to their restructured terms totaling \$0.4 million, \$1.7 million \$3.9 million and \$5.9 million for the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019, 2018 and 2017, respectively. Not included in the above analysis are non-accrual TDR One-to-four family mixed-use property totaling \$0.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2020 and commercial business loans that are performing according to their restructured terms totaling \$2.2 million, \$0.9 million and \$0.3 million, respectively, for the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2016, respectively.

The following table shows our delinquent loans that are less than 90 days past due and still accruing interest at the periods indicated:

	December 31, 2020		December 31, 2019	
	60 - 89 days	30 - 59 days	60 - 89 days	30 - 59 days
	<i>(In thousands)</i>			
Multi-family residential	\$ 7,582	\$ 3,186	\$ 1,563	\$ 4,042
Commercial real estate	17,903	5,123	4,941	—
One-to-four family — mixed-use property	5,673	1,132	496	1,117
One-to-four family — residential	3,087	805	1,022	720
Construction	750	—	—	—
Small Business Administration	1,823	—	—	—
Commercial business and other	129	1,273	5	2,340
Total	<u>\$ 36,947</u>	<u>\$ 11,519</u>	<u>\$ 8,027</u>	<u>\$ 8,219</u>

Other Real Estate Owned. We aggressively market our Other Real Estate Owned (“OREO”) properties. At December 31, 2020 and 2018, we held no OREO. At December 31, 2019, we owned one OREO for \$0.2 million.

We may obtain physical possession of residential real estate collateralizing a consumer mortgage loan via foreclosure through an in-substance repossession. During the year ended December 31, 2020, we did not foreclose any real estate property. During the year ended December 31, 2019, we foreclosed on one real estate loan totaling \$0.2 million. Included within net loans as of December 31, 2020 and 2019, was a recorded investment of \$5.9 million and \$6.6 million, respectively, of consumer mortgage loans secured by residential real estate properties for which formal foreclosure proceedings were in process according to local requirements of the applicable jurisdiction.

Environmental Concerns Relating to Loans. We currently obtain environmental reports in connection with the underwriting of commercial real estate loans, and typically obtain environmental reports in connection with the underwriting of multi-family loans. For all other loans, we obtain environmental reports only if the nature of the current or, to the extent known to us, prior use of the property securing the loan indicates a potential environmental risk. However, we may not be aware of such uses or risks in any particular case, and, accordingly, there is no assurance that real estate acquired by us in foreclosure is free from environmental contamination or that, if any such contamination or other violation exists, whether we will have any liability.

Classified Assets. Our policy is to review our assets, focusing primarily on the loan portfolio, OREO and the investment portfolios, to ensure that the credit quality is maintained at the highest levels. When weaknesses are identified, immediate action is taken to correct the problem through direct contact with the borrower or issuer. We then monitor these assets, and, in accordance with our policy and current regulatory guidelines, we designate them as “Special Mention,” which is considered a “Criticized Asset,” and “Substandard,” “Doubtful,” or “Loss” which are considered “Classified Assets,” as deemed necessary. If a loan does not fall within one of the previous mentioned categories and management believes weakness is evident then we designate the loan as “Watch”, all other loans would be considered “Pass”. These loan designations are updated quarterly. We designate an asset as Substandard when a well-defined weakness is identified that jeopardizes the orderly liquidation of the debt. We designate an asset as Doubtful when it displays the inherent weakness of a Substandard asset with the added provision that collection of the debt in full, on the basis of existing facts, is highly improbable. We designate an asset as Loss if it is deemed the debtor is incapable of repayment. We do not hold any loans designated as loss, as loans that are designated as Loss are charged to the Allowance for Loan Losses. Assets that are non-accrual are designated as Substandard, Doubtful or Loss. We designate an asset as Special Mention if the asset does not warrant designation within one of the other categories, but does contain a potential weakness that deserves closer attention. Loans that are in forbearance pursuant to the CARES Act, and continue to perform according to the terms of the forbearance agreement, are generally reported in the same category as they were reported immediately prior to modification. Our Criticized and Classified Assets totaled \$71.9 million at December 31, 2020, an increase of \$33.7 million from \$38.0 million at December 31, 2019.

The following table sets forth the Bank's Criticized and Classified assets at December 31, 2020:

<u>(In thousands)</u>	<u>Special Mention</u>	<u>Substandard</u>	<u>Doubtful</u>	<u>Loss</u>	<u>Total</u>
Loans:					
Multi-family residential	\$ 4,367	\$ 2,778	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 7,145
Commercial real estate	6,473	12,015	—	—	18,488
One-to-four family - mixed-use property	2,523	2,324	—	—	4,847
One-to-four family - residential	1,673	5,702	—	—	7,375
Co-operative apartments	48	—	—	—	48
Construction	3,336	—	—	—	3,336
Small Business Administration ⁽¹⁾	50	1,174	—	—	1,224
Taxi medallion	—	2,597	—	—	2,597
Commercial business and other	3,363	22,224	1,273	—	26,860
Total	\$ 21,833	\$ 48,814	\$ 1,273	\$ —	\$ 71,920

The following table sets forth the Bank's Criticized and Classified assets at December 31, 2019:

<u>(In thousands)</u>	<u>Special Mention</u>	<u>Substandard</u>	<u>Doubtful</u>	<u>Loss</u>	<u>Total</u>
Loans:					
Multi-family residential	\$ 1,563	\$ 2,743	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 4,306
Commercial real estate	5,525	367	—	—	5,892
One-to-four family - mixed-use property	1,585	453	—	—	2,038
One-to-four family - residential	1,095	5,787	—	—	6,882
Small Business Administration ⁽¹⁾	55	85	—	—	140
Taxi medallion	—	3,309	—	—	3,309
Commercial business and other	3,924	11,289	266	—	15,479
Total	\$ 13,747	\$ 24,033	\$ 266	\$ —	\$ 38,046

(1) Balance reported net of SBA Guaranteed portion.

Allowance for Credit Losses

The Allowance for credit losses ("ACL") is an estimate that is deducted from the amortized cost basis of the financial asset to present the net carrying value at the amount expected to be collected on the financial assets. Loans are charged off against that ACL when management believes that a loan balance is uncollectable based on quarterly analysis of credit risk.

As of January 1, 2020, the Company adopted Topic 326, see Note 22 related to the adoption of Topic 326. The amount of the ACL is based upon a loss rate model that considers multiple factors which reflects management's assessment of the credit quality of the loan portfolio. Management estimates the allowance balance using relevant information, from internal and external sources, relating to past events, current conditions, and reasonable and supportable forecasts. The factors are both quantitative and qualitative in nature including, but not limited to, historical losses, economic conditions, trends in delinquencies, value and adequacy of underlying collateral, volume and portfolio mix, and internal loan processes.

The quantitative allowance is calculated using a number of inputs and assumptions. The process and guidelines were developed using, among other factors, the guidance from federal banking regulatory agencies and GAAP. The results of this process, support management's assessment as to the adequacy of the ACL at each balance sheet date.

The process for calculating the allowance for credit losses begins with our historical losses by portfolio segment. The losses are then incorporated into reasonable and supportable forecast to develop the quantitative component of the allowance for credit losses.

Upon adoption of CECL, the allowance for credit losses (“ACL”) increased by \$1.3 million that included an increase of \$0.6 million to the allowance for off-balance sheet credit losses, \$0.4 million to the allowance for loan losses and \$0.3 million to the allowance for HTM securities losses.

When calculating the ACL estimate for December 31, 2020, Management acknowledged deteriorated economic conditions as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic were captured in the forecast within the model platform. As such, when determining the reasonable and supportable forecast, Management adjusted the period to reflect a forecast of four quarters, to align with a previously established framework for contraction periods. Similarly, the reversion period was adjusted to four quarters. Management believed these adjustments are necessary as the forecast has suggested more stability than at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. This resulted in the ACL for loans totaling \$45.2 million at December 31, 2020.

Non-performing loans totaled \$21.1 million and \$13.3 million at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively. The Bank’s underwriting standards generally require a loan-to-value ratio of no more than 75% at the time the loan is originated. At December 31, 2020, the outstanding principal balance of our non-performing loans was 41.5% of the estimated current value of the supporting collateral, after considering the charge-offs that have been recorded. We incurred total net charge-offs of \$3.6 million and \$2.0 million during the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively. For the year ended December 31, 2020, we recorded a provision for loan losses totaling \$22.6 million, which included \$1.8 million at the time of merger from non-purchased credit deteriorated Empire loans. The Company recorded a provision for loan losses totaling \$2.8 million and \$0.6 million for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively. The increase in the provision for loan losses recorded in the year ended December 31, 2020, was primarily due to the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on the economic forecast used in our CECL model. Management has concluded, and the Board of Directors has concurred, that at December 31, 2020, the allowance was sufficient to absorb losses inherent in our loan portfolio. The allowance for loan losses represented 0.67% and 0.38% of gross loans outstanding at December 31, 2020 and 2019. The allowance for loan losses represented 214.3% of non-performing loans at December 31, 2020 compared to 164.1% at December 31, 2019.

At December 31, 2020, we had one active forbearance for held-to-maturity securities with an outstanding balance of \$21.0 million. During the time this security is in forbearance, it is considered current and as such, continues to accrue interest at its original contractual terms. This resulted in the ACL for held-to-maturity securities totaling \$0.9 million at December 31, 2020.

The following table sets forth changes in, and the balance of, our Allowance for credit losses.

<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	For the year ended December 31,	
	2020	
Balance at beginning of period	\$	21,751
Loans- CECL Adoption		379
Loans- Allowance recorded at the time of Acquisition		4,099
Loans- Charge-off		(4,005)
Loans- Recovery		366
Loans- Provision		22,563
Allowance for loan losses	\$	45,153
Balance at beginning of period	\$	—
HTM Securities- CECL Adoption		340
HTM Securities- Provision		567
Allowance for HTM Securities losses	\$	907
Balance at beginning of period	\$	—
Off-Balance Sheet - CECL Adoption		553
Off-Balance Sheet- Provision		1,262
Allowance for Off-Balance Sheet losses	\$	1,815
Allowance for Credit Losses	\$	47,875

The following table sets forth changes in, and the balance of, our Allowance for loan losses.

<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	At and for the years ended December 31,				
	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Balance at beginning of year	\$ 21,751	\$ 20,945	\$ 20,351	\$ 22,229	\$ 21,535
Allowance recorded at the time of Acquisition	4,099	—	—	—	—
CECL Adoption	379	—	—	—	—
Provision for loan losses	22,563	2,811	575	9,861	—
Loans charged-off:					
Multi-family residential	—	(190)	(99)	(454)	(161)
Commercial real estate	—	—	—	(4)	—
One-to-four family mixed-use property	(3)	(89)	(3)	(39)	(144)
One-to-four family residential	—	(113)	(1)	(415)	(114)
SBA	(178)	—	(392)	(212)	(529)
Taxi medallion	(1,075)	—	(393)	(11,283)	(142)
Commercial business and other loans	(2,749)	(2,386)	(44)	(65)	(69)
Total loans charged-off	(4,005)	(2,778)	(932)	(12,472)	(1,159)
Recoveries:					
Mortgage loans	188	291	711	595	1,493
SBA, commercial business and other loans	178	348	97	138	360
Taxi medallion	—	134	143	—	—
Total recoveries	366	773	951	733	1,853
Net (charge-offs) recoveries	(3,639)	(2,005)	19	(11,739)	694
Balance at end of year	<u>\$ 45,153</u>	<u>\$ 21,751</u>	<u>\$ 20,945</u>	<u>\$ 20,351</u>	<u>\$ 22,229</u>
Ratio of net charge-offs (recoveries) during the year to average loans outstanding during the year	0.06 %	0.04 %	— %	0.24 %	(0.02)%
Ratio of allowance for loan losses to gross loans at end of the year	0.67 %	0.38 %	0.38 %	0.39 %	0.46 %
Ratio of allowance for loan losses to non-performing loans at the end of the year	214.27 %	164.05 %	128.87 %	112.23 %	103.80 %
Ratio of allowance for loan losses to non-performing assets at the end of the year	213.91 %	160.73 %	128.60 %	112.23 %	101.28 %

The following table sets forth our allocation of the allowance for loan losses to the total amount of loans in each of the categories listed at the dates indicated. The numbers contained in the “Amount” column indicate the allowance for loan losses allocated for each particular loan category. The numbers contained in the column entitled “Percentage of Loans in Category to Total Loans” indicate the total amount of loans in each particular category as a percentage of our loan portfolio.

Loan Category	At December 31,									
	2020		2019		2018		2017		2016	
	Amount	Percent of Loans in Category to Total loans	Amount	Percent of Loans in Category to Total loans	Amount	Percent of Loans in Category to Total loans	Amount	Percent of Loans in Category to Total loans	Amount	Percent of Loans in Category to Total loans
<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>										
Mortgage loans:										
Multi-family residential	\$ 6,557	37.81 %	\$ 5,391	38.88 %	\$ 5,676	41.00 %	\$ 5,823	44.08 %	\$ 5,923	45.21 %
Commercial real estate	8,327	26.18	4,429	27.48	4,315	27.86	4,643	26.51	4,487	25.86
One-to-four family mixed-use property	1,986	9.00	1,817	10.29	1,867	10.44	2,545	10.93	2,903	11.59
One-to-four family residential	869	3.66	756	3.27	749	3.44	1,082	3.50	1,015	3.85
Co-operative apartment	—	0.12	—	0.15	—	0.15	—	0.13	—	0.15
Construction	497	1.24	441	1.18	329	0.91	68	0.16	92	0.24
Gross mortgage loans	18,236	78.01	12,834	81.25	12,936	83.80	14,161	85.31	14,420	86.90
Non-mortgage loans:										
Small Business Administration	2,251	2.50	363	0.25	418	0.27	669	0.36	481	0.32
Taxi medallion	—	0.04	—	0.06	—	0.08	—	0.13	2,243	0.39
Commercial business and other	24,666	19.45	8,554	18.44	7,591	15.85	5,521	14.20	4,492	12.39
Gross non-mortgage loans	26,917	21.99	8,917	18.75	8,009	16.20	6,190	14.69	7,216	13.10
Unallocated	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	593	—
Total loans	<u>\$ 45,153</u>	<u>100.00 %</u>	<u>\$ 21,751</u>	<u>100.00 %</u>	<u>\$ 20,945</u>	<u>100.00 %</u>	<u>\$ 20,351</u>	<u>100.00 %</u>	<u>\$ 22,229</u>	<u>100.00 %</u>

Investment Activities

General. Our investment policy, which is approved by the Board of Directors, is designed primarily to manage the interest rate sensitivity of our overall assets and liabilities, to generate a favorable return without incurring undue interest rate and credit risk, to complement our lending activities and to provide and maintain liquidity. In establishing our investment strategies, we consider our business and growth strategies, the economic environment, our interest rate risk exposure, our interest rate sensitivity “gap” position, the types of securities to be held, and other factors. See “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations — Overview—Management Strategy” in Item 7 of this Annual Report.

Although we have authority to invest in various types of assets, we primarily invest in mortgage-backed securities, securities issued by mutual or bond funds that invest in government and government agency securities, municipal bonds, corporate bonds and collateralized loan obligations (“CLO”). We did not hold any issues of foreign sovereign debt at December 31, 2020 and 2019.

Our Investment Committee meets quarterly to monitor investment transactions and to establish investment strategy. The Board of Directors reviews the investment policy on an annual basis and investment activity on a monthly basis.

We classify our investment securities as available for sale when management intends to hold the securities for an indefinite period of time or when the securities may be utilized for tactical asset/liability purposes and may be sold from time to time to effectively manage interest rate exposure and resultant prepayment risk and liquidity needs. Securities are classified as held-to-maturity when management intends to hold the securities until maturity. We carry some of our investments under the fair value option, totaling \$14.5 million at December 31, 2020. Unrealized gains and losses for investments carried under the fair value option are included in our Consolidated Statements of Income. Unrealized gains and losses on securities available for sale, are excluded from earnings and included in accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of taxes. Securities held-to-maturity are carried at their amortized cost basis. At December 31, 2020, we had \$648.0 million in securities available for sale and \$57.8 million in securities held-to-maturity, which together represented 8.85% of total assets. These securities had an aggregate market value at December 31, 2020 that was approximately 1.1 times the amount of our equity at that date.

Upon adoption of ASC Topic 326, "Credit Losses" on January 1, 2020, see Note 22, we recorded a transition adjustment of \$0.3 million in the allowance for credit losses for held-to-maturity debt securities.

The Company's estimate of expected credit losses for held-to-maturity debt securities is based on historical information, current conditions and a reasonable and supportable forecast. The Company's portfolio is made up of three securities, one which is structured similar to a commercial owner occupied loan, which is modeled for credit losses similar to commercial business loans secured by real estate, one that currently has an active forbearance with a specific reserve of \$0.6 million and one security is issued and guaranteed by Fannie Mae, which is a government sponsored enterprise that has a credit rating and perceived credit risk comparable to the U.S. government and therefore the Company assumes a zero loss expectation.

The table below sets forth certain information regarding the amortized cost and market values of our securities portfolio, interest-earning deposits and federal funds sold, at the dates indicated. Securities available for sale are recorded at market value.

	At December 31,					
	2020		2019		2018	
	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value
	<i>(In thousands)</i>					
Securities held-to-maturity						
Bonds and other debt securities:						
Municipal securities ⁽¹⁾	\$ 50,825	\$ 54,538	\$ 50,954	\$ 53,998	\$ 24,065	\$ 22,508
Total bonds and other debt securities	50,825	54,538	50,954	53,998	24,065	22,508
Mortgage-backed securities:						
FNMA	7,914	8,991	7,934	8,114	7,953	7,366
Total mortgage-backed securities	7,914	8,991	7,934	8,114	7,953	7,366
Total securities held-to-maturity	58,739	63,529	58,888	62,112	32,018	29,874
Securities available for sale						
Bonds and other debt securities:						
U.S. government agencies	6,452	6,453	—	—	—	—
Municipal securities	—	—	12,797	12,916	46,231	46,574
Corporate debentures	130,000	123,865	130,000	123,050	130,000	118,535
Collateralized loan obligations	100,561	99,198	100,349	99,137	88,396	86,751
Total bonds and other debt securities	237,013	229,516	243,146	235,103	264,627	251,860
Mutual funds	12,703	12,703	12,216	12,216	11,586	11,586
Equity securities:						
Common stock	1,295	1,295	1,332	1,332	1,256	1,256
Total equity securities	1,295	1,295	1,332	1,332	1,256	1,256
Mortgage-backed securities:						
REMIC and CMO	175,142	180,877	348,236	348,989	382,632	376,340
GNMA	13,009	13,053	653	704	785	826
FNMA	143,154	146,169	104,235	104,882	94,069	91,693
FHLMC	63,796	64,361	68,476	69,274	90,377	89,094
Total mortgage-backed securities	395,101	404,460	521,600	523,849	567,863	557,953
Total securities available for sale	646,112	647,974	778,294	772,500	845,332	822,655
Interest-earning deposits and Federal funds sold						
	133,683	133,683	36,511	36,511	105,761	105,761
Total	\$ 838,534	\$ 845,186	\$ 873,693	\$ 871,123	\$ 983,111	\$ 958,290

(1) Does not include allowance for credit losses totaling \$0.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2020.

Mortgage-backed securities. At December 31, 2020, we had available for sale and held-to-maturity mortgage-backed securities with a market value totaling \$413.5 million, of which \$16.2 million was invested in adjustable-rate mortgage-backed securities. The mortgage loans underlying these adjustable-rate securities generally are subject to limitations on annual and lifetime interest rate increases. We anticipate that investments in mortgage-backed securities may continue to be used in the future to supplement mortgage-lending activities. Mortgage-backed securities are more liquid than individual mortgage loans and may be used more easily to collateralize our obligations, including collateralizing of the governmental deposits of the Bank.

The following table sets forth our available for sale mortgage-backed securities purchases, sales and principal repayments for the years indicated:

	<u>For the years ended December 31,</u>		
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
	<i>(In thousands)</i>		
Balance at beginning of year	\$ 523,849	\$ 557,953	\$ 509,650
Purchases of mortgage-backed securities	308,078	128,001	196,405
Amortization of unearned premium, net of accretion of unearned discount	(4,100)	(3,145)	(1,419)
Net change in unrealized gains (losses) on mortgage-backed securities available for sale	7,111	12,159	(5,575)
Net realized gains (losses) recorded on mortgage-backed securities carried at fair value	23	2	(89)
Sales of mortgage-backed securities	(220,971)	(26,448)	(67,047)
Principal repayments received on mortgage-backed securities	(209,530)	(144,673)	(73,972)
Net increase (decrease) in mortgage-backed securities	<u>(119,389)</u>	<u>(34,104)</u>	<u>48,303</u>
Balance at end of year	<u>\$ 404,460</u>	<u>\$ 523,849</u>	<u>\$ 557,953</u>

While mortgage-backed securities carry a reduced credit risk as compared to whole loans, such securities remain subject to the risk that a fluctuating interest rate environment, along with other factors such as the geographic distribution of the underlying mortgage loans, may alter the prepayment rate of such mortgage loans and so affect both the prepayment speed and value of such securities.

The table below sets forth certain information regarding the amortized cost, fair value, annualized weighted average yields and maturities of our investment in debt and equity securities and interest-earning deposits at December 31, 2020. The stratification of balances is based on stated maturities. Assumptions for repayments and prepayments are not reflected for mortgage-backed securities. Securities available for sale are carried at their fair value in the consolidated financial statements and securities held-to-maturity are carried at their amortized cost.

	One year or Less		One to Five Years		Five to Ten Years		More than Ten Years		Total Securities			
	Amortized Cost	Weighted Average Yield	Amortized Cost	Weighted Average Yield	Amortized Cost	Weighted Average Yield	Amortized Cost	Weighted Average Yield	Average Remaining Years to Maturity	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Weighted Average Yield
<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>												
Securities held-to-maturity												
Bonds and other debt securities:												
Municipal securities ⁽¹⁾	\$ —	— %	\$ —	— %	\$ —	— %	\$ 50,825	3.28 %	24.73	\$ 50,825	\$ 54,538	3.28 %
Total bonds and other debt securities	—	—	—	—	—	—	50,825	3.28	24.73	50,825	54,538	3.28
Mortgage-backed securities:												
FNMA	—	—	—	—	—	—	7,914	3.30	12.34	7,914	8,991	3.30
Total mortgage-backed securities	—	—	—	—	—	—	7,914	3.30	12.34	7,914	8,991	3.30
Securities available for sale												
Bonds and other debt securities:												
US govt. and agencies	—	—	—	—	—	—	6,452	1.75	21.94	6,452	6,453	1.75
Corporate debentures	—	—	45,000	1.09	85,000	0.83	—	—	5.90	130,000	123,865	0.92
CLO	—	—	—	—	53,731	1.94	46,830	1.90	9.67	100,561	99,198	1.92
Total bonds and other debt securities	—	—	45,000	1.09	138,731	1.26	53,282	1.88	7.94	237,013	229,516	1.37
Mutual funds	12,703	1.77	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12,703	12,703	1.77
Equity securities:												
Common stock	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,295	2.35	—	1,295	1,295	2.35
Total equity securities	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,295	2.35	—	1,295	1,295	2.35
Mortgage-backed securities:												
REMIC and CMO	—	—	—	—	—	—	175,142	2.37	30.13	175,142	180,877	2.37
GNMA	—	—	—	—	217	7.30	12,792	2.20	28.66	13,009	13,053	2.28
FNMA	8,602	3.85	12,868	2.94	—	—	121,684	2.55	19.92	143,154	146,169	2.67
FHLMC	—	—	—	—	—	—	63,796	2.45	26.06	63,796	64,361	2.45
Total mortgage-backed securities	8,602	3.85	12,868	2.94	217	7.30	373,414	2.44	25.73	395,101	404,460	2.49
Interest-earning deposits												
Total	\$ 133,683	0.08 %	\$ 57,868	1.50 %	\$ 138,948	1.27 %	\$ 486,730	2.48 %	19.01	\$ 133,683	\$ 133,683	0.08 %
	\$ 154,988	0.43 %	\$ 57,868	1.50 %	\$ 138,948	1.27 %	\$ 486,730	2.48 %	19.01	\$ 838,534	\$ 845,186	1.85 %

(1) Does not include allowance for credit losses totaling \$0.9 million.

Sources of Funds

General. Deposits, FHLB-NY borrowings, other borrowings, repurchase agreements, principal and interest payments on loans, mortgage-backed and other securities, and proceeds from sales of loans and securities are our primary sources of funds for lending, investing and other general purposes.

Deposits. We offer a variety of deposit accounts having a range of interest rates and terms. Our deposits primarily consist of savings accounts, money market accounts, demand accounts, NOW accounts and certificates of deposit. We have a relatively stable retail deposit base drawn from our market area through our 25 full-service offices. We seek to retain existing depositor relationships by offering quality service and competitive interest rates, while keeping deposit growth within reasonable limits. It is management's intention to balance its goal to maintain competitive interest rates on deposits while seeking to manage its cost of funds to finance its strategies.

In addition to our full-service offices we operate the Internet Branch and a government banking unit. The Internet Branch currently offers savings accounts, money market accounts, checking accounts, and certificates of deposit. This allows us to compete on a national scale without the geographical constraints of physical locations. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, total deposits at our Internet Branch were \$221.7 million and \$314.0 million, respectively. The government banking unit provides banking services to public municipalities, including counties, cities, towns, villages, school districts, libraries, fire districts, and the various courts throughout the New York City metropolitan area. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, total deposits in our government banking unit totaled \$1,615.4 million and \$1,265.1 million, respectively.

Our core deposits, consisting of savings accounts, NOW accounts, money market accounts, and non-interest bearing demand accounts, are typically more stable and lower costing than other sources of funding. However, the flow of deposits into a particular type of account is influenced significantly by general economic conditions, changes in prevailing interest rates, and competition. We experienced an increase in our due to depositors' during 2020 of \$1.1 billion, primarily due to deposits acquired in the merger with Empire. During the year ended December 31, 2020, the cost of our interest-bearing due to depositors' accounts decreased 100 basis points to 0.94% from 1.94% for the year ended December 31, 2019. The decrease in the cost of deposits was primarily due to the Company's quick response to the Federal Reserve lowering rates. While we are unable to predict the direction of future interest rate changes, if interest rates would rise during 2021, the result could be an increase in our cost of deposits, which could reduce our net interest margin. Similarly, if interest rates remain at their current level or decline in 2021, we could see a decline in our cost of deposits, which could increase our net interest margin.

Included in deposits are certificates of deposit with balances of \$100,000 or more (excluding brokered deposits issued in \$1,000 amounts under a master certificate of deposit) totaling \$693.0 million, \$807.1 million and \$862.4 million at December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

We utilize brokered deposits as an additional funding source and to assist in the management of our interest rate risk. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, we had \$1,074.1 million and \$388.8 million, respectively, classified as brokered deposits. We have obtained brokered certificates of deposit when the interest rate on these deposits is below the prevailing interest rate for non-brokered certificates of deposit with similar maturities in our market, or when obtaining them allowed us to extend the maturities of our deposits at favorable rates compared to borrowing funds with similar maturities, when we are seeking to extend the maturities of our funding to assist in the management of our interest rate risk. Brokered certificates of deposit provide a large deposit for us at a lower operating cost as compared to non-brokered certificates of deposit since we only have one account to maintain versus several accounts with multiple interest and maturity checks. The Depository Trust Company is used as the clearing house, maintaining each deposit under the name of CEDE & Co. These deposits are transferable just like a stock or bond investment and the customer can open the account with only a phone call, just like buying a stock or bond. Unlike non-brokered certificates of deposit, where the deposit amount can be withdrawn with a penalty for any reason, including increasing interest rates, a brokered certificate of deposit can only be withdrawn in the event of the death, or court declared mental incompetence, of the depositor. This allows us to better manage the maturity of our deposits and our interest rate risk. At times, we also utilized brokers to obtain money market deposits. The rate we pay on brokered money market accounts is similar to the rate we pay on non-brokered money market accounts, and the rate is agreed to in a contract between the Bank and the broker. These accounts are similar to brokered certificates of deposit accounts in that we only maintain one account for the total deposit per broker, with the broker maintaining the detailed records of each depositor.

We also offer access to FDIC insurance coverage in excess of \$250,000 through a Certificate of Deposit Account Registry Service ("CDARS®") and through an Insured Cash Sweep service ("ICS"). CDARS® and ICS are deposit placement services. These networks arrange for placement of funds into certificate of deposit accounts, demand accounts or money market accounts issued by other member banks of the network in increments of less than \$250,000 to ensure that both principal and interest are eligible for full FDIC deposit insurance. This allows us to accept deposits in excess of \$250,000 from a depositor, and place the deposits through the network to other member banks to provide full FDIC deposit insurance coverage. We may receive deposits from other member banks in exchange for the deposits we place into the network. We may also obtain deposits from other network member banks without placing deposits into the network. We will obtain deposits in this manner primarily as a short-term funding source. We also can place deposits with other member banks without receiving deposits from other member banks. Depositors are allowed to withdraw funds, with a penalty, from these accounts at one or more of the member banks that hold the deposits. Additionally, we place a portion of our government deposits in ICS money market and demand accounts which does not require us to provide collateral. This allows us to invest our funds in higher yielding assets. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, the Bank held ICS deposits totaling \$1,338.1 million and \$949.8 million, respectively, of which \$720.1 million and \$145.0 million, respectively, were classified as brokered deposits.

The following table sets forth the distribution of our deposit accounts at the dates indicated and the weighted average nominal interest rates on each category of deposits presented.

	At December 31,								
	2020			2019			2018		
	Amount	Percent of Total Deposits	Weighted Average Nominal Rate	Amount	Percent of Total Deposits	Weighted Average Nominal Rate	Amount	Percent of Total Deposits	Weighted Average Nominal Rate
	<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>								
Savings accounts	\$ 168,183	2.74 %	0.18 %	\$ 191,485	3.78 %	0.67 %	\$ 210,022	4.23 %	0.72 %
NOW accounts ⁽¹⁾	2,323,172	37.86	0.28	1,365,591	26.95	1.47	1,300,852	26.22	1.53
Demand accounts ⁽²⁾	778,672	12.69	0.00	435,072	8.59	—	413,747	8.34	—
Mortgagors' escrow deposits	45,622	0.74	0.02	44,375	0.88	0.28	44,861	0.90	0.23
Total	<u>3,315,649</u>	<u>54.03</u>	<u>0.21</u>	<u>2,036,523</u>	<u>40.20</u>	<u>1.05</u>	<u>1,969,482</u>	<u>39.70</u>	<u>1.10</u>
Money market accounts ⁽³⁾	<u>1,682,345</u>	<u>27.42</u>	<u>0.50</u>	<u>1,592,011</u>	<u>31.42</u>	<u>1.87</u>	<u>1,427,992</u>	<u>28.79</u>	<u>1.93</u>
Certificate of deposit accounts with original maturities of:									
Less than 6 Months ⁽⁴⁾	113,537	1.85	0.05	140,939	2.78	1.86	67,472	1.36	2.05
6 to less than 12 Months ⁽⁵⁾	349,621	5.70	0.48	257,408	5.08	1.85	72,928	1.47	2.25
12 to less than 30 Months ⁽⁶⁾	523,815	8.54	1.01	779,964	15.39	2.36	1,003,206	20.22	2.07
30 to less than 48 Months ⁽⁷⁾	37,250	0.61	2.44	117,028	2.31	2.24	126,041	2.54	2.16
48 to less than 72 Months ⁽⁸⁾	84,970	1.38	2.51	113,622	2.24	2.27	264,237	5.33	2.08
72 Months or more ⁽⁹⁾	29,168	0.46	3.17	28,929	0.57	3.13	29,426	0.59	3.07
Total certificate of deposit accounts	<u>1,138,361</u>	<u>18.55</u>	<u>0.97</u>	<u>1,437,890</u>	<u>28.38</u>	<u>2.22</u>	<u>1,563,310</u>	<u>31.51</u>	<u>2.10</u>
Total deposits ⁽¹⁰⁾	<u>\$ 6,136,355</u>	<u>100.00 %</u>	<u>0.43 %</u>	<u>\$ 5,066,424</u>	<u>100.00 %</u>	<u>1.64 %</u>	<u>\$ 4,960,784</u>	<u>100.00 %</u>	<u>1.65 %</u>

- (1) Includes brokered deposits of \$720.1 million at December 31, 2020.
- (2) Includes brokered deposits of \$2.1 million and \$145.0 million at December 31, 2020 and 2019. There were no brokered deposits in this category at December 31, 2018.
- (3) Includes brokered deposits of \$102.9 million in this category at December 31, 2020. There were no brokered deposits in this category at December 31, 2019 and 2018.
- (4) Includes brokered deposits of \$116.5 million, \$138.3 million and \$65.6 million at December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.
- (5) Includes brokered deposits of \$20.0 million at December 31, 2020. There were no brokered deposits in this category at December 31, 2019 and 2018.
- (6) Includes brokered deposits of \$77.8 million, \$31.1 million and \$116.9 million at December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.
- (7) Includes brokered deposits of \$25.4 million, \$49.7 million and \$54.4 million at December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.
- (8) Includes brokered deposits of \$9.3 million, \$24.6 million and \$64.7 million at December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.
- (9) Includes brokered deposits of \$0.1 million in December 31, 2018.
- (10) Include in the above balances are IRA and Keogh deposits totaling \$59.6 million, \$68.8 million and \$68.5 million at December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

The following table presents by various rate categories, the amount of time deposit accounts outstanding at the dates indicated, and the years to maturity of the certificate accounts outstanding at the periods indicated:

Interest rate:	At December 31, 2020					
	At December 31,			Within	One to	
	2020	2019	2018	One Year	Three Years	Thereafter
	<i>(In thousands)</i>					
1.99% or less ⁽¹⁾	\$ 949,274	\$ 530,707	\$ 535,127	\$ 801,161	\$ 137,479	\$ 10,634
2.00% to 2.99% ⁽²⁾	131,239	847,804	971,812	93,379	32,453	5,407
3.00% to 3.99%	57,848	59,379	56,371	28,695	27,281	1,872
Total	<u>\$ 1,138,361</u>	<u>\$ 1,437,890</u>	<u>\$ 1,563,310</u>	<u>\$ 923,235</u>	<u>\$ 197,213</u>	<u>\$ 17,913</u>

- (1) Includes brokered deposits of \$213.6 million, \$153.7 million and \$76.8 million at December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.
- (2) Includes brokered deposits of \$35.4 million, \$90.0 million and \$224.9 million at December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

The following table presents by remaining maturity categories the amount of certificate of deposit accounts with balances of \$100,000 or more at December 31, 2020 and their annualized weighted average interest rates.

Maturity Period:	Amount	Weighted Average Rate
	<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	
Three months or less	\$ 311,693	0.92 %
Over three through six months	119,962	0.72
Over six through 12 months	162,250	0.98
Over 12 months	99,047	1.57
Total	<u>\$ 692,952</u>	<u>0.99 %</u>

The above table does not include brokered deposits issued in \$1,000 amounts under a master certificate of deposit totaling \$162.5 million with a weighted average rate of 0.64%.

The following table presents the deposit activity, including mortgagors' escrow deposits, for the periods indicated.

	For the year ended December 31,		
	2020	2019	2018
<i>(In thousands)</i>			
Net deposits	\$ 342,126	\$ 17,322	\$ 512,558
Acquired in Empire acquisition	685,393	—	—
Amortization of premiums, net	100	261	451
Interest on deposits	42,312	88,057	64,497
Net increase in deposits	<u>\$ 1,069,931</u>	<u>\$ 105,640</u>	<u>\$ 577,506</u>

The following table sets forth the distribution of our average deposit accounts for the years indicated, the percentage of total deposit portfolio, and the average interest cost of each deposit category presented. Average balances for all years shown are derived from daily balances.

	At December 31,								
	2020			2019			2018		
	Average Balance	Percent of Total Deposits	Average Cost	Average Balance	Percent of Total Deposits	Average Cost	Average Balance	Percent of Total Deposits	Average Cost
<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>									
Savings accounts	\$ 176,443	2.74 %	0.28 %	\$ 198,374	3.96 %	0.69 %	\$ 233,392	4.93 %	0.59 %
NOW accounts	1,603,402	37.86	0.58	1,434,440	28.61	1.64	1,407,945	29.73	1.13
Demand accounts	583,235	12.69	—	407,450	8.13	—	380,889	8.04	—
Mortgagors' escrow deposits	70,829	0.74	0.06	70,209	1.40	0.33	66,255	1.40	0.32
Total	<u>2,433,909</u>	<u>54.03</u>	<u>0.40</u>	<u>2,110,473</u>	<u>42.10</u>	<u>1.19</u>	<u>2,088,481</u>	<u>44.10</u>	<u>0.84</u>
Money market accounts	1,561,496	27.42	0.92	1,370,038	27.33	2.03	1,164,505	24.59	1.61
Certificate of deposit accounts	1,167,865	18.55	1.55	1,532,440	30.57	2.29	1,483,026	31.31	1.91
Total deposits	<u>\$ 5,163,270</u>	<u>100.00 %</u>	<u>0.82 %</u>	<u>\$ 5,012,951</u>	<u>100.00 %</u>	<u>1.76 %</u>	<u>\$ 4,736,012</u>	<u>100.00 %</u>	<u>1.36 %</u>

Borrowings. Although deposits are our primary source of funds, we also use borrowings as an alternative and cost effective source of funds for lending, investing and other general purposes. The Bank is a member of, and is eligible to obtain advances from, the FHLB-NY. Such advances generally are secured by a blanket lien against the Bank's mortgage portfolio and the Bank's investment in the stock of the FHLB-NY. In addition, the Bank may pledge mortgage-backed securities to obtain advances from the FHLB-NY. See "— Regulation — Federal Home Loan Bank System." The maximum amount that the FHLB-NY will advance fluctuates from time to time in accordance with the policies of the FHLB-NY. The Bank may also enter into repurchase agreements with broker-dealers and the FHLB-NY. These agreements are recorded as financing transactions and the obligations to repurchase are reflected as a liability in our consolidated financial statements. In addition, we issued junior subordinated debentures with a total par of \$61.9 million in 2007. These junior subordinated debentures are carried at fair value in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Condition. In 2016, the Company issued subordinated debt with an aggregated principal amount of \$75.0 million, receiving net proceeds totaling \$73.4 million. The subordinated debt was issued at 5.25% fixed-to-floating rate maturing in 2026. The debt is callable at par quarterly through its maturity date beginning December 15, 2021.

The Company uses interest rate swaps on borrowings to help mitigate the impact interest rate increases have on our cost of funds. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, the Company had forward interest rate swaps on borrowings totaling \$1,021.5 million and \$541.5 million, respectively. For the year ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, the interest rate swaps on borrowings had an average cost of 2.05% and 2.21%, respectively.

The average cost of borrowings was 1.97%, 2.31% and 2.16% for the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively. The average balances of borrowings were \$1,361.6 million, \$1,251.5 million and \$1,162.4 million for the same years, respectively.

The following table sets forth certain information regarding our borrowings at or for the periods ended on the dates indicated.

	At or for the years ended December 31,		
	2020	2019	2018
	<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>		
<u>FHLB-NY Advances</u>			
Average balance outstanding	\$ 1,147,364	\$ 1,133,025	\$ 1,046,504
Maximum amount outstanding at any month end during the period	1,498,059	1,334,304	1,137,318
Balance outstanding at the end of period	797,201	1,118,528	1,134,994
Weighted average interest rate during the period	1.87 %	2.06 %	1.77 %
Weighted average interest rate at end of period	0.56	1.85	2.09
<u>Other Borrowings</u>			
Average balance outstanding	\$ 214,195	\$ 118,427	\$ 115,925
Maximum amount outstanding at any month end during the period	419,715	152,224	115,849
Balance outstanding at the end of period	223,694	118,703	115,849
Weighted average interest rate during the period	6.18 %	4.74 %	5.66 %
Weighted average interest rate at end of period	2.78	5.06	5.59
<u>Total Borrowings</u>			
Average balance outstanding	\$ 1,361,559	\$ 1,251,452	\$ 1,162,429
Maximum amount outstanding at any month end during the period	1,617,582	1,452,490	1,250,843
Balance outstanding at the end of period	1,020,895	1,237,231	1,250,843
Weighted average interest rate during the period	1.97 %	2.31 %	2.16 %
Weighted average interest rate at end of period	1.05	2.16	2.41

Subsidiary Activities

At December 31, 2020, the Holding Company had four wholly owned subsidiaries: the Bank and the Trusts. In addition, the Bank had three wholly owned subsidiaries: FSB Properties Inc., Flushing Preferred Funding Corporation (“FPFC”), and Flushing Service Corporation.

- FSB Properties Inc., which is incorporated in the State of New York, was formed in 1976 with the original purpose of engaging in joint venture real estate equity investments. These activities were discontinued in 1986 and no joint venture property remains. FSB Properties Inc. is currently used solely to hold title to real estate owned that is obtained via foreclosure.
- Flushing Preferred Funding Corporation, which is incorporated in the State of Delaware, was formed in 1997 as a real estate investment trust for the purpose of acquiring, holding and managing real estate mortgage assets. It also is available as an additional vehicle for access by the Company to the capital markets for future opportunities.
- Flushing Service Corporation, which is incorporated in the State of New York, was formed in 1998 to market insurance products and mutual funds.

Human Capital

At December 31, 2020, we had 510 full-time employees and 20 part-time employees. None of our employees are represented by a collective bargaining unit, and we consider our relationship with our employees to be good. At the present time, the Holding Company only employs certain officers of the Bank. These employees do not receive any extra compensation as officers of the Holding Company.

Oversight & Governance. Our Board of Directors and Board committees provide oversight on certain human capital matters, including our Inclusion and Diversity program and initiatives. The Board of Directors is responsible for discussing evaluating and reviewing regular updates from management with regard to human capital matters. Our Board of Directors is comprised of diverse cultures ethnicity, and gender.

Learning and Development. The Company believes that it must find, develop and retain its employees. The Company invests in its employees by providing quality training and learning opportunities, promoting inclusion and diversity and upholding a high standard of ethics and respect for human rights.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion. The Company is responsible for creating an equitable workplace ensuring diversity at the management and board levels. We pride ourselves on establishing a diverse workforce that serves our diverse customer base in the New York City metro area. At December 31, 2020, our employees were able to speak more than 20 different languages.

Total Rewards. The Company believes that our future success largely depends upon our continued ability to attract and retain highly skilled employees. We provide our employees with a rich total rewards program which includes:

- Competitive base salaries;
- Incentive bonus opportunities;
- Equity ownership;
- 401(k) plan;
- Healthcare and other insurance programs,
- Health savings and flexible spending accounts
- Paid time off;
- Family leave;
- Employee assistance program and,
- Tuition assistance.

Omnibus Incentive Plan

The 2014 Omnibus Incentive Plan (“2014 Omnibus Plan”) became effective on May 20, 2014 after adoption by the Board of Directors and approval by the stockholders. The 2014 Omnibus Plan authorizes the Compensation Committee of the Company’s Board of Directors (the “Compensation Committee”) to grant a variety of equity compensation awards as well as long-term and annual cash incentive awards. The 2014 Omnibus Plan authorizes the issuance of 1,100,000 shares. To the extent that an award under the 2014 Omnibus Plan is cancelled, expired, forfeited, settled in cash, settled by issuance of fewer shares than the number underlying the award, or otherwise terminated without delivery of shares to a participant in payment of the exercise price or taxes relating to an award, the shares retained by or returned to the Company will be available for future issuance under the 2014 Omnibus Plan. On May 31, 2017, stockholders approved an amendment to the 2014 Omnibus Plan (the “Amendment”) authorizing an additional 672,000 shares available for future issuance. In addition, to increasing the number of shares for future grants, the Amendment eliminated, in the case of stock options and SARs, the ability to recycle shares used to satisfy the exercise price or taxes for such awards. No other amendments to the 2014 Omnibus Plan were made. Including the additional shares authorized from the Amendment, 324,738 shares are available for future issuance under the 2014 Omnibus Plan at December 31, 2020.

For additional information concerning this plan, see “Note 12 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements” in Item 8 of this Annual Report.

REGULATION

General

The Bank is a New York State-chartered commercial bank and its deposit accounts are insured under the Deposit Insurance Fund (the “DIF”) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (the “FDIC”) up to applicable legal limits. The Bank is subject to extensive regulation and supervision by the New York State Department of Financial Services (“NYDFS”), as its chartering agency, by the FDIC, as its insurer of deposits, and to a lesser extent by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (the “CFPB”), which was created under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the “Dodd-Frank Act”) in 2011 to implement and enforce consumer protection laws applying to banks. The Bank must file reports with the NYDFS, the FDIC, and the CFPB concerning its activities and financial condition, in addition to obtaining regulatory approvals prior to entering into certain transactions such as mergers with, or acquisitions of, other depository institutions. Furthermore, the Bank is periodically examined by the NYDFS and the FDIC to assess compliance with various regulatory requirements, including safety and soundness considerations. This regulation and supervision establishes a comprehensive framework of activities in which a commercial bank can engage, and is intended primarily for the protection of the insurance fund and depositors. The regulatory structure also gives the regulatory authorities extensive discretion in connection with its supervisory and enforcement activities and examination policies, including policies with respect to the classification of assets and the establishment of adequate loan loss allowances for regulatory purposes. Any change in such regulation, whether by the NYDFS, the FDIC, or through legislation, could have a material adverse impact on the Company, the Bank and its operations, and the Company’s shareholders. While the regulatory environment has entered a period of rebalancing of the post financial crisis framework, we expect that our business will remain subject to extensive regulation and supervision.

The Company is required to file certain reports under, and otherwise comply with, the rules and regulations of the Federal Reserve Board of Governors (the “FRB”), the FDIC, the NYDFS, and the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) under federal securities laws. In addition, the FRB periodically examines the Company. Certain of the regulatory requirements applicable to the Bank and the Company are referred to below or elsewhere herein. However, such discussion is not meant to be a complete explanation of all laws and regulations and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the actual laws and regulations.

The CARES Act

On March 27, 2020, the President of the United States signed into law the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (the “CARES Act”) in response to the coronavirus pandemic. This legislation aims at providing relief for individuals and businesses that have been negatively impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. On December 27, 2020, the CAA was signed into law, providing for, among other things, further suspension of the exception for loan modifications to not be classified as TDR if certain criteria are met, as described below. The CARES Act includes a provision for the Company to opt out of applying the TDR accounting guidance in Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) 310-40 for certain loan modifications. Loan modifications made between March 1, 2020 and the earlier of i) December 31, 2020 or ii) 60 days after the President declares a termination of the COVID-19 national emergency are eligible for this relief if the related loans were not more than 30 days past due as of December 31, 2019. The CARES Act includes the Paycheck Protection Program (“PPP”), a program to aid small and medium-sized businesses through federally guaranteed loans distributed through banks. These loans are intended to guarantee eight weeks of payroll and other costs to help those businesses remain viable and allow their workers to pay their bills.

Impact of COVID-19

Overview

In March 2020, the World Health Organization recognized the outbreak of the novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) as a pandemic. The Spread of COVID-19 has created a global public health crisis that has resulted in unprecedented uncertainty, volatility and disruption in financial markets and in governmental, commercial and consumer activity in the United States and globally, including the markets we serve. In response to the pandemic, the government placed orders for shelter in place, maintaining social distancing and closed businesses that are not deemed essential.

During these tumultuous times, we are actively assisting our customers by providing short-term forbearances in the form of deferrals of interest, principal and/or escrow for terms ranging from one to twelve months. At December 31, 2020, we had 134 active forbearances for loans with an aggregate outstanding loan balance of approximately \$364.4 million resulting in total deferment of \$23.6 million in principal, interest and escrow. Given the pandemic and current economic environment, we continue to work with our customers to modify loans. We actively participated in the PPP, closing \$111.6 million of these loans through December 31, 2020. We are one of nine banks in the State of New York participating in the Main Street Lending Program. We are also a proud participant in the FHLB NY Small Business Recovery Grant Program, helping our customers and communities navigate through the current environment.

Impact on Our Financial Statements and Results of operations

Financial institutions are dependent upon the ability of their loan customers to meet their loan obligations and the availability of their workforce and vendors. Early in the second quarter of 2020, shelter-at-home mandates and other remediation from the COVID-19 pandemic were enacted. The pandemic and these remediation measures have directly impacted the communities we serve, where commercial activity decreased significantly. As of December 31, 2020, that commercial activity had improved but not returned to pre-pandemic levels. This continuing impact on commercial activity may have continuing adverse results, including on our customers' ability to meet their obligations to us.

In addition, the economic pressures and uncertainties related to the COVID-19 pandemic have resulted in changes in consumer spending behaviors in the communities we serve, which may negatively impact the demand for loans and other services we offer. However, the Company's capital and financial resources have not been materially impacted by the pandemic, as our results of operations depend primarily on net interest income, which benefited from the actions taken by the Federal Reserve to counteract the negative economic impact of the pandemic. Future operating results and near-and-long-term financial condition are subject to significant uncertainty. Our funding sources have not changed significantly and we expect to continue to be able to timely service our debts and its obligations.

The Company has elected that loans temporarily modified for borrowers directly impacted by COVID-19 are not considered TDR, assuming that CARES Act criteria is met and as such, these loans are considered current and continue to accrue interest at its original contractual terms. The Company was quick to respond to the pandemic with new health and safety measures, including social distancing, appointment banking and expansion of our remote capabilities. Our staff responded to these changes in a superb fashion and continue to provide our customers with excellent service. Today our staff is returning to work with A and B schedules to maintain social distancing. On any given day, as many as 85% of staff have the capability to work from home.

The Dodd-Frank Act

The Dodd-Frank Act has significantly impacted the current bank regulatory structure and is expected to continue to affect, into the immediate future, the lending and investment activities and general operations of depository institutions and their holding companies. In addition to creating the CFPB, the Dodd-Frank Act requires the FRB to establish minimum consolidated capital requirements for bank holding companies that are as stringent as those required for insured depository institutions; the components of Tier 1 capital will be restricted to capital instruments that are currently considered to be Tier 1 capital for insured depository institutions. In addition, the proceeds of trust preferred securities will be excluded from Tier 1 capital unless (i) such securities are issued by bank holding companies with assets of less than \$500 million, or (ii) such securities were issued prior to May 19, 2010 by bank or savings and loan holding companies with assets of less than \$15 billion. The Dodd-Frank Act created a new supervisory structure for oversight of the U.S. financial system, including the establishment of a new council of regulators, the Financial Stability Oversight Council, to monitor and address systemic risks to the financial system. Non-bank financial companies that are deemed to be significant to the stability of the U.S. financial system and all bank holding companies with \$50 billion or more in total consolidated assets will be subject to heightened supervision and regulation. The FRB will implement prudential requirements and prompt corrective action procedures for such companies.

The Dodd-Frank Act made many additional changes in banking regulation, including: authorizing depository institutions, for the first time, to pay interest on business checking accounts; requiring originators of securitized loans to

retain a percentage of the risk for transferred loans; establishing regulatory rate-setting for certain debit card interchange fees; and establishing a number of reforms for mortgage lending and consumer protection.

The Dodd-Frank Act also broadened the base for FDIC insurance assessments not to be based on deposits, but on the average consolidated total assets less the tangible equity capital of an insured institution. The Dodd-Frank Act also permanently increased the maximum amount of deposit insurance for banks, savings institutions, and credit unions to \$250,000 per depositor.

Some of the provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act are not yet in effect. The Dodd-Frank Act requires various federal agencies to promulgate numerous and extensive implementing regulations over the next several years.

Basel III

On January 1, 2015, the Company and the Bank became subject to a new comprehensive capital framework for U.S. banking organizations that was issued by the FDIC and FRB in July 2013 (the “Basel III Capital Rules”), subject to phase-in periods for certain components and other provisions. Under the Basel III Capital Rules, the minimum capital ratios effective as of January 1, 2015 are:

- 4.5% Common Equity Tier 1 (“CET1”) to risk-weighted assets;
- 6.0% Tier 1 capital that is CET1 plus Additional Tier 1 capital) to risk-weighted assets;
- 8.0% Total Capital that is, Tier 1 capital plus Tier 2 capital) to risk-weighted assets; and
- 4.0% Tier 1 capital to average consolidated assets as reported on consolidated financial statements (known as the “leverage ratio”).

The Basel III Capital Rules also introduced a “capital conservation buffer,” composed entirely of CET1, on top of these minimum risk-weighted asset ratios. The capital conservation buffer currently is 2.5%. Banking institutions with a ratio of CET1 to risk-weighted assets below the effective minimum (4.5% plus the capital conservation buffer) will face constraints on dividends, equity repurchases and compensation based on the amount of the shortfall. As of December 31, 2020, the Company and the Bank meet all capital adequacy requirements under the Basel III Capital Rules.

Together with the FDIC, the Federal Reserve has issued proposed rules that would simplify the capital treatment of certain capital deductions and adjustments, and the final phase-in period for these capital deductions and adjustments has been indefinitely delayed. In addition, in December 2018, the federal banking agencies finalized rules that would permit bank holding companies and banks to phase-in, for regulatory capital purposes, the day-one impact of the new current expected credit loss accounting rule on retained earnings over a period of three years.

Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act

The Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act (The “Economic Growth Act”), which was signed into law on May 24, 2018, scales back certain requirements of the Dodd-Frank Act and provides other regulatory relief. Title II of the Economic Growth Act provides regulatory relief to community banks, which are generally characterized in the statute as banking organizations with less than \$10 billion in total consolidated assets and with limited trading activities. The Economic Growth Act required the federal banking agencies to develop a “community bank leverage ratio” (the ratio of a bank’s tangible equity capital to average total consolidated assets) for financial institutions with assets of less than \$10 billion. A financial institution can elect to be subject to this new definition. The federal banking agencies, including the FDIC, have issued a rule pursuant to the Economic Growth Act to establish for institutions with assets of less than \$10 billion a “community bank leverage ratio” (the ratio of a bank’s tier 1 capital to average total consolidated assets) of 8% that such institutions may elect to use in lieu of the generally applicable leverage and risk-based capital requirements under Basel III. Pursuant to the CARES Act, the federal banking agencies in August 2020 issued a final rule to set the community bank leverage ratio at 8% beginning in the second calendar quarter of 2020 through the end of 2020.

Beginning in 2021, the community bank leverage ratio increased to 8.5% for the calendar year. Community banks will have until Jan. 1, 2022, before the community bank leverage ratio requirement will return to 9%. If an election to use the community bank leverage ratio capital framework is made, a bank with less than \$10 billion in assets with capital exceeding 8% will be considered compliant with all applicable regulatory capital and leverage requirements, including the requirement to be “well capitalized.” As of December 31, 2020, the Bank had elected not to be subject to this new definition. See “FDIC Regulations – Prompt Corrective Regulatory Action.”

The Truth in Lending Act (“TILA”) is the commonly used name for Title I of the Consumer Credit Protection Act, passed by Congress in 1968, which is the consumer protection law specifying what information lenders must share with borrowers before giving them a loan or line of credit. This information includes the annual percentage rate, loan terms, and total cost of the loan. Section 101 of the Economic Growth Act amends the TILA to add a safe harbor for “plain vanilla” mortgage loans originated by banking organizations and credit unions with less than \$10 billion in total consolidated assets under existing qualified mortgage and ability to pay rules. This amendment would allow community banks to exercise greater discretion in lending decisions.

Section 619 of the Dodd-Frank Act, commonly referred to as the “Volcker Rule,” generally prohibits insured depository institutions and any company affiliated with an insured depository institution from engaging in proprietary trading and from acquiring or retaining ownership interests in, sponsoring, or having certain relationships with a hedge fund or private equity fund. These prohibitions are subject to a number of statutory exemptions, restrictions, and definitions. Under the Economic Growth Act, community banks are now exempt from the Volcker Rule and its proprietary trading prohibitions.

New York State Law

The Bank derives its lending, investment, and other authority primarily from the applicable provisions of New York State Banking Law and the regulations of the NYDFS, as limited by FDIC regulations. Under these laws and regulations, banks, including the Bank, may invest in real estate mortgages, consumer and commercial loans, certain types of debt securities (including certain corporate debt securities, and obligations of federal, state, and local governments and agencies), certain types of corporate equity securities, and certain other assets. The lending powers of New York State-chartered commercial banks are not subject to percentage-of-assets or capital limitations, although there are limits applicable to loans to individual borrowers.

The exercise by an FDIC-insured commercial bank of the lending and investment powers under New York State Banking Law is limited by FDIC regulations and other federal laws and regulations. In particular, the applicable provisions of New York State Banking Law and regulations governing the investment authority and activities of an FDIC-insured state-chartered savings bank and commercial bank have been effectively limited by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Improvement Act of 1991 (“FDICIA”) and the FDIC regulations issued pursuant thereto.

With certain limited exceptions, a New York State-chartered commercial bank may not make loans or extend credit for commercial, corporate, or business purposes (including lease financing) to a single borrower, the aggregate amount of which would be in excess of 15% of the bank’s net worth or up to 25% for loans secured by collateral having an ascertainable market value at least equal to the excess of such loans over the bank’s net worth. The Bank currently complies with all applicable loans-to-one-borrower limitations. At December 31, 2020, the Bank’s largest aggregate amount of loans to one borrower was \$87.8 million, all of which were performing according to their terms. See “— General — Lending Activities.”

Under New York State Banking Law, New York State-chartered stock-form commercial banks may declare and pay dividends out of its net profits, unless there is an impairment of capital, but approval of the NYDFS Superintendent (the “Superintendent”) is required if the total of all dividends declared by the bank in a calendar year would exceed the total of its net profits for that year combined with its retained net profits for the preceding two years less prior dividends paid.

New York State Banking Law gives the Superintendent authority to issue an order to a New York State-chartered banking institution to appear and explain an apparent violation of law, to discontinue unauthorized or unsafe practices,

and to keep prescribed books and accounts. Upon a finding by the NYDFS that any director, trustee, or officer of any banking organization has violated any law, or has continued unauthorized or unsafe practices in conducting the business of the banking organization after having been notified by the Superintendent to discontinue such practices, such director, trustee, or officer may be removed from office after notice and opportunity to be heard. The Superintendent also has authority to appoint a conservator or a receiver for a savings or commercial bank under certain circumstances.

On February 16, 2017, the NYDFS issued the final version of its cybersecurity regulation, which has an effective date of March 1, 2017. The regulation, which is detailed and broad in scope, covers five basic areas.

Governance: The regulation requires senior management and boards of directors must adopt a cybersecurity policy for protecting information systems and most sensitive information. Covered companies must also designate a Chief Information Security Officer, who must report to the board annually. The cybersecurity policy was required to be in place, and the security officer designated, by August 28, 2017. Commencing September 4, 2018, we were required to have commenced mandatory annual reporting to the board by the Chief Information Security Officer concerning critical aspects of our cybersecurity program.

Testing: The regulation requires the conduct of cybersecurity tests and analyses, including a “risk assessment” to “evaluate and categorize risks,” evaluate the integrity and confidentiality of information systems and non-public information, and develop a process to mitigate any identified risks. These tests and assessments were required to be conducted by March 1, 2018.

Ongoing Requirements: The regulation imposes substantial day-to-day and technical requirements. Among others, we must develop and/or maintain access controls for our information systems, ensure the physical security of our computer systems, encrypt or protect personally identifiable information, perform reviews of in-house and externally created applications, train employees, and build an audit trail system. The timeline to ensure compliance with these rules ranges from one year to eighteen months.

Vendors: The new regulation also regulates third-party vendors with access to our information technology or non-public information. We will be required to develop and implement written policies and procedures to ensure the security of our information technology systems or non-public information that can be accessed by our vendors, including identifying the risks from third-party access, imposing minimum cybersecurity practices for vendors, and creating a due-diligence process for evaluating those vendors. We will have two years to satisfy these extensive requirements.

Reports: The new regulation imposes a notification process for any material cybersecurity event. Within 72 hours, a cybersecurity event that has a “reasonable likelihood” of “materially harming” us or that must be reported to another government or self-regulating agency must be reported to the NYDFS. In addition, an annual compliance certification to the NYDFS from either the board or a senior officer is required.

FDIC Regulations

Capital Requirements. The FDIC has adopted risk-based capital guidelines to which the Bank is subject. The guidelines establish a systematic analytical framework that makes regulatory capital requirements sensitive to differences in risk profiles among banking organizations. The Bank is required to maintain certain levels of regulatory capital in relation to regulatory risk-weighted assets. The ratio of such regulatory capital to regulatory risk-weighted assets is referred to as a “risk-based capital ratio.” Risk-based capital ratios are determined by allocating assets and specified off-balance-sheet items to risk-weighted categories ranging from 0% to 1250%, with higher levels of capital being required for the categories perceived as representing greater risk.

These guidelines divide an institution’s capital into two tiers. The first tier (“Tier 1”) includes common equity, retained earnings, certain non-cumulative perpetual preferred stock (excluding auction rate issues), and minority interests in equity accounts of consolidated subsidiaries, less goodwill and other intangible assets (except mortgage servicing rights and purchased credit card relationships subject to certain limitations). Supplementary (“Tier 2”) capital includes, among other items, cumulative perpetual and long-term limited-life preferred stock, mandatorily convertible securities, certain hybrid capital instruments, term subordinated debt, and the ALL, subject to certain limitations, and up to 45% of pre-tax

net unrealized gains on equity securities with readily determinable fair market values, less required deductions. See “Prompt Corrective Regulatory Action” below.

The regulatory capital regulations of the FDIC and other federal banking agencies provide that the agencies will take into account the exposure of an institution’s capital and economic value to changes in interest rate risk in assessing capital adequacy. According to such agencies, applicable considerations include the quality of the institution’s interest rate risk management process, overall financial condition, and the level of other risks at the institution for which capital is needed. Institutions with significant interest rate risk may be required to hold additional capital. The agencies have issued a joint policy statement providing guidance on interest rate risk management, including a discussion of the critical factors affecting the agencies’ evaluation of interest rate risk in connection with capital adequacy. Institutions that engage in specified amounts of trading activity may be subject to adjustments in the calculation of the risk-based capital requirement to assure sufficient additional capital to support market risk.

Standards for Safety and Soundness. Federal law requires each federal banking agency to prescribe, for the depository institutions under its jurisdiction, standards that relate to, among other things, internal controls; information and audit systems; loan documentation; credit underwriting; the monitoring of interest rate risk; asset growth; compensation; fees and benefits; and such other operational and managerial standards as the agency deems appropriate. The federal banking agencies adopted final regulations and Interagency Guidelines Establishing Standards for Safety and Soundness (the “Guidelines”) to implement these safety and soundness standards. The Guidelines set forth the safety and soundness standards that the federal banking agencies use to identify and address problems at insured depository institutions before capital becomes impaired. If the appropriate federal banking agency determines that an institution fails to meet any standard prescribed by the Guidelines, the agency may require the institution to provide it with an acceptable plan to achieve compliance with the standard, as required by the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, as amended, (the “FDI Act”). The final regulations establish deadlines for the submission and review of such safety and soundness compliance plans.

Real Estate Lending Standards. The FDIC and the other federal banking agencies have adopted regulations that prescribe standards for extensions of credit that are (i) secured by real estate, or (ii) made for the purpose of financing construction or improvements on real estate. The FDIC regulations require each institution to establish and maintain written internal real estate lending standards that are consistent with safe and sound banking practices, and appropriate to the size of the institution and the nature and scope of its real estate lending activities. The standards also must be consistent with accompanying FDIC guidelines, which include loan-to-value limitations for the different types of real estate loans. Institutions are also permitted to make a limited amount of loans that do not conform to the proposed loan-to-value limitations so long as such exceptions are reviewed and justified appropriately. The FDIC guidelines also list a number of lending situations in which exceptions to the loan-to-value standard are justified.

Dividend Limitations. The FDIC has authority to use its enforcement powers to prohibit a commercial bank from paying dividends if, in its opinion, the payment of dividends would constitute an unsafe or unsound practice. Federal law prohibits the payment of dividends that will result in the institution failing to meet applicable capital requirements on a pro forma basis. The Bank is also subject to dividend declaration restrictions imposed by New York State law as previously discussed under “New York State Law.”

Investment Activities. Since the enactment of FDICIA, all state-chartered financial institutions, including commercial banks and their subsidiaries, have generally been limited to such activities as principal and equity investments of the type, and in the amount, authorized for national banks. State law, FDICIA, and FDIC regulations permit certain exceptions to these limitations. In addition, the FDIC is authorized to permit institutions to engage in state-authorized activities or investments not permitted for national banks (other than non-subsidiary equity investments) for institutions that meet all applicable capital requirements if it is determined that such activities or investments do not pose a significant risk to the insurance fund. The Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act of 1999 (the “GLBA”) and FDIC regulations impose certain quantitative and qualitative restrictions on such activities and on a bank’s dealings with a subsidiary that engages in specified activities.

Prompt Corrective Regulatory Action. Federal law requires, among other things, that federal bank regulatory authorities take “prompt corrective action” with respect to institutions that do not meet minimum capital requirements. For

such purposes, the law establishes five capital tiers: well capitalized, adequately capitalized, undercapitalized, significantly undercapitalized, and critically undercapitalized.

Insurance of Deposit Accounts. The Dodd-Frank Act made permanent the standard maximum amount of FDIC deposit insurance at \$250,000 per depositor. In addition, the deposits of the Bank are insured up to applicable limits by the DIF. In this regard, insured depository institutions are required to pay quarterly deposit insurance assessments to the DIF. Under the FDIC's risk-based assessment system, insured institutions are assigned to one of four risk categories based upon supervisory evaluations, regulatory capital level, and certain other factors, with less risky institutions paying lower assessments based on the assigned risk levels. An institution's assessment rate depends upon the category to which it is assigned and certain other factors. Assessment rates range from 1.5 to 40 basis points of the institution's assessment base, which is calculated as average total assets minus average tangible equity.

Insurance of deposits may be terminated by the FDIC upon a finding that an institution has engaged in unsafe or unsound practices, is in an unsafe or unsound condition to continue operations, or has violated any applicable law, regulation, rule, order, or condition imposed by the FDIC. Management does not know of any practice, condition, or violation that would lead to termination of the deposit insurance for the Bank.

Transactions with Affiliates

Under current federal law, transactions between depository institutions and their affiliates are governed by Sections 23A and 23B of the Federal Reserve Act and the FRB's Regulation W promulgated thereunder. Generally, Section 23A limits the extent to which the institution or its subsidiaries may engage in "covered transactions" with any one affiliate to an amount equal to 10% of the institution's capital stock and surplus, and contains an aggregate limit on all such transactions with all affiliates to an amount equal to 20% of such capital stock and surplus. Section 23A also establishes specific collateral requirements for loans or extensions of credit to, or guarantees or acceptances on letters of credit issued on behalf of, an affiliate. Section 23B requires that covered transactions and a broad list of other specified transactions be on terms substantially the same as, or at least as favorable to, the institution or its subsidiary as similar transactions with non-affiliates.

The Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 generally prohibits loans by the Company to its executive officers and directors. However, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act contains a specific exemption for loans by an institution to its executive officers and directors in compliance with federal banking laws. Section 22(h) of the Federal Reserve Act, and FRB Regulation O adopted thereunder, governs loans by a savings bank or commercial bank to directors, executive officers, and principal shareholders. Under Section 22(h), loans to directors, executive officers, and shareholders who control, directly or indirectly, 10% or more of voting securities of an institution, and certain related interests of any of the foregoing, may not exceed, together with all other outstanding loans to such persons and affiliated entities, the institution's total capital and surplus. Section 22(h) also prohibits loans above amounts prescribed by the appropriate federal banking agency to directors, executive officers, and shareholders who control 10% or more of the voting securities of an institution, and its respective related interests, unless such loan is approved in advance by a majority of the board of the institution's directors. Any "interested" director may not participate in the voting. The loan amount (which includes all other outstanding loans to such person) as to which such prior board of director approval is required, is the greater of \$25,000 or 5% of capital and surplus or any loans aggregating over \$500,000. Further, pursuant to Section 22(h), loans to directors, executive officers, and principal shareholders must be made on terms substantially the same as those offered in comparable transactions to other persons. There is an exception for loans made pursuant to a benefit or compensation program that is widely available to all employees of the institution and does not give preference to executive officers over other employees. Section 22(g) of the Federal Reserve Act places additional limitations on loans to executive officers.

Community Reinvestment Act

Federal Regulation. Under the Community Reinvestment Act ("CRA"), as implemented by FDIC regulations, an institution has a continuing and affirmative obligation consistent with its safe and sound operation to help meet the credit needs of its entire community, including low and moderate income neighborhoods. The CRA does not establish specific lending requirements or programs for financial institutions, nor does it limit an institution's discretion to develop the types of products and services that it believes are best suited to its particular community, consistent with the CRA. The CRA

requires the FDIC, in connection with its examinations, to assess the institution's record of meeting the credit needs of its community and to take such record into account in its evaluation of certain applications by such institution. The CRA requires public disclosure of an institution's CRA rating and further requires the FDIC to provide a written evaluation of an institution's CRA performance utilizing a four-tiered descriptive rating system. The Bank received a CRA rating of "Outstanding" in its most recent completed CRA examination, which was completed as of June 25, 2018. Institutions that receive less than a satisfactory rating may face difficulties in securing approval for new activities or acquisitions. The CRA requires all institutions to make public disclosures of their CRA ratings.

New York State Regulation. The Bank is also subject to provisions of the New York State Banking Law that impose continuing and affirmative obligations upon a banking institution organized in New York State to serve the credit needs of its local community (the "NYCRA"). Such obligations are substantially similar to those imposed by the CRA. The NYCRA requires the NYDFS to make a periodic written assessment of an institution's compliance with the NYCRA, utilizing a four-tiered rating system, and to make such assessment available to the public. The NYCRA also requires the Superintendent to consider the NYCRA rating when reviewing an application to engage in certain transactions, including mergers, asset purchases, and the establishment of branch offices or ATMs, and provides that such assessment may serve as a basis for the denial of any such application.

Federal Home Loan Bank System

The Bank is a member of the FHLB-NY, one of 11 regional FHLBs comprising the FHLB system. Each regional FHLB manages its customer relationships, while the 11 FHLBs use its combined size and strength to obtain its necessary funding at the lowest possible cost. As a member of the FHLB-NY, the Bank is required to acquire and hold shares of FHLB-NY capital stock. Pursuant to this requirement, at December 31, 2020, the Bank was required to maintain \$43.4 million of FHLB-NY stock.

Holding Company Regulations

The Company is subject to examination, regulation, and periodic reporting under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended (the "BHCA"), as administered by the FRB. The Company is required to obtain the prior approval of the FRB to acquire all, or substantially all, of the assets of any bank or bank holding company. Prior FRB approval would be required for the Company to acquire direct or indirect ownership or control of any voting securities of any bank or bank holding company if, after giving effect to such acquisition, it would, directly or indirectly, own or control more than 5% of any class of voting shares of such bank or bank holding company. In addition before any bank acquisition can be completed, prior approval thereof may also be required to be obtained from other agencies having supervisory jurisdiction over the bank to be acquired, including the NYDFS.

FRB regulations generally prohibit a bank holding company from engaging in, or acquiring, direct or indirect control of more than 5% of the voting securities of any company engaged in non-banking activities. One of the principal exceptions to this prohibition is for activities found by the FRB to be so closely related to banking or managing or controlling Bank as to be a proper incident thereto. Some of the principal activities that the FRB has determined by regulation to be so closely related to banking are: (i) making or servicing loans; (ii) performing certain data processing services; (iii) providing discount brokerage services; (iv) acting as fiduciary, investment, or financial advisor; (v) leasing personal or real property; (vi) making investments in corporations or projects designed primarily to promote community welfare; and (vii) acquiring a savings and loan association.

The FRB has adopted capital adequacy guidelines for bank holding companies (on a consolidated basis). At December 31, 2020, the Company's consolidated capital exceeded these requirements. The Dodd-Frank Act required the FRB to issue consolidated regulatory capital requirements for bank holding companies that are at least as stringent as those applicable to insured depository institutions. Such regulations eliminated the use of certain instruments, such as cumulative preferred stock and trust preferred securities, as Tier 1 holding company capital.

Bank holding companies are generally required to give the FRB prior written notice of any purchase or redemption of its outstanding equity securities if the gross consideration for the purchase or redemption, when combined with the net consideration paid for all such purchases or redemptions during the preceding twelve months, is equal to 10%

or more of the Company's consolidated net worth. The FRB may disapprove such a purchase or redemption if it determines that the proposal would constitute an unsafe or unsound practice, or would violate any law, regulation, FRB order or directive, or any condition imposed by, or written agreement with, the FRB. The FRB has adopted an exception to this approval requirement for well-capitalized bank holding companies that meet certain other conditions.

The FRB has issued a policy statement regarding the payment of dividends by bank holding companies. In general, the FRB's policies provide that dividends should be paid only out of current earnings and only if the prospective rate of earnings retention by the bank holding company appears consistent with the organization's capital needs, asset quality, and overall financial condition. The FRB's policies also require that a bank holding company serve as a source of financial strength to its subsidiary banks by standing ready to use available resources to provide adequate capital funds to those banks during periods of financial stress or adversity, and by maintaining the financial flexibility and capital-raising capacity to obtain additional resources for assisting its subsidiary banks where necessary. The Dodd-Frank Act codifies the source of financial strength policy and requires regulations to facilitate its application. Under the prompt corrective action laws, the ability of a bank holding company to pay dividends may be restricted if a subsidiary bank becomes undercapitalized. These regulatory policies could affect the ability of the Company to pay dividends or otherwise engage in capital distributions.

Under the FDI Act, a depository institution may be liable to the FDIC for losses caused the DIF if a commonly controlled depository institution were to fail. The Bank is commonly controlled within the meaning of that law.

The status of the Company as a registered bank holding company under the BHCA does not exempt it from certain federal and state laws and regulations applicable to corporations generally, including, without limitation, certain provisions of the federal securities laws.

The Company, the Bank, and their respective affiliates will be affected by the monetary and fiscal policies of various agencies of the United States Government, including the Federal Reserve System. In view of changing conditions in the national economy and in the money markets, it is difficult for management to accurately predict future changes in monetary policy or the effect of such changes on the business or financial condition of the Company or the Bank.

Acquisition of the Holding Company

Under the Federal Change in Bank Control Act ("CIBCA"), a notice must be submitted to the FRB if any person (including a company), or group acting in concert, seeks to acquire 10% or more of the Company's shares of outstanding common stock, unless the FRB has found that the acquisition will not result in a change in control of the Company. Under the CIBCA, the FRB generally has 60 days within which to act on such notices, taking into consideration certain factors, including the financial and managerial resources of the acquirer; the convenience and needs of the communities served by the Company and the Bank; and the anti-trust effects of the acquisition. Under the BHCA, any company would be required to obtain approval from the FRB before it may obtain "control" of the Company within the meaning of the BHCA. Control generally is defined to mean the ownership or power to vote 25% or more of any class of voting securities of the Company or the ability to control in any manner the election of a majority of the Company's directors. An existing bank holding company would, under the BHCA, be required to obtain the FRB's approval before acquiring more than 5% of the Company's voting stock. In addition to the CIBCA and the BHCA, New York State Banking Law generally requires prior approval of the New York State Banking Board before any action is taken that causes any company to acquire direct or indirect control of a banking institution that is organized in New York.

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

Created under the Dodd-Frank Act, and given extensive implementation and enforcement powers, the CFPB has broad rulemaking authority for a wide range of consumer financial laws that apply to all banks, including, among other things, the authority to prohibit “unfair, deceptive, or abusive” acts and practices. Abusive acts or practices are defined as those that (1) materially interfere with a consumer’s ability to understand a term or condition of a consumer financial product or service, or (2) take unreasonable advantage of a consumer’s (a) lack of financial savvy, (b) inability to protect himself in the selection or use of consumer financial products or services, or (c) reasonable reliance on a covered entity to act in the consumer’s interests. The CFPB has the authority to investigate possible violations of federal consumer financial law, hold hearings and commence civil litigation. The CFPB can issue cease-and-desist orders against banks and other entities that violate consumer financial laws. The CFPB may also institute a civil action against an entity in violation of federal consumer financial law in order to impose a civil penalty or an injunction.

Mortgage Banking and Related Consumer Protection Regulations

The retail activities of the Bank, including lending and the acceptance of deposits, are subject to a variety of statutes and regulations designed to protect consumers. Interest and other charges collected or contracted for by the Bank are subject to state usury laws and federal laws concerning interest rates. Loan operations are also subject to federal laws applicable to credit transactions, such as:

- The federal Truth-In-Lending Act and Regulation Z issued by the FRB, governing disclosures of credit terms to consumer borrowers;
- The Home Mortgage Disclosure Act and Regulation C issued by the FRB, requiring financial institutions to provide information to enable the public and public officials to determine whether a financial institution is fulfilling its obligation to help meet the housing needs of the community it serves;
- The Equal Credit Opportunity Act and Regulation B issued by the FRB, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, creed or other prohibited factors in extending credit;
- The Fair Credit Reporting Act and Regulation V issued by the FRB, governing the use and provision of information to consumer reporting agencies;
- The Fair Debt Collection Act, governing the manner in which consumer debts may be collected by collection agencies; and
- The guidance of the various federal agencies charged with the responsibility of implementing such federal laws.

Deposit operations also are subject to:

- The Truth in Savings Act and Regulation DD issued by the FRB, which requires disclosure of deposit terms to consumers;
- Regulation CC issued by the FRB, which relates to the availability of deposit funds to consumers;
- The Right to Financial Privacy Act, which imposes a duty to maintain the confidentiality of consumer financial records and prescribes procedures for complying with administrative subpoenas of financial records; and
- The Electronic Funds Transfer Act and Regulation E issued by the FRB, which governs automatic deposits to and withdrawals from deposit accounts and customers’ rights and liabilities arising from the use of automated teller machines and other electronic banking services.

In addition, the Bank and its subsidiaries may also be subject to certain state laws and regulations designed to protect consumers.

Many of the foregoing laws and regulations are subject to change resulting from the provisions in the Dodd-Frank Act, which in many cases calls for revisions to implementing regulations. In addition, oversight responsibilities of these and other consumer protection laws and regulations will, in large measure, transfer from the Bank's primary regulators to the CFPB. We cannot predict the effect that being regulated by a new, additional regulatory authority focused on consumer financial protection, or any new implementing regulations or revisions to existing regulations that may result from the establishment of this new authority, will have on our businesses.

Data Privacy

Federal and state law contains extensive consumer privacy protection provisions. The GLBA requires financial institutions to periodically disclose their privacy practices and policies relating to sharing such information and enable retail customers to opt out of the Bank's ability to share certain information with affiliates and non-affiliates for marketing and/or non-marketing purposes, or to contact customers with marketing offers. The GLBA also requires financial institutions to implement a comprehensive information security program that includes administrative, technical, and physical safeguards to ensure the security and confidentiality of customer records and information.

Cybersecurity

The Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act (the "CISA") is intended to improve cybersecurity in the U.S. through sharing of information about security threats between the U.S. government and private sector organizations, including financial institutions such as the Bank. The CISA also authorizes companies to monitor their own systems, notwithstanding any other provision of law, and allows companies to carry out defensive measures on their own systems from potential cyber-attacks.

Federal Restrictions on Acquisition of the Company

Under the Federal Change in Bank Control Act ("CIBCA"), a notice must be submitted to the FRB if any person (including a company), or group acting in concert, seeks to acquire 10% or more of the Company's shares of outstanding common stock, unless the FRB has found that the acquisition will not result in a change in control of the Company. Under the CIBCA, the FRB generally has 60 days within which to act on such notices, taking into consideration certain factors, including the financial and managerial resources of the acquirer; the convenience and needs of the communities served by the Company, the Bank; and the anti-trust effects of the acquisition. Under the BHCA, any company would be required to obtain approval from the FRB before it may obtain "control" of the Company within the meaning of the BHCA. Control generally is defined to mean the ownership or power to vote 25% or more of any class of voting securities of the Company, the ability to control in any manner the election of a majority of the Company's directors, or the power to exercise a controlling influence over the management or policies of the Company. Under the BHCA, an existing bank holding company would be required to obtain the FRB's approval before acquiring more than 5% of the Company's voting stock. See "Holding Company Regulation" earlier in this report.

Available Information

We are a reporting company and file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. We make available free of charge on or through our web site at www.flushingbank.com our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the SEC. Our SEC filings are also available to the public free of charge over the Internet at the SEC's web site at <http://www.sec.gov>.

You may also read and copy any document we file at the SEC's public reference room located at 100 F. Street, N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information about the operation of the public reference room

by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. You may request copies of these documents by writing to the SEC and paying a fee for the copying cost.

Item 1A. Risk Factors.

In addition to the other information contained in this Annual Report, the following factors and other considerations should be considered carefully in evaluating us and our business.

The COVID-19 Pandemic Has Significantly Impacted Our Financial Condition and Results of Operations

The novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19") pandemic has adversely affected us and our customers, employees and third-party service providers, and the adverse impacts on our business, financial position, operations and prospects could be significant.

The COVID-19 pandemic has created a global public health crisis that has resulted in unprecedented uncertainty, volatility and disruption in financial markets and in governmental, commercial and consumer activity in the United States and globally. Governmental responses to the pandemic have included orders closing businesses not deemed essential and directing individuals to restrict their movements and observe social distancing. These actions, together with responses to the pandemic by businesses and individuals, have resulted in reduced commercial and consumer activity, temporary and potentially permanent closures of many businesses that have led to loss of revenues and increased unemployment, material decreases in oil and gas prices and in business valuations, disrupted global supply chains changes in consumer behavior related to pandemic fears, related emergency response legislation and an expectation that Federal Reserve policy will maintain a low interest rate environment for the foreseeable future. These changes have a significant adverse effect on the regions and markets in which we conduct our business and the demand for our products and services.

Business and consumer customers of Flushing Bank are experiencing varying degrees of financial distress, which has adversely affected the ability of some of them to timely pay interest and principal on their loans and the value of the collateral securing their obligations. This in turn has influenced the recognition of credit losses in our loan portfolios and has impacted our allowance for credit losses, particularly as businesses remain closed and as some customers draw on their lines of credit or seek additional loans. These developments as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic materially impact our business and the businesses of our customers and are expected to continue to have a material adverse effect on our financial results for 2021.

In order to protect the health of our customers and employees, and to comply with applicable government directives, we have modified our business practices, including restricting employee travel, directing employees to work from home insofar as is possible, reducing in-person meetings and implementing business continuity plans and protocols to the extent appropriate.

We may take further such actions that we determine are in the best interest of our employees, customers and communities or as may be required by government order. These actions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and similar actions by our vendors and business partners, have not materially impaired our ability to support our employees, conduct our business and serve our customers, but there is no assurance that these actions will be sufficient to successfully mitigate the risks presented by COVID-19 or that our ability to operate will not be materially affected going forward. For instance, our business operations may be disrupted if key personnel or significant portions of our employees are unable to work effectively, including because of illness, quarantines, government actions, or other restrictions in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic. Similarly, if any of our vendors or business partners become unable to continue to provide their products and services, which we rely upon to maintain our day-to-day operations, our ability to serve our customers could be impacted.

Although vaccine programs addressing COVID-19 have commenced, it is not possible to accurately predict when or the extent to which normal economic and operating conditions will resume. For this reason, the extent to which the COVID-19 pandemic affects our business, operations and financial condition, as well as our regulatory capital and liquidity ratios and credit ratings, is uncertain and unpredictable and depends on, among other things, new information that may emerge

concerning the scope, duration and severity of the COVID-19 pandemic and actions taken by governmental authorities and other parties in response to the pandemic. If the pandemic is prolonged, the adverse impact on the markets in which we operate and on our business, operations and financial condition could deepen. Particular concerns referenced above include:

Credit Risk. Our risks of timely loan repayment and the value of collateral supporting the loans are affected by the strength of our borrower's business. Concern about COVID-19 has caused and may continue to cause business shutdowns, limitations on commercial activity and financial transactions, labor shortages, supply chain interruptions, increased unemployment and commercial property vacancy rates, reduced profitability and ability for property owners to make mortgage payments, and overall economic and financial market instability, all of which may cause our customers to be unable to make scheduled loan payments. If the effects of COVID-19 result in widespread and sustained repayment shortfalls on loans in our portfolio, we could incur significant delinquencies, foreclosures and credit losses, particularly if the available collateral is insufficient to cover our exposure. The future effects of COVID-19 on economic activity could negatively affect the collateral values associated with our existing loans, the ability to liquidate the real estate collateral securing our residential and commercial real estate loans, our ability to maintain loan origination volume and to obtain additional financing, the future demand for or profitability of our lending and services, and the financial condition and credit risk of our customers. Further, in the event of delinquencies, regulatory changes and policies designed to protect borrowers may slow or prevent us from making our business decisions or may result in a delay in our taking certain remediation actions, such as foreclosure. Furthermore, in an effort to support our communities during the pandemic, we have participated in the Paycheck Protection Program ("PPP") under the CARES Act whereby loans to small businesses were made and those loans are subject to the regulatory requirements that could require forbearance of loan payments for a specified time or that would limit our ability to pursue all available remedies in the event of a loan default. If the borrower under a PPP loan fails to qualify for loan forgiveness, we are at the heightened risk of holding that loan at unfavorable interest rates as compared to the loans to customers that we would have otherwise extended credit.

Strategic Risk. Our success may be affected by a variety of external factors that may affect the price or marketability of our products and services, changes in interest rates that may increase our funding costs, reduced demand for our financial products due to economic conditions and the various response of governmental and nongovernmental authorities. During its course, the COVID-19 pandemic has increased economic and demand uncertainty. Furthermore, many of the governmental actions have been directed toward curtailing household and business activity to contain COVID-19.

Operational Risk. Current and future restrictions on our workforce's access to our facilities could limit our ability to meet customer servicing expectations and have a material adverse effect on our operations. We rely on business processes and branch activity that largely depend on people and technology, including access to information technology systems as well as information, applications, payment systems and other services provided by third parties. In response to COVID-19, we have modified our business practices with a portion of our employees working remotely from their homes to have our operations uninterrupted as much as possible. Further, technology in employees' homes may not be as robust as in our offices and could cause the networks, information systems, applications, and other tools available to employees to be more limited or less reliable than in our offices. The continuation of these work-from-home measures also introduces additional operational risk, including increased cybersecurity risk. These cyber risks include greater phishing, malware, and other cybersecurity attacks, vulnerability to disruptions of our information technology infrastructure and telecommunications systems for remote operations, increased risk of unauthorized dissemination of confidential information, limited ability to restore the systems in the event of a systems failure or interruption, greater risk of a security breach resulting in destruction or misuse of valuable information, and potential impairment of our ability to perform critical functions, including wiring funds, all of which could expose us to risks of data or financial loss, litigation and liability and could seriously disrupt our operations and the operations of any impacted customers.

Changes in Interest Rates May Significantly Impact Our Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Our primary source of income is net interest income, which is the difference between the interest income generated by our interest-earning assets (consisting primarily of multi-family residential loans, commercial business loans and commercial real estate mortgage loans) and the interest expense generated by our interest-bearing liabilities (consisting primarily of deposits). The level of net interest income is primarily a function of the average balance of our interest-earning

assets, the average balance of our interest-bearing liabilities, and the spread between the yield on such assets and the cost of such liabilities. These factors are influenced by both the pricing and mix of our interest-earning assets and our interest-bearing liabilities which, in turn, are impacted by such external factors as the local economy, competition for loans and deposits, the monetary policy of the Federal Open Market Committee of the Federal Reserve Board (the “FOMC”), and market interest rates. In March 2020, the Federal Reserve lowered the target range for the federal funds rate to a range from 0 to 0.25 percent, citing concerns about the impact of COVID-19 on markets and stress in the energy sector. A significant portion of our loans have fixed interest rates (or, if adjustable, are initially fixed for periods of five to 10 years) and longer terms than our deposits and borrowings. Our net interest income could be adversely affected if the rates we pay on deposits and borrowings increase more rapidly than the rates we earn on loans. Our interest rate risk is exacerbated in the short term by the fact that approximately 81% of our certificates of deposit accounts and borrowings will reprice or mature during the next year.

As a result of our historical focus on the origination of multifamily residential mortgage loans, commercial business loans and commercial real estate mortgage loans, the majority of our loans are adjustable rate, however, many adjust at periods of five to 10 years. In addition, a large percentage of our investment securities and mortgage-backed securities have fixed interest rates and are classified as available for sale. As is the case with many financial institutions, our emphasis on increasing the development of core deposits, those with no stated maturity date, has resulted in our interest-bearing liabilities having a shorter duration than our assets. This imbalance can create significant earnings volatility because interest rates change over time and are currently at historical low levels. As interest rates increase, our cost of funds will increase more rapidly than the yields on the bulk of our interest-earning assets. In addition, the market value of our fixed-rate assets for example, our investment and mortgage-backed securities portfolios, would decline if interest rates increase. In line with the foregoing, we have experienced and may continue to experience an increase in the cost of interest-bearing liabilities primarily due to raising the rates we pay on some of our deposit products to stay competitive within our market and an increase in borrowing costs from increases in the federal funds rate.

Prevailing interest rates also affect the extent to which borrowers repay and refinance loans. In a declining interest rate environment, the number of loan prepayments and loan refinancing may increase, as well as prepayments of mortgage-backed securities. Call provisions associated with our investment in U.S. government agency and corporate securities may also adversely affect yield in a declining interest rate environment. Such prepayments and calls may adversely affect the yield of our loan portfolio and mortgage-backed and other securities as we reinvest the prepaid funds in a lower interest rate environment. However, we typically receive additional loan fees when existing loans are refinanced, which partially offset the reduced yield on our loan portfolio resulting from prepayments. In periods of low interest rates, our level of core deposits also may decline if depositors seek higher-yielding instruments or other investments not offered by us, which in turn may increase our cost of funds and decrease our net interest margin to the extent alternative funding sources are utilized. An increasing interest rate environment would tend to extend the average lives of lower yielding fixed rate mortgages and mortgage-backed securities, which could adversely affect net interest income. Also, in an increasing interest rate environment, mortgage loans and mortgage-backed securities may prepay at slower rates than experienced in the past, which could result in a reduction of prepayment penalty income. In addition, depositors tend to open longer term, higher costing certificate of deposit accounts which could adversely affect our net interest income if rates were to subsequently decline. Additionally, adjustable rate mortgage loans and mortgage-backed securities generally contain interim and lifetime caps that limit the amount the interest rate can increase or decrease at repricing dates. Significant increases in prevailing interest rates may significantly affect demand for loans and the value of bank collateral. See “— Local Economic Conditions.”

Our Lending Activities Involve Risks that May Be Exacerbated Depending on the Mix of Loan Types

At December 31, 2020, our gross loan portfolio was \$6,701.6 million, of which 78.0% was mortgage loans secured by real estate. The majority of these real estate loans were secured by multi-family residential property (\$2,534.0 million), commercial real estate (\$1,754.8 million) and one-to-four family mixed-use property (\$603.0 million), which combined represent 72.9% of our loan portfolio. Our loan portfolio is concentrated in the New York City metropolitan area. Multi-family residential, one-to-four family mixed-use property, commercial real estate mortgage loans, commercial business loans and construction loans, are generally viewed as exposing the lender to a greater risk of loss than fully underwritten one-to-four family residential mortgage loans and typically involve higher principal amounts per loan. Multi-family residential, one-to-four family mixed-use property and commercial real estate mortgage loans are typically dependent upon the successful operation of the related property, which is usually owned by a legal entity with the property being the entity's only asset. If the cash flow from the property is reduced, the borrower's ability to repay the loan may be impaired. If the borrower defaults, our only remedy may be to foreclose on the property, for which the market value may be less than the balance due on the related mortgage loan. We attempt to mitigate this risk by generally requiring a loan-to-value ratio of no more than 75% at a time the loan is originated, except for one-to-four family residential mortgage loans, where we require a loan-to value ratio of no more than 80%. Repayment of construction loans is contingent upon the successful completion and operation of the project. The repayment of commercial business loans (the increased origination of which is part of management's strategy), is contingent on the successful operation of the related business. Changes in local economic conditions and government regulations, which are outside the control of the borrower or lender, also could affect the value of the security for the loan or the future cash flow of the affected properties. We continually review the composition of our mortgage loan portfolio to manage the risk in the portfolio.

In assessing our future earnings prospects, investors should consider, among other things, our level of origination of one-to-four family residential, multi-family residential, commercial real estate and one-to-four family mixed-use property mortgage loans, and commercial business and construction loans, and the greater risks associated with such loans. See "Business — Lending Activities" in Item 1 of this Annual Report.

Failure to Effectively Manage Our Liquidity Could Significantly Impact Our Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Our liquidity is critical to our ability to operate our business. Our primary sources of liquidity are deposits, both retail deposits from our branch network including our Internet Branch, brokered deposits, and borrowed funds, primarily wholesale borrowing from the FHLB-NY. Funds are also provided by the repayment and sale of securities and loans. Our ability to obtain funds are influenced by many external factors, including but not limited to, local and national economic conditions, the direction of interest rates and competition for deposits in the markets we serve. Additionally, changes in the FHLB-NY underwriting guidelines may limit or restrict our ability to borrow. A decline in available funding caused by any of the above factors could adversely impact our ability to originate loans, invest in securities, meet our expenses, or fulfill our obligations such as repaying our borrowings or meeting deposit withdrawal demands.

Our Ability to Obtain Brokered Deposits as an Additional Funding Source Could be Limited

We utilize brokered deposits as an additional funding source and to assist in the management of our interest rate risk. The Bank had \$1.1 billion, or 17.5% of total deposits, and \$388.8 million, or 7.7% of total deposits, in brokered deposit accounts at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively. During 2018, Section 29 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act was amended to no longer consider reciprocal deposits held by an FDIC-insured depository institution brokered deposits. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, reciprocal deposits totaled \$735.4 million and \$805.6 million, respectively. We have obtained brokered certificates of deposit when the interest rate on these deposits is below the prevailing interest rate for non-brokered certificates of deposit with similar maturities in our market, or when obtaining them allowed us to extend the maturities of our deposits at favorable rates compared to borrowing funds with similar maturities, when we are seeking to extend the maturities of our funding to assist in the management of our interest rate risk. Brokered certificates of deposit provide a large deposit for us at a lower operating cost as compared to non-brokered certificates of deposit since we only have one account to maintain versus several accounts with multiple interest and maturity checks. Unlike non-brokered certificates of deposit where the deposit amount can be withdrawn with a penalty for any reason, including increasing interest rates, a brokered certificate of deposit can only be withdrawn in the event of the death or court declared mental

incompetence of the depositor. This allows us to better manage the maturity of our deposits and our interest rate risk. We also at times utilize brokers to obtain money market account deposits. The rate we pay on brokered money market accounts is similar to the rate we pay on non-brokered money market accounts, and the rate is agreed to in a contract between the Bank and the broker. These accounts are similar to brokered certificates of deposit accounts in that we only maintain one account for the total deposit per broker, with the broker maintaining the detailed records of each depositor. Additionally, we place a portion of our government deposits in an ICS money market or ICS demand product, which prior to 2018 was considered a brokered deposit, does not require us to provide collateral. This allows us to invest our funds in higher yielding assets. The Bank had \$720.1 million in brokered demand accounts and \$102.9 million brokered money market accounts at December 31, 2020. The Bank had \$145.0 million in brokered demand accounts and no brokered money market accounts at December 31, 2019.

The FDIC has promulgated regulations implementing limitations on brokered deposits. Under the regulations, well-capitalized institutions, such as the Bank, are not subject to brokered deposit limitations, while adequately capitalized institutions are able to accept, renew or roll over brokered deposits only with a waiver from the FDIC and subject to restrictions on the interest rate that can be paid on such deposits. Undercapitalized institutions are not permitted to accept brokered deposits. Pursuant to the regulation, the Bank, as a well-capitalized institution, may accept brokered deposits. Should our capital ratios decline, this could limit our ability to replace brokered deposits when they mature.

The maturity of brokered certificates of deposit could result in a significant funding source maturing at one time. Should this occur, it might be difficult to replace the maturing certificates with new brokered certificates of deposit. We have used brokers to obtain these deposits which results in depositors with whom we have no other relationships since these depositors are outside of our market, and there may not be a sufficient source of new brokered certificates of deposit at the time of maturity. In addition, upon maturity, brokers could require us to offer some of the highest interest rates in the country to retain these deposits, which would negatively impact our earnings. The Bank mitigates this risk by obtaining brokered certificates of deposit with various maturities ranging up to six years, and attempts to avoid having a significant amount maturing in any one year.

The Markets in Which We Operate Are Highly Competitive

We face intense and increasing competition both in making loans and in attracting deposits. Our market area has a high density of financial institutions, many of which have greater financial resources, name recognition and market presence than us, and all of which are our competitors to varying degrees. Particularly intense competition exists for deposits and in all of the lending activities we emphasize. Our competition for loans comes principally from commercial banks, savings banks, savings and loan associations, mortgage banking companies, insurance companies, finance companies and credit unions. Management anticipates that competition for mortgage loans will continue to increase in the future. Our most direct competition for deposits historically has come from savings banks, commercial banks, savings and loan associations and credit unions. In addition, we face competition for deposits from products offered by brokerage firms, insurance companies and other financial intermediaries, such as money market and other mutual funds and annuities. Consolidation in the banking industry and the lifting of interstate banking and branching restrictions have made it more difficult for smaller, community-oriented banks, such as us, to compete effectively with large, national, regional and super-regional banking institutions. Our Internet Branch provides us access to consumers in markets outside our geographic locations. The internet banking arena exposes us to competition with many larger financial institutions that have greater financial resources, name recognition and market presence than we do.

Our Results of Operations May Be Adversely Affected by Changes in National and/or Local Economic Conditions

Our operating results are affected by national and local economic and competitive conditions, including changes in market interest rates, the strength of the local economy, government policies and actions of regulatory authorities. During the Great Recession, for example, unemployment increased, the housing market in the United States experienced a significant slowdown, and foreclosures rose. Adverse economic conditions can result in borrowers defaulting on their loans, or withdrawing their funds on deposit at the Bank to meet their financial obligations. A decline in the local or national economy or the New York City metropolitan area real estate market could adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations, including through decreased demand for loans or increased competition for good loans, increased non-performing loans and loan losses and resulting additional provisions for loan losses and for losses on real estate owned.

Many factors could require additions to the ACL in future periods above those currently maintained. These factors include, but not limited to: (1) adverse changes in economic conditions and changes in interest rates that may affect the ability of borrowers to make payments on loans, (2) changes in the financial capacity of individual borrowers, (3) changes in the local real estate market and the value of our loan collateral, and (4) future review and evaluation of our loan portfolio, internally or by regulators. The amount of the ACL at any time represents good faith estimates that are susceptible to significant changes due to changes in appraisal values of collateral, national and local economic conditions, prevailing interest rates and other factors. See “Business — General — Allowance for Credit Losses” in Item 1 of this Annual Report.

These same factors could cause delinquencies to increase for the mortgages which are the collateral for the mortgage-backed securities we hold in our investment portfolio. Combining increased delinquencies with liquidity problems in the market could result in a decline in the market value of our investments in privately issued mortgage-backed securities. There can be no assurance that a decline in the market value of these investments will not result in other-than-temporary impairment charges in our financial statements.

Changes in Laws and Regulations Could Adversely Affect Our Business

From time to time, legislation, such as the Dodd-Frank Act, is enacted or regulations are promulgated that have the effect of increasing the cost of doing business, limiting or expanding permissible activities or affecting the competitive balance between banks and other financial institutions. Proposals to change the laws and regulations governing the operations and taxation of banks and other financial institutions are frequently made in Congress, in the New York legislature and before various bank regulatory agencies. There can be no assurance as to the impact that any laws, regulations or governmental programs that may be introduced or implemented in the future will have on the financial markets and the economy, any of which could adversely affect our business. For a discussion of regulations affecting us, see “Business — Regulation” and “Business—Federal, State and Local Taxation” in Item 1 of this Annual Report.

Current Conditions in, and Regulation of, the Banking Industry May Have a Material Adverse Effect on Our Results of Operations

Financial institutions have been the subject of significant legislative and regulatory changes, including the adoption of The Dodd Frank Act, which imposes a wide variety of regulations affecting us, and may be the subject of further significant legislation or regulation in the future, none of which is within our control. Significant new laws or regulations or changes in, or repeals of, existing laws or regulations, including those with respect to federal and state taxation, may cause our results of operations to differ materially. In addition, the cost and burden of compliance, over time, have significantly increased and could adversely affect our ability to operate profitably.

The Bank faces several minimum capital requirements imposed by federal regulation. Failure to adhere to these minimums could limit the dividends the Bank is allowed to pay, including the payment of dividends to the Holding Company, and could limit the annual growth of the Bank. Under the Dodd Frank Act, banks with assets greater than \$10.0 billion in total assets are required to complete stress tests, which predict capital levels under certain stress levels. Although, our total assets are currently \$8.0 billion, as a best practice, we completed these tests. As of December 31, 2020, under all stress scenarios, we remained well capitalized per current regulations. See “Regulation.” At the New York State level, the Company and the Bank are subject to extensive supervision, regulation and examination by the NYDFS and the FDIC. Such regulation limits the manner in which the Company and Bank conduct business, undertake new investments and activities and obtain financing. This regulation is designed primarily for the protection of the deposit insurance funds and the Bank’s depositors, and not to benefit the Bank or its creditors. The regulatory structure also provides the regulatory authorities extensive discretion in connection with their supervisory and enforcement activities and examination policies, including policies with respect to capital levels, the classification of assets and the establishment of adequate loan loss reserves for regulatory purposes. Failure to comply with applicable laws and regulations could subject the Company and Bank to regulatory enforcement action that could result in the assessment of significant civil money penalties against the Company and Bank.

The fiscal and monetary policies of the federal government and its agencies could have a material adverse effect on the Company’s results of operations. The Federal Reserve regulates the supply of money and credit in the United States. Its policies determine in significant part the cost of funds for lending and investing and the return earned on those loans

and investments, both of which affect the Company's net interest margin. Governmental policies can also adversely affect borrowers, potentially increasing the risk that they may fail to repay their loans. Changes in Federal Reserve or governmental policies are beyond the Company's control and difficult to predict; consequently, the impact of these changes on the Company's activities and results of operations is difficult to predict.

A Failure in or Breach of Our Operational or Security Systems or Infrastructure, or Those of Our Third Party Vendors and Other Service Providers, Including as a Result of Cyber Attacks, Could Disrupt Our Business, Result in the Disclosure or Misuse of Confidential or Proprietary Information, Damage Our Reputation, Increase Our Costs and Cause Losses

We depend upon our ability to process, record and monitor our client transactions on a continuous basis. As client, public and regulatory expectations regarding operational and information security have increased, our operational systems and infrastructure must continue to be safeguarded and monitored for potential failures, disruptions and breakdowns. Our business, financial, accounting and data processing systems, or other operating systems and facilities, may stop operating properly or become disabled or damaged as a result of a number of factors, including events that are wholly or partially beyond our control. For example, there could be electrical or telecommunications outages; natural disasters such as earthquakes, tornadoes and hurricanes; disease pandemics; events arising from local or larger scale political or social matters, including terrorist acts; and, as described below, cyber-attacks. Although we have business continuity plans and other safeguards in place, our business operations may be adversely affected by significant and widespread disruption to our physical infrastructure or operating systems that support our business and clients.

Information security risks for financial institutions such as ours have generally increased in recent years in part because of the proliferation of new technologies, the use of the internet and telecommunications technologies to conduct financial transactions, and the increased sophistication and activities of organized crime, hackers, terrorists, activists and other external parties. As noted above, our operations rely on the secure processing, transmission and storage of confidential information in our computer systems and networks. Our business relies on our digital technologies, computer and email systems, software and networks to conduct its operations. In addition, to access our products and services, our clients may use personal smartphones, tablet PC's, personal computers and other mobile devices that are beyond our control systems. Although we have information security procedures and controls in place, our technologies, systems, networks and our clients' devices may become the target of cyber-attacks or information security breaches that could result in the unauthorized release, gathering, monitoring, misuse, loss or destruction of our or our clients' confidential, proprietary and other information, or otherwise disrupt our or our clients' or other third parties' business operations. We may be subject to increasingly more risk related to security systems for our Internet Branch as we expand our suite of online direct banking products, acquire new or outsource some of our business operations, expand our internal usage of web-based products and applications, and otherwise attempt to keep pace with rapid technological changes in the financial services industry.

Third parties with whom we do business or that facilitate our business activities, including financial intermediaries or vendors that provide services or security solutions for our operations, could also be sources of operational and information security risk to us, including from breakdowns or failures of their own systems or capacity constraints.

Although to date we have not experienced any material losses relating to cyber-attacks or other information security breaches, there can be no assurance that we will not suffer such losses in the future. Our risk and exposure to these matters remains heightened because of the evolving nature of these threats. As a result, cyber security and the continued development and enhancement of our controls, processes and practices designed to protect our systems, computers, software, data and networks from attack, damage or unauthorized access remain a focus for us. As threats continue to evolve, we may be required to expend additional resources to continue to modify or enhance our protective measures or to investigate and remediate information security vulnerabilities.

Disruptions or failures in the physical infrastructure or operating systems that support our business and clients, or cyber-attacks or security breaches of the networks, systems or devices that our clients use to access our products and services could result in significant legal and financial exposure, client attrition, regulatory fines, penalties or intervention, reputational damage, reimbursement or other compensation costs and/or additional compliance costs, a loss of confidence

in the security of our systems, any of which may not be covered by insurance and could materially and adversely affect our financial condition or results of operations.

In addition, in 2017, the NYDFS established comprehensive cybersecurity requirements for financial services companies, including us. See Regulation – New York State Law and Cybersecurity.

In light of the newness of the cybersecurity regulation, it is impossible to determine the cost and other effects on us of full and timely compliance. In addition to resources that may be required, in the event that we do not timely and fully comply, we would be subject to enforcement and other consequences in addition to any other claims that might arise. There can be no assurance that we will achieve full and timely compliance with the regulation, in which event our business may be materially adversely affected.

We May Experience Increased Delays in Foreclosure Proceedings

Foreclosure proceedings face increasing delays. While we cannot predict the ultimate impact of any delay in foreclosure sales, we may be subject to additional borrower and non-borrower litigation and governmental and regulatory scrutiny related to our past and current foreclosure activities. Delays in foreclosure sales, including any delays beyond those currently anticipated could increase the costs associated with our mortgage operations and make it more difficult for us to prevent losses in our loan portfolio.

Our Inability to Hire or Retain Key Personnel Could Adversely Affect Our Business

Our success depends, in large part, on our ability to retain and attract key personnel. We face intense competition from commercial banks, savings banks, savings and loan associations, mortgage banking companies, insurance companies, finance companies and credit unions. As a result, it could prove difficult to retain and attract key personnel. The inability to hire or retain key personnel may result in the loss of customer relationships and may adversely affect our financial condition or results of operations.

We Are Not Required to Pay Dividends on Our Common Stock

Holders of shares of our common stock are only entitled to receive such dividends as our Board of Directors may declare out of funds legally available for such payments. Although we have historically declared cash dividends on our common stock, we are not required to do so and may reduce or eliminate our common stock dividend in the future. A reduction or elimination of our common stock dividend could adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

Uncertainty surrounding the elimination of LIBOR and the proposed transition to SOFR may adversely affect our business

In 2017, the United Kingdom's Financial Conduct Authority announced that after 2021 it would no longer compel banks to submit the rates required to calculate the London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR"). Subsequent announcements have delayed the potential date for certain LIBOR tenors until June 30, 2023. Consequently, at this time, it is not possible to predict whether and to what extent banks will continue to provide submissions for the calculation of LIBOR. Similarly, there is still uncertainty around how quickly different alternative rates will develop sufficient liquidity and industry-wide usage, or what the effect of any such changes in views or alternatives may be on the markets for LIBOR-indexed financial instruments. We have loans, borrowings and other financial instruments with attributes that are either directly or indirectly dependent on LIBOR. The transition from LIBOR could create additional costs and risks. Since proposed alternative rates are calculated differently, payments under contracts referencing new rates will differ from those referencing LIBOR. The transition will change our market risk profiles, requiring changes to risk and pricing models, systems, contracts, valuation tools, and product design. Furthermore, failure to adequately manage this transition process with our customers could adversely impact our reputation and potentially introduce additional legal risks. As of December 31, 2020, we have exposure to approximately \$2.5 billion of financial assets and liabilities, including off-balance sheet instruments, which are LIBOR-based. We do not yet know whether, and if so the extent to which, the elimination of LIBOR will have any material impact on these instruments.

The Ultimate Success of Integrating Empire into the Company’s operations cannot be assured and the anticipated benefits and cost savings of the merger may not be fully realized

Although the merger has been completed, the ultimate success of the merger will depend, in part, on the Company’s ability to finalize the integration of the businesses of the Company and Empire in a manner that permits growth opportunities and cost savings to be realized. As with any merger of financial institutions, there can be no assurances that the merger and the integration processes will ultimately be successful nor that the anticipated benefits and cost savings of the merger will be fully realized. In the longer term, as the Company continues to integrate Empire’s legacy business into the Company’s business, the actual cost savings of the merger could be less than anticipated.

Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments.

None.

Item 2. Properties.

At December 31, 2020, the Bank conducted its business through 25 full-service offices and its Internet Branch. The Holding Company neither owns nor leases any property but instead uses the premises and equipment of the Bank.

Item 3. Legal Proceedings.

We are involved in various legal actions arising in the ordinary course of our business which, in the aggregate, involve amounts which are believed by management to be immaterial to our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures.

Not applicable.

PART II

Item 5. Market for the Registrant’s Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities.

The Holding Company’s Common Stock is traded on the NASDAQ Global Select Market[®] under the symbol “FFIC.” As of December 31, 2020, we had approximately 928 shareholders of record, not including the number of persons or entities holding stock in nominee or street name through various brokers and banks.

The following table sets forth information regarding the shares of common stock repurchased by us during the quarter ended December 31, 2020:

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	Maximum Number of Shares That May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs
October 1 to October 31, 2020	—	\$ —	—	284,806
November 1 to November 30, 2020	—	—	—	284,806
December 1 to December 31, 2020	—	—	—	284,806
Total	—	—	—	—

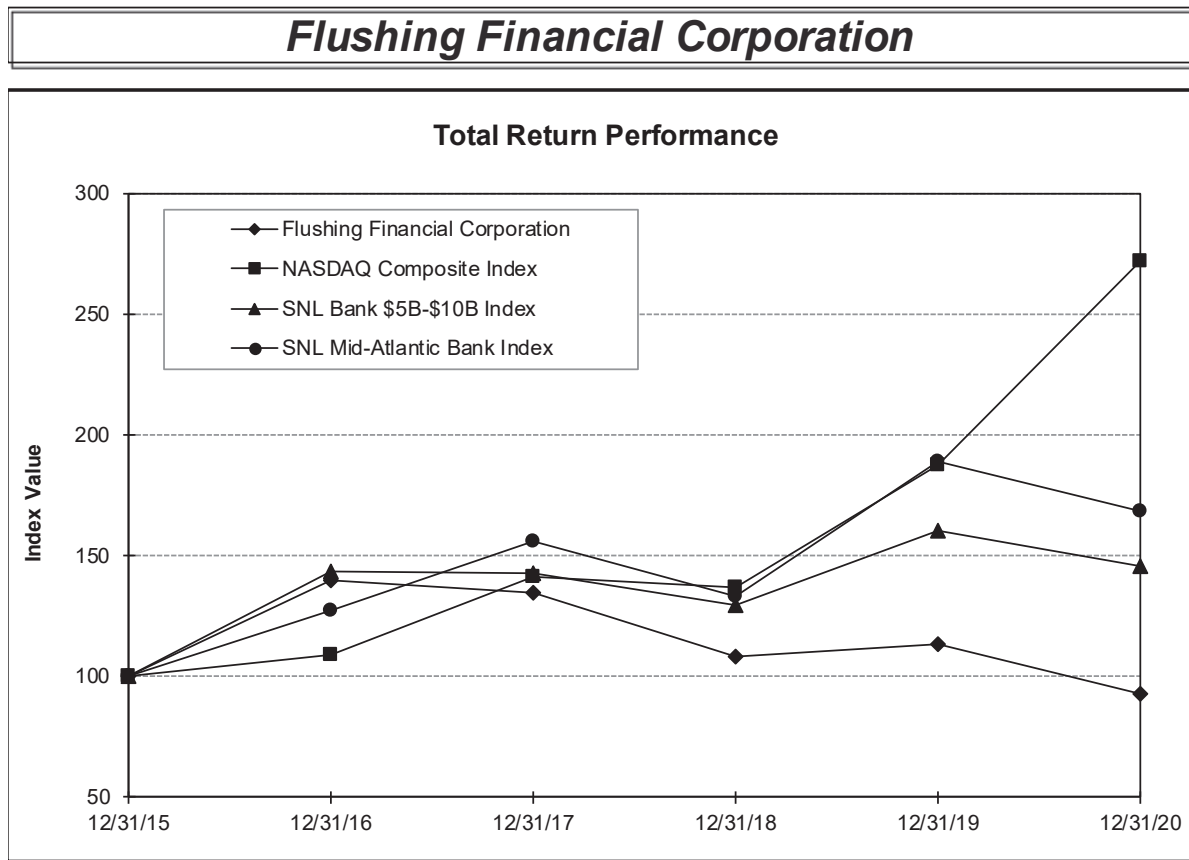
On February 27, 2018, the Company announced the authorization by the Board of Directors of a common stock repurchase program, which authorizes the purchase of up to 1,000,000 shares of its common stock. During the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, the Company repurchased 142,405 shares and 40,000 shares, respectively, of the Company's common stock at an average cost of \$16.45 per share and \$19.28 per share, respectively. At December 31, 2020, 284,806 shares remain to be repurchased under the current stock repurchase program. Stock will be purchased under the current stock repurchase program from time to time, in the open market or through private transactions subject to market conditions and at the discretion of the management of the Company. There is no expiration or maximum dollar amount under this authorization.

The following table sets forth securities authorized for issuance under all equity compensation plans of the Company at December 31, 2020:

	(a) Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights	(b) Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights	(c) Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a))
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	—	\$ —	324,738
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	—	—	—
	<u>—</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>324,738</u>

Stock Performance Graph

The following graph shows a comparison of cumulative total stockholder return on the Company's common stock since December 31, 2015 with the cumulative total returns of a broad equity market index as well as comparative published industry indices. The broad equity market index chosen was the Nasdaq Composite. The comparative published industry indices chosen were the SNL Bank \$5 Billion to \$10 Billion in Assets Index and the SNL Mid-Atlantic Bank Index. The SNL Mid-Atlantic Bank Index was chosen for inclusion in the Company's Stock Performance Graph because the Company believes it provides valuable comparative information reflecting the Company's geographic peer group. The SNL Bank \$5 Billion to \$10 Billion in Assets Index was chosen for inclusion in the Company's Stock Performance Graph because it uses a broader group of banks and therefore more closely reflects the Company's size. The Company believes that both geographic area and size are important factors in analyzing the Company's performance against its peers. The graph below reflects historical performance only, which is not indicative of possible future performance of the common stock.



The total return assumes \$100 invested on December 31, 2015 and all dividends reinvested through the end of the Company's fiscal year ended December 31, 2020. The performance graph above is based upon closing prices on the trading date specified.

Index	Period Ending					
	12/31/15	12/31/16	12/31/17	12/31/18	12/31/19	12/31/20
Flushing Financial Corporation	100.00	139.93	134.42	108.58	113.34	92.83
NASDAQ Composite Index	100.00	108.87	141.13	137.12	187.44	271.64
SNL Bank \$5B-\$10B Index	100.00	143.27	142.73	129.17	160.06	145.37
SNL Mid-Atlantic Bank Index	100.00	127.10	155.78	133.10	189.29	168.47

Item 6. Selected Financial Data.At or for the years ended
December 31,

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
	<i>(Dollars in thousands, except per share data)</i>				
Selected Financial Condition Data					
Total assets	\$ 7,976,394	\$ 7,017,776	\$ 6,834,176	\$ 6,299,274	\$ 6,058,487
Loans, net	6,659,521	5,750,455	5,530,539	5,156,648	4,813,464
Securities held to maturity	57,832	58,888	32,018	30,886	37,735
Securities available for sale	647,974	772,500	822,655	738,354	861,381
Deposits	6,136,355	5,066,424	4,960,784	4,383,278	4,205,631
Borrowed funds	1,020,895	1,237,231	1,250,843	1,309,653	1,266,563
Total stockholders' equity	618,997	579,672	549,464	532,608	513,853
Book value per common share ⁽¹⁾	\$ 20.11	\$ 20.59	\$ 19.64	\$ 18.63	\$ 17.95
Selected Operating Data					
Interest and dividend income	\$ 264,327	\$ 278,956	\$ 256,998	\$ 234,585	\$ 220,997
Interest expense	69,128	117,016	89,592	61,478	53,911
Net interest income	195,199	161,940	167,406	173,107	167,086
Provision for loan losses	23,129	2,811	575	9,861	—
Net interest income after provision for loan losses	172,070	159,129	166,831	163,246	167,086
Non-interest income:					
Net (losses) gains on sales of securities and loans	(701)	855	(1,752)	417	2,108
Net gains on sales of building	—	—	—	—	48,018
Net gains on sales of assets	—	770	1,141	—	—
Net loss from fair value adjustments	(2,142)	(5,353)	(4,122)	(3,465)	(3,434)
Other income	13,886	13,199	15,070	13,410	10,844
Total non-interest income	11,043	9,471	10,337	10,362	57,536
Non-interest expense	137,931	115,269	111,683	107,474	118,603
Income before income tax provision	45,182	53,331	65,485	66,134	106,019
Income tax provision	10,508	12,052	10,395	25,013	41,103
Net income	\$ 34,674	\$ 41,279	\$ 55,090	\$ 41,121	\$ 64,916
Basic earnings per common share ⁽²⁾	\$ 1.18	\$ 1.44	\$ 1.92	\$ 1.41	\$ 2.24
Diluted earnings per common share ⁽²⁾	\$ 1.18	\$ 1.44	\$ 1.92	\$ 1.41	\$ 2.24
Dividends declared per common share	\$ 0.84	\$ 0.84	\$ 0.80	\$ 0.72	\$ 0.68
Dividend payout ratio	71.2 %	58.3 %	41.7 %	51.1 %	30.4 %

(Footnotes on the following page)

At or for the years ended December 31, 2020 2019 2018 2017 2016

Selected Financial Ratios and Other Data

Performance ratios:

Return on average assets	0.48 %	0.59 %	0.85 %	0.66 %	1.10 %
Return on average equity	5.98	7.35	10.30	7.75	13.07
Average equity to average assets	7.97	8.08	8.22	8.53	8.40
Equity to total assets	7.76	8.26	8.04	8.46	8.48
Interest rate spread	2.70	2.25	2.54	2.81	2.86
Net interest margin	2.85	2.47	2.72	2.94	2.97
Non-interest expense to average assets	1.90	1.66	1.72	1.73	2.01
Efficiency ratio	58.69	63.89	62.12	57.90	59.64
Average interest-earning assets to average interest-bearing liabilities	1.16 x	1.12 x	1.12 x	1.12 x	1.12 x

Regulatory capital ratios: ⁽³⁾

Tier 1 leverage capital (well capitalized = 5%)	9.27 %	9.65 %	9.85 %	10.11 %	10.12 %
Common equity tier 1 risk-based capital (well capitalized = 6.5%)	11.65	13.02	13.28	13.87	14.12
Tier 1 risk-based capital (well capitalized =8%)	11.65	13.02	13.28	13.87	14.12
Total risk-based capital (well capitalized =10%)	12.30	13.43	13.70	14.31	14.64

Asset quality ratios:

Non-performing loans to gross loans ⁽⁴⁾	0.31 %	0.23 %	0.29 %	0.35 %	0.44 %
Non-performing assets to total assets ⁽⁵⁾	0.26	0.19	0.24	0.29	0.36
Net charge-offs (recoveries) to average loans	0.06	0.04	—	0.24	(0.02)
Allowance for loan losses to gross loans	0.67	0.38	0.38	0.39	0.46
Allowance for loan losses to total non-performing assets ⁽⁵⁾	213.91	160.73	128.60	112.23	101.28
Allowance for loan losses to total non-performing loans ⁽⁴⁾	214.27	164.05	128.87	112.23	103.80

Full-service customer facilities	25	20	19	18	19
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⁽¹⁾ Calculated by dividing stockholders' equity by shares outstanding.

⁽²⁾ The shares held in the Company's Employee Benefit Trust are not included in shares outstanding for purposes of calculating earnings per share.

⁽³⁾ Represents the Bank's capital ratios, which exceeded all minimum regulatory capital requirements during the periods presented.

⁽⁴⁾ Non-performing loans consist of non-accrual loans and loans delinquent 90 days or more that are still accruing.

⁽⁵⁾ Non-performing assets consist of non-performing loans, real estate owned and non-performing investment securities.

Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

As used in this discussion and analysis, the words “we,” “us,” “our” and the “Company” are used to refer to Flushing Financial Corporation (the “Holding Company”) and its direct and indirect wholly owned subsidiaries, Flushing Bank (the “Bank”), Flushing Preferred Funding Corporation, Flushing Service Corporation, and FSB Properties Inc. Discussion and analysis of our 2018 fiscal year specifically, as well as the year-over-year comparison of our 2019 financial performance to 2018, are located under Part II, Item 7 – Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019, filed with the SEC on March 2, 2020, which is available on our investor relations website at www.flushingbank.com and the SEC’s website at www.sec.gov.

General

We are a Delaware corporation organized in 1994. The Bank was organized in 1929 as a New York State-chartered mutual savings bank. Today the Bank operates as a full-service New York State commercial bank. The primary business of the Holding Company has been the operation of the Bank. The Bank owns three subsidiaries: Flushing Preferred Funding Corporation, Flushing Service Corporation, and FSB Properties Inc. The Bank also operates an internet branch, which operates under the brands of iGObanking.com® and BankPurely® (the “Internet Branch”). The Bank’s primary regulator is the New York State Department of Financial Services, and its primary federal regulator is the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (“FDIC”). The Bank’s deposits are insured to the maximum allowable amount by the FDIC.

The Holding Company also owns Flushing Financial Capital Trust II, Flushing Financial Capital Trust III, and Flushing Financial Capital Trust IV (the “Trusts”), which are special purpose business trusts formed during 2007 to issue a total of \$60.0 million of capital securities, and \$1.9 million of common securities (which are the only voting securities). The Holding Company owns 100% of the common securities of the Trusts. The Trusts used the proceeds from the issuance of these securities to purchase junior subordinated debentures from the Holding Company. The Trusts are not included in our consolidated financial statements, as we would not absorb the losses of the Trusts if losses were to occur.

The following discussion of financial condition and results of operations includes the collective results of the Holding Company and its subsidiaries (collectively, the “Company”), but reflects principally the Bank’s activities. Management views the Company as operating as a single unit - a community bank. Therefore, segment information is not provided.

Overview

Our principal business is attracting retail deposits from the general public and investing those deposits together with funds generated from ongoing operations and borrowings, primarily in (1) originations and purchases of multi-family residential properties, commercial business loans, commercial real estate mortgage loans and, to a lesser extent, one-to-four family (focusing on mixed-use properties, which are properties that contain both residential dwelling units and commercial units); (2) construction loans; (3) Small Business Administration (“SBA”) loans; (4) mortgage loan surrogates such as mortgage-backed securities; and (5) U.S. government securities, corporate fixed-income securities and other marketable securities. We also originate certain other consumer loans including overdraft lines of credit. Our results of operations depend primarily on net interest income, which is the difference between the income earned on its interest-earning assets and the cost of our interest-bearing liabilities. Net interest income is the result of our interest rate margin, which is the difference between the average yield earned on interest-earning assets and the average cost of interest-bearing liabilities, adjusted for the difference in the average balance of interest-earning assets as compared to the average balance of interest-bearing liabilities. We also generate non-interest income from loan fees, service charges on deposit accounts, mortgage servicing fees, and other fees, income earned on Bank Owned Life Insurance (“BOLI”), dividends on Federal Home Bank of New York (“FHLB-NY”) stock and net gains and losses on sales of securities and loans. Our operating expenses consist principally of employee compensation and benefits, occupancy and equipment costs, other general and administrative expenses and income tax expense. Our results of operations also can be significantly affected by our periodic provision for loan losses and specific provision for losses on real estate owned.

Management Strategy. Our strategy is to continue our focus on being an institution serving consumers, businesses, and governmental units in our local markets. In furtherance of this objective, we intend to:

- manage cost of funds and continue to improve funding mix;
- resume historical loan growth while achieving appropriate risk adjusted returns;
- enhance earnings power by improving scalability and efficiency;
- manage credit risk;
- remain well capitalized;
- increase our commitment to the multi-cultural marketplace, with a particular focus on the Asian community;
- manage enterprise-wide risk.

There can be no assurance that we will be able to effectively implement this strategy. Our strategy is subject to change by the Board of Directors.

Manage cost of funds and continue to improve funding mix. We have a relatively stable retail deposit base drawn from our market area through our full-service offices. Although we seek to retain existing deposits and maintain depositor relationships by offering quality service and competitive interest rates to our customers, we also seek to keep deposit growth within reasonable limits and our strategic plan. In order to implement our strategic plan, we have built multi-channel deposit gathering capabilities. In addition to our full-service branches we gather deposits through our Internet Branch and a government banking unit. The Internet Branch currently offers savings accounts, money market accounts, checking accounts, and certificates of deposit. This allows us to compete on a national scale without the geographical constraints of physical locations. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, total deposits at our Internet Branch were \$221.7 million and \$314.0 million, respectively. The government banking unit provides banking services to public municipalities, including counties, cities, towns, villages, school districts, libraries, fire districts, and the various courts throughout the New York City metropolitan area. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, total deposits in our government banking unit totaled \$1,615.4 million and \$1,265.1 million, respectively. Additionally, we have a business banking group which was designed specifically to develop full business relationships thereby bringing in lower-costing checking and money market deposits. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, deposits balances in the business banking group were \$298.9 million and \$281.7 million, respectively. We also obtain deposits through brokers and the CDARS® and ICS network. Management intends to balance its goal to maintain competitive interest rates on deposits while seeking to manage its overall cost of funds to finance its strategies. We generally rely on our deposit base as our principal source of funding. During 2020, we realized an increase in due to depositors of \$1,068.7 million, as core deposits increased \$1,368.2 million and certificates of deposit decreased \$299.5 million. The increase was primarily due to the acquisition of Empire.

A growing portion of our lending and deposit customers have both their loans and deposits with us. We intend to continue to focus on obtaining additional deposits from our lending customers and originating additional loans to our deposit customers. Product offerings were expanded and are expected to be further expanded to accommodate perceived customer demands. In addition, specific employees are assigned responsibilities of generating these additional deposits and loans by coordinating efforts between lending and deposit gathering departments.

Resume historical loan growth while achieving appropriate risk adjusted returns. During 2020, gross loans grew by \$944.7 million, or 16.4% to \$6.7 billion at December 31, 2020 from \$5.8 billion at December 31, 2019. The increase was primarily driven by the Empire acquisition.

We have emphasized the strategic growth of multi-family residential mortgage loans, non-owner occupied commercial mortgage loans and floating rate commercial business loans. The commercial business and other loans have increased to 19.45% of the entire loan portfolio as of December 31, 2020 compared to 18.44% at December 31, 2019. In

the multi-family portfolio, we allowed loans to prepay rather than refinance at a rate below our criteria. We no longer originate taxi medallion loans.

The following table shows loan originations and purchases during 2020, and loan balances as of December 31, 2020.

	Loan Originations and Purchases	Loan Balances December 31, 2020	Percent of Gross Loans
	<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>		
Multi-family residential	\$ 212,729	\$ 2,533,952	37.81 %
Commercial real estate	191,852	1,754,754	26.18
One-to-four family — mixed-use property	35,131	602,981	9.00
One-to-four family — residential	21,805	245,211	3.66
Co-operative apartment	704	8,051	0.12
Construction	21,859	83,322	1.24
Small Business Administration	112,352	167,376	2.50
Taxi medallion	—	2,757	0.04
Commercial business and Other	407,682	1,303,225	19.45
Total	<u>\$ 1,004,114</u>	<u>\$ 6,701,629</u>	<u>100.00 %</u>

At December 31, 2020, multi-family residential, commercial business and other loans and commercial real estate loans, totaled 83.4% of our gross loans. We have repositioned our loan growth to reduce credit risk; however, our concentration in these types of loans could require us to increase our provisions for loan losses and to maintain an allowance for loan losses as a percentage of total loans in excess of the allowance currently maintained.

Enhance earnings power by improving scalability and efficiency. We are improving scalability and efficiency by converting our branches to the Universal Banker model with our unique video banker service that gives customers face-to-face video chat access from 7am to 11pm daily via at our ATM terminals. The Universal Banker model provides customers with cutting-edge technology, including state-of-the-art ATMs and a higher-quality service experience, all while further reducing overall costs. We have been rolling this model out across our network as branches are renovated and new branches are opened. As of December 31, 2020, all Flushing locations were operating under the Universal Banker model, while the legacy Empire locations were not. In the branches that have been converted to the Universal Banker model, almost 50% of customer transactions were completed at our high powered ATMs. The Empire merger closed on October 30, 2020, adding \$669.7 million in loans and \$861.3 million in deposits, while recording only \$1.5 million of goodwill. We completed our systems conversions in November 2020.

Manage credit risk. By adherence to our conservative underwriting standards, we have been able to minimize net losses from non-performing loans. We recorded net charge-offs of \$3.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2020, compared to net charge-offs of \$2.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2019. The net charge-offs recorded in 2020 were primarily due the economic deterioration resulting from the impact of COVID-19. We seek to minimize losses by adhering to our defined underwriting standards, which among other things generally requires a debt service coverage ratio of at least 125% and loan to value ratio of 75% or less. The loan to value for the real estate dependent loan portfolio was 38.0% and the average loan to value for non-performing loans collateralized by real estate was 30.5% at December 31, 2020. We seek to maintain our loans in performing status through, among other things, disciplined collection efforts, and consistently monitoring non-performing assets in an effort to return them to performing status. To this end, we review the quality of our loans and report to the Loan Committee of the Board of Directors of the Bank on a monthly basis. We sold 2 delinquent loans totaling \$0.6 million, 11 delinquent loans totaling \$13.0 million, and 12 delinquent loans totaling \$8.7 million during the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively. There can be no assurances that we will continue this strategy in future periods, or if continued, we will be able to find buyers to pay adequate consideration. Non-performing loans totaled \$21.1 million and \$13.3 million at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively. Non-performing assets as a percentage of total assets were 0.26% and 0.19% at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

Remain well capitalized. The Bank faces several minimum capital requirements imposed by federal regulation. Failure to adhere to these minimums could limit the dividends the Bank is allowed to pay, including the payment of dividends to the Holding Company, and could limit the annual growth of the Bank. Under the Dodd Frank Act, banks with assets greater than \$10 billion in total assets are required to complete stress tests, which predict capital levels under certain stress levels. Although, our total assets are currently \$8.0 billion, as a best practice, we completed these tests. As of December 31, 2020, under all stress scenarios, we remained well capitalized per current regulations.

Increase Our Commitment to the Multi-Cultural Marketplace, with a Particular Focus on the Asian Community. Our branches are all located in the New York City metropolitan area with particular concentration in the borough of Queens. Queens is characterized with a high level of ethnic diversity. An important element of our strategy is to service multi-ethnic consumers and businesses. We have a particular presence and concentration in Asian communities, including in particular the Chinese and Korean populations. Both groups are noted for high levels of savings, education and entrepreneurship. In order to service these and other important ethnic groups in our market, our staff speaks more than 20 languages. We have an Asian advisory board to help broaden our links to the community by providing guidance and fostering awareness of our active role in the local community. In the fourth quarter of 2020, we completed our acquisition of Empire, which expanding our branch footprint in Long Island. As of December 31, 2020, we had six branches which have a particular focus on the Asian community, of which four are in the borough of Queens, one is in the borough of Manhattan and one on Long Island, with deposits and loans totaling in excess of \$900 million and \$650 million, respectively, in these locations.

Manage Enterprise-Wide Risk. We identify, measure and attempt to mitigate risks that affect, or have the potential to affect, our business. Due to past economic crises and recent increases in government regulation, we devote significant resources to risk management. We have a seasoned risk officer to provide executive risk leadership, and an enterprise-wide risk management program. Several enterprise risk management analytical products are in use which include key risk indicators. We also have had a chief information security officer even before one will be required by recent NYDFS rulemaking. Our management of enterprise-wide risk enables us to recognize and monitor risks and establish procedures to disseminate the risk information across our organization and to our Board of Directors. The objective is to have a robust and focused risk management process capable of identifying and mitigating emerging threats to the Bank's safety and soundness.

Trends and Contingencies. Our operating results are significantly affected by national and local economic and competitive conditions, including changes in market interest rates, the strength of the local economy, government policies and actions of regulatory authorities. We have remained strategically focused on the origination of multi-family residential mortgages, commercial mortgages and commercial business loans with a full banking relationship. Because of this strategy, we were able to continue to achieve a higher yield on our mortgage portfolio than we would have otherwise experienced.

Loan originations and purchases were \$1,004.1 million, \$1,162.3 million and \$1,250.8 million for the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively. While we primarily rely on originating our own loans, we purchased \$193.3 million, \$221.2 million and \$294.7 million during the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively. We purchase loans when the loans complement our loan portfolio strategy. Loans purchased must meet our underwriting standards when they were originated.

During the three-year period ended December 31, 2020, the allocation of our loan portfolio has remained fairly consistent with a steady increase in non-mortgage loans. The majority of our loans are collateralized by real estate, which comprised 78.0% of our portfolio at December 31, 2020 compared to 81.3% at December 31, 2019 and 83.8% at December 31, 2018, while non-mortgage loans comprised 22.0% of our portfolio at December 31, 2020, compared to 18.7% at December 31, 2019 and 16.2% at December 31, 2018.

Due to depositors increased \$1,068.7 million, \$106.1 million and \$575.3 million in 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively. Lower-costing core deposits increased \$1,368.2 million, \$231.5 million and \$363.9 million in 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively. Higher-costing certificates of deposit decreased \$299.5 million during 2020 compared to a decrease of \$125.4 million in 2019 and an increase of \$211.4 million during 2018. Brokered deposits represented 17.5%, 7.7% and

6.1% of total deposits at December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively. During 2018, Section 29 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act was amended to no longer consider reciprocal deposits held by an FDIC-insured depository institution brokered deposits. At December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, reciprocal deposits totaled \$735.4 million, \$805.6 million and \$685.3 million, respectively.

Prevailing interest rates affect the extent to which borrowers repay and refinance loans. In a declining interest rate environment, the number of loan prepayments and loan refinancing tends to increase, as do prepayments of mortgage-backed securities. Call provisions associated with our investments in U.S. government agency and corporate securities may also adversely affect yield in a declining interest rate environment. Such prepayments and calls may adversely affect the yield of our loan portfolio and mortgage-backed and other securities as we reinvest the prepaid funds in a lower interest rate environment. However, we typically receive additional loan fees when existing loans are refinanced, which partially offsets the reduced yield on our loan portfolio resulting from prepayments. In periods of low interest rates, our level of core deposits also may decline if depositors seek higher-yielding instruments or other investments not offered by us, which in turn may increase our cost of funds and decrease our net interest margin to the extent alternative funding sources, are utilized. By contrast, an increasing interest rate environment would tend to extend the average lives of lower yielding fixed rate mortgages and mortgage-backed securities, which could adversely affect net interest income. In addition, depositors tend to open longer term, higher costing certificate of deposit accounts which could adversely affect our net interest income if rates were to subsequently decline. Additionally, adjustable rate residential mortgage loans and mortgage-backed securities generally contain interim and lifetime caps that limit the amount the interest rate can increase at re-pricing dates.

Net interest income increased \$33.3 million, or 20.5%, to \$195.2 million for the twelve months ended December 31, 2020 from \$161.9 million for the prior year, as a 38 basis points increase in the net interest margin to 2.85% for the twelve months ended December 31, 2020 was coupled with balance sheet growth. The increase in the net interest margin for 2020 was primarily due to a decrease in our funding costs resulting from the Federal Reserve lowering rates, partially offset by a decrease in the yield of our interest-earning assets. The decrease in the yield of our interest earning assets was primarily due to loans being both originated and repriced at lower rates. During 2020, the cost of borrowed funds decreased 34 basis points to 1.97% from 2.31% in the comparable period while the cost of interest-bearing deposits decreased 99 basis points to 0.92% from 1.91% for the prior year. The cost of money market, NOW and certificates of deposits accounts decreased 111 basis points, 106 basis points and 74 basis points, respectively, for the twelve months ended December 31, 2020 from the prior year. The cost of deposits decreased as we decreased the rates we pay resulting from Federal Reserve lowering rates.

We are unable to predict the direction or timing of future interest rate changes. Approximately 81% of our certificates of deposit accounts and borrowings will reprice or mature during the next year. Also, in an increasing interest rate environment, mortgage loans and mortgage-backed securities may prepay at slower rates than experienced in the past, which could result in a reduction of prepayment penalty income.

On October 30, 2020, the Company completed its acquisition of 100% of the outstanding voting and non-voting shares of Empire. The shareholders of Empire received total consideration of \$87.5 million which consisted of \$54.8 million in cash and 2,557,028 shares of Flushing Financial Corporation common stock. The combined company has \$8.0 billion in assets, \$6.7 billion in loans, \$6.1 billion in deposits, and 25 branches in Queens, Brooklyn, Manhattan, and on Long Island.

Interest Rate Sensitivity Analysis

A financial institution's exposure to the risks of changing interest rates may be analyzed, in part, by examining the extent to which its assets and liabilities are "interest rate sensitive" and by monitoring the institution's interest rate sensitivity "gap." An asset or liability is said to be interest rate sensitive within a specific time period if it will mature or reprice within that time period. The interest rate sensitivity gap is defined as the difference between the amount of interest-earning assets maturing or repricing within a specific time period and the amount of interest-bearing liabilities maturing or repricing within that time period. A gap is considered positive when the amount of interest-earning assets maturing or repricing exceeds the amount of interest-bearing liabilities maturing or repricing within the same period. A gap is considered negative when the amount of interest-bearing liabilities maturing or repricing exceeds the amount of interest-earning assets maturing or repricing within the same period. Accordingly, a positive gap may enhance net interest income

in a rising rate environment and reduce net interest income in a falling rate environment. Conversely, a negative gap may enhance net interest income in a falling rate environment and reduce net interest income in a rising rate environment.

The table below sets forth the amounts of interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities outstanding at December 31, 2020 which are anticipated by the Company, based upon certain assumptions, to reprice or mature in each of the future time periods shown. Except as stated below, the amount of assets and liabilities shown that reprice or mature during a particular period was determined in accordance with the earlier of the term to repricing or the contractual terms of the asset or liability. Prepayment assumptions for mortgage loans and mortgage-backed securities are based on our experience and industry averages, which generally range from 3% to 50%, depending on the contractual rate of interest and the underlying collateral. NOW Accounts, money market accounts and savings accounts were assumed to have withdrawal or “run-off” rates of 19%, 13% and 9%, respectively, based on our experience. While management bases these assumptions on actual prepayments and withdrawals experienced by us, there is no guarantee that these trends will continue in the future.

Interest Rate Sensitivity Gap Analysis at December 31, 2020							
	Three Months And Less	More Than Three Months To One Year	More Than One Year To Three Years	More Than Three Years To Five Years	More Than Five Years To Ten Years	More Than Ten Years	Total
<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>							
Interest-Earning Assets							
Mortgage loans	\$ 398,880	\$ 739,143	\$ 1,977,759	\$ 1,269,186	\$ 701,280	\$ 142,023	\$ 5,228,271
Other loans	640,296	145,797	233,217	170,733	281,713	—	1,471,756
Short-term securities (1)	133,683	—	—	—	—	—	133,683
Securities held-to-maturity:							
Mortgage-backed securities	—	—	—	—	—	49,918	49,918
Other	326	979	2,612	2,612	1,385	—	7,914
Securities available for sale:							
Mortgage-backed securities	48,071	49,672	123,042	79,097	78,795	25,783	404,460
Other	240,657	—	—	—	—	2,857	243,514
Total interest-earning assets	<u>1,461,913</u>	<u>935,591</u>	<u>2,336,630</u>	<u>1,521,628</u>	<u>1,063,173</u>	<u>220,581</u>	<u>7,539,516</u>
Interest-Bearing Liabilities							
Savings accounts	4,762	14,285	29,008	21,663	98,465	—	168,183
NOW accounts	852,230	136,200	169,664	110,553	1,054,525	—	2,323,172
Money market accounts	110,179	70,303	119,890	86,303	1,295,670	—	1,682,345
Certificate of deposit accounts	477,323	445,912	197,213	17,882	31	—	1,138,361
Mortgagors' escrow deposits	—	—	—	—	—	45,622	45,622
Borrowings	657,997	170,086	185,064	7,748	—	—	1,020,895
Total interest-bearing liabilities (2)	<u>\$ 2,102,491</u>	<u>\$ 836,786</u>	<u>\$ 700,839</u>	<u>\$ 244,149</u>	<u>\$ 2,448,691</u>	<u>\$ 45,622</u>	<u>\$ 6,378,578</u>
Interest rate sensitivity gap	\$ (640,578)	\$ 98,805	\$ 1,635,791	\$ 1,277,479	\$ (1,385,518)	\$ 174,959	\$ 1,160,938
Cumulative interest-rate sensitivity gap	\$ (640,578)	\$ (541,773)	\$ 1,094,018	\$ 2,371,497	\$ 985,979	\$ 1,160,938	—
Cumulative interest-rate sensitivity gap as a percentage of total assets	(8.03)%	(6.79)%	13.72 %	29.73 %	12.36 %	14.55 %	—
Cumulative net interest-earning assets as a percentage of interest-bearing liabilities	69.53 %	81.57 %	130.05 %	161.05 %	115.57 %	118.20 %	—

(1) Consists of interest-earning deposits.

(2) Does not include non-interest bearing demand accounts totaling \$435.1 million at December 31, 2020.

Certain shortcomings are inherent in the method of analysis presented in the foregoing table. For example, although certain assets and liabilities may have similar estimated maturities or periods to repricing, they may react in differing degrees to changes in market interest rates and may bear rates that differ in varying degrees from the rates that would apply upon maturity and reinvestment or upon repricing. Also, the interest rates on certain types of assets and liabilities may fluctuate in advance of changes in market interest rates, while interest rates on other types may lag behind changes in market rates. Additionally, certain assets, such as ARM loans, have features that restrict changes in interest rates on a short-term basis and over the life of the asset. Further, in the event of a significant change in the level of interest rates, prepayments on loans and mortgage-backed securities, and deposit withdrawal or “run-off” levels, would likely

deviate materially from those assumed in calculating the above table. In the event of an interest rate increase, some borrowers may be unable to meet the increased payments on their adjustable-rate debt. The interest rate sensitivity analysis assumes that the nature of the Company’s assets and liabilities remains static. Interest rates may have an effect on customer preferences for deposits and loan products. Finally, the maturity and repricing characteristics of many assets and liabilities as set forth in the above table are not governed by contract but rather by management’s best judgment based on current market conditions and anticipated business strategies.

Interest Rate Risk

Our Consolidated Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, which requires the measurement of financial position and operating results in terms of historical dollars without considering the changes in fair value of certain investments due to changes in interest rates. Generally, the fair value of financial investments such as loans and securities fluctuates inversely with changes in interest rates. As a result, increases in interest rates could result in decreases in the fair value of our interest-earning assets which could adversely affect our results of operations if such assets were sold, or, in the case of securities classified as available for sale, decreases in our stockholders’ equity if such securities were retained.

We manage the mix of interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities on a continuous basis to maximize return and adjust our exposure to interest rate risk. On a quarterly basis, management prepares the “Earnings and Economic Exposure to Changes in Interest Rate” report for review by the Board of Directors, as summarized below. This report quantifies the potential changes in net interest income and net portfolio value should interest rates go up or down (shocked) 200 basis points, assuming the yield curves of the rate shocks will be parallel to each other. Net portfolio value is defined as the market value of assets net of the market value of liabilities. The market value of assets and liabilities is determined using a discounted cash flow calculation. The net portfolio value ratio is the ratio of the net portfolio value to the market value of assets. All changes in income and value are measured as percentage changes from the projected net interest income and net portfolio value at the base interest rate scenario. The base interest rate scenario assumes interest rates at December 31, 2020. Various estimates regarding prepayment assumptions are made at each level of rate shock. Actual results could differ significantly from these estimates. At December 31, 2020, we were within the guidelines established by the Board of Directors for each interest rate level.

Change in Interest Rate	Projected Percentage Change In				Net Portfolio Value Ratio	
	Net Interest Income		Net Portfolio Value		2020	2019
	2020	2019	2020	2019		
-200 basis points	0.86 %	12.94 %	1.77 %	35.61 %	9.76 %	12.93 %
-100 basis points	2.71	6.08	6.55	14.10	10.27	11.30
Base interest rate	—	—	—	—	9.93	10.22
+100 basis points	(6.87)	(6.63)	(15.66)	(9.28)	8.67	9.52
+200 basis points	(13.54)	(13.58)	(24.55)	(18.12)	7.98	8.82

Analysis of Net Interest Income

Net interest income represents the difference between income on interest-earning assets and expense on interest-bearing liabilities. Net interest income depends upon the relative amount of interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities and the interest rate earned or paid on them.

The following table sets forth certain information relating to our Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition and Consolidated Statements of Income for the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, and reflects the average yield on assets and average cost of liabilities for the periods indicated. Such yields and costs are derived by dividing income or expense by the average balance of assets or liabilities, respectively, for the periods shown. Average balances are derived from average daily balances. The yields include amortization of fees that are considered adjustments to yields.

	For the year ended December 31,								
	2020			2019			2018		
	Average Balance	Interest	Yield/ Cost	Average Balance	Interest	Yield/ Cost	Average Balance	Interest	Yield/ Cost
<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>									
Assets									
Interest-earning assets:									
Mortgage loans, net ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾	\$ 4,798,232	\$ 202,722	4.22 %	\$ 4,609,439	\$ 203,440	4.41 %	\$ 4,494,210	\$ 193,186	4.30 %
Other loans, net ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾	1,207,715	45,431	3.76	1,011,594	48,304	4.78	822,758	39,533	4.80
Total loans, net	6,005,947	248,153	4.13	5,621,033	251,744	4.48	5,316,968	232,719	4.38
Taxable securities:									
Mortgage-backed securities	450,065	8,730	1.94	572,223	15,468	2.70	539,771	15,065	2.79
Other securities	249,533	5,178	2.08	243,324	8,102	3.33	140,461	4,658	3.32
Total taxable securities	699,598	13,908	1.99	815,547	23,570	2.89	680,232	19,723	2.90
Tax-exempt securities: ⁽³⁾									
Other securities	56,530	2,419	4.28	60,971	2,580	4.23	121,412	4,261	3.51
Total tax-exempt securities	56,530	2,419	4.28	60,971	2,580	4.23	121,412	4,261	3.51
Interest-earning deposits and federal funds sold	100,723	355	0.35	84,922	1,604	1.89	75,636	1,190	1.57
Total interest-earning assets	6,862,798	264,835	3.86	6,582,473	279,498	4.25	6,194,248	257,893	4.16
Other assets	413,224			365,408			310,350		
Total assets	\$ 7,276,022			\$ 6,947,881			\$ 6,504,598		
Liabilities and Equity									
Interest-bearing liabilities:									
Deposits:									
Savings accounts	\$ 176,443	495	0.28	\$ 198,374	1,378	0.69	\$ 233,392	1,370	0.59
NOW accounts	1,603,402	9,309	0.58	1,434,440	23,553	1.64	1,407,945	15,896	1.13
Money market accounts	1,561,496	14,368	0.92	1,370,038	27,819	2.03	1,164,505	18,707	1.61
Certificate of deposit accounts	1,167,865	18,096	1.55	1,532,440	35,078	2.29	1,483,026	28,310	1.91
Total due to depositors	4,509,206	42,268	0.94	4,535,292	87,828	1.94	4,288,868	64,283	1.50
Mortgagors' escrow accounts	70,829	44	0.06	70,209	229	0.33	66,255	214	0.32
Total interest-bearing deposits	4,580,035	42,312	0.92	4,605,501	88,057	1.91	4,355,123	64,497	1.48
Borrowings	1,361,559	26,816	1.97	1,251,452	28,959	2.31	1,162,429	25,095	2.16
Total interest-bearing liabilities	5,941,594	69,128	1.16	5,856,953	117,016	2.00	5,517,552	89,592	1.62
Non interest-bearing demand deposits	583,235			407,450			380,889		
Other liabilities	171,126			122,189			71,422		
Total liabilities	6,695,955			6,386,592			5,969,863		
Equity	580,067			561,289			534,735		
Total liabilities and equity	\$ 7,276,022			\$ 6,947,881			\$ 6,504,598		
Net interest income / net interest rate spread ⁽⁴⁾		\$ 195,707	2.70 %		\$ 162,482	2.25 %		\$ 168,301	2.54 %
Net interest-earning assets / net interest margin ⁽⁵⁾	\$ 921,204		2.85 %	\$ 725,520		2.47 %	\$ 676,696		2.72 %
Ratio of interest-earning assets to interest-bearing liabilities			1.16 X			1.12 X			1.12 X

- (1) Average balances include non-accrual loans.
- (2) Loan interest income includes loan fee income (which includes net amortization of deferred fees and costs, late charges, and prepayment penalties) of approximately \$2.3 million, \$2.0 million and \$2.1 million for the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively. In addition, it includes net losses from fair value adjustments in qualifying hedges of \$1.2 million and \$1.7 million for December 31, 2020 and 2019; and none for the years ended December 31, 2018.
- (3) Interest and yields are calculated on the tax equivalent basis using statutory federal income tax rate of 21% for the years ended December 31, 2020, December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2018.
- (4) Interest rate spread represents the difference between the average rate on interest-earning assets and the average cost of interest-bearing liabilities.
- (5) Net interest margin represents net interest income before the provision for loan losses divided by average interest-earning assets.

Rate/Volume Analysis

The following table presents the impact of changes in interest rates and in the volume of interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities on the Company's interest income and interest expense during the periods indicated. Information is provided in each category with respect to (1) changes attributable to changes in volume (changes in volume multiplied by the prior rate), (2) changes attributable to changes in rate (changes in rate multiplied by the prior volume) and (3) the net change. The changes attributable to the combined impact of volume and rate have been allocated proportionately to the changes due to volume and the changes due to rate.

	Increase (Decrease) in Net Interest Income for the years ended December 31,					
	2020 vs. 2019			2019 vs. 2018		
	Due to		Net	Due to		Net
Volume	Rate	Volume		Rate		
	<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>					
Interest-Earning Assets:						
Mortgage loans, net	\$ 8,187	\$ (8,905)	\$ (718)	\$ 5,133	\$ 5,121	\$ 10,254
Other loans, net	8,456	(11,329)	(2,873)	8,938	(167)	8,771
Mortgage-backed securities	(2,906)	(3,832)	(6,738)	895	(492)	403
Other securities	201	(3,125)	(2,924)	3,430	14	3,444
Tax-Exempt securities	(190)	29	(161)	(2,428)	747	(1,681)
Interest-earning deposits and federal funds sold	254	(1,503)	(1,249)	156	258	414
Total interest-earning assets	14,002	(28,665)	(14,663)	16,124	5,481	21,605
Interest-Bearing Liabilities:						
Deposits:						
Savings accounts	(138)	(745)	(883)	(215)	223	8
NOW accounts	2,492	(16,736)	(14,244)	306	7,351	7,657
Money market accounts	3,453	(16,904)	(13,451)	3,677	5,435	9,112
Certificate of deposit accounts	(7,201)	(9,781)	(16,982)	971	5,797	6,768
Mortgagors' escrow accounts	2	(187)	(185)	10	5	15
Borrowings	2,382	(4,525)	(2,143)	2,026	1,838	3,864
Total interest-bearing liabilities	990	(48,878)	(47,888)	6,775	20,649	27,424
Net change in net interest income	\$ 13,012	\$ 20,213	\$ 33,225	\$ 9,349	\$ (15,168)	\$ (5,819)

Comparison of Operating Results for the Years Ended December 31, 2020 and 2019

General. Net income for the twelve months ended December 31, 2020 was \$34.7 million, a decrease of \$6.6 million, or 16.0%, compared to \$41.3 million for the twelve months ended December 31, 2019. Diluted earnings per common share were \$1.18 for the twelve months ended December 31, 2020, a decrease of \$0.26, or 18.06%, from \$1.44 for the twelve months ended December 31, 2019. Return on average equity decreased to 5.98% for the twelve months ended December 31, 2020, from 7.35% for the prior year. Return on average assets decreased to 0.48% for the twelve months ended December 31, 2020 from 0.59% for the prior year.

Interest Income. Interest income decreased \$14.6 million, or 5.24%, to \$264.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2020 from \$279.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2019. The decrease in interest income was primarily due to a decrease of 39 basis points in the yield of interest-earning assets to 3.86% for the year ended December 31, 2020 from 4.25% for the year ended December 31, 2019, partially offset by an increase of \$280.3 million in the average balance of interest-earning assets to \$6,862.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2020 from \$6,582.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2019. The 39 basis point decrease in the yield of interest-earning assets was primarily due to a 35 basis point decrease in the yield on total loans to 4.13% for the twelve months ended December 31, 2020 from 4.48% from December 31, 2019 combined with a 82 basis point decrease in the yield of total securities to 2.16% for the year ended December 31, 2020 from 2.98% for the year ended December 31, 2019. The yield on the loan portfolio,

excluding prepayment penalty income, decreased 34 basis points to 4.09% for the twelve months ended December 31, 2020 from 4.43 % for the twelve months ended December 31, 2019.

Interest Expense. Interest expense decreased \$47.9 million, or 40.92%, to \$69.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2020 from \$117.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2019. The decrease in interest expense was primarily due to a decrease of 84 basis points in the average cost of interest-bearing liabilities to 1.16% for the year ended December 31, 2020 from 2.00% for the year ended December 31, 2019. The 84 basis point decrease in the cost of interest-bearing liabilities was primarily due to the Company's quick response to the Federal Reserve lowering rates.

Net Interest Income. Net interest income for the year ended December 31, 2020 totaled \$195.2 million, an increase of \$33.3 million, or 20.54%, from \$161.9 million for 2019. The increase in net interest income was primarily due to a 45 basis point increase in the net interest spread to 2.70% for the twelve months ended December 31, 2020 from 2.25% for the prior year. The yield on interest-earning assets decreased 39 basis points to 3.86% for the year ended December 31, 2020, from 4.25% for the year ended December 31, 2019, and the cost of interest-bearing liabilities decreased 84 basis points to 1.16% for the year ended December 31, 2020 from 2.00% for the prior year. The net interest margin increased 38 basis points to 2.85% for the year ended December 31, 2020 from 2.47% for the year ended December 31, 2019. Excluding prepayment penalty income, the net interest margin would have been 2.81% and 2.42% for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

Provision for Credit Losses. Provision for credit losses of \$23.1 million was recorded for the year ended December 31, 2020, compared to \$2.8 million during the prior year. The provision was primarily the result of economic deterioration resulting from the impact of COVID-19. During the twelve months ended December 31, 2020, non-accrual loans increased \$5.5 million to \$18.3 million from \$12.8 million at December 31, 2019. During the twelve months ended December 31, 2020, the Bank recorded net charge-offs totaling \$3.6 million. The average loan-to-value ratio for our non-performing loans collateralized by real estate was 30.5% at December 31, 2020. The Bank continues to maintain conservative underwriting standards. We anticipate that we will continue to see low loss content in our loan portfolio.

Non-Interest Income. Non-interest income for the twelve months ended December 31, 2020 was \$11.0 million, an increase of \$1.6 million, or 16.60%, from \$9.5 million for the twelve months ended December 31, 2019. Non-interest income increased primarily due to a decrease in net losses from fair value adjustments of \$3.2 million, partially offset by a decrease of \$1.6 million in net gains from the sale of assets and loans for the year ended December 31, 2020 compared to the prior year.

Non-Interest Expense. Non-interest expense was \$137.9 million for the twelve months ended December 31, 2020, an increase of \$22.7 million, or 19.66%, from \$115.3 million for the twelve months ended December 31, 2019. The increase in non-interest expense was primarily due to the year ended December 31, 2020 including \$8.7 million in merger expenses and \$7.8 million in prepayment penalties from the early extinguishment of FHLB borrowings combined with increases in salaries and employee benefits and occupancy and equipment expense due to the growth of the Bank.

Income Tax Provisions. Income tax expense for the year ended December 31, 2020 decreased \$1.5 million, or 12.81%, to \$10.5 million, compared to \$12.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2019. The decrease was primarily due to the \$8.1 million decrease in income before income taxes for the year ended December 31, 2020 compared to the prior year. The effective tax rate for the year ended December 31, 2020 was 23.3% compared to 22.7% for the year ended December 31, 2019.

Comparison of Operating Results for the Years Ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 ⁽¹⁾

Liquidity, Regulatory Capital and Capital Resources

Our primary sources of funds are deposits, borrowings, principal and interest payments on loans, mortgage-backed and other securities, and proceeds from sales of securities and loans. Deposit flows and mortgage prepayments, however, are greatly influenced by general interest rates, economic conditions and competition. At December 31, 2020, the Bank was able to borrow up to \$3,568.0 million from the FHLB-NY in Federal Home Loan Bank advances and letters of credit. As of December 31, 2020, the Bank had \$1,652.6 million outstanding in combined balances of FHLB-NY advances and letters of credit. At December 31, 2020, the Bank also has unsecured lines of credit with other commercial banks totaling \$618.0 million, with no outstanding amount. In addition, the Holding Company has subordinated debentures with a principal balance totaling \$90.3 million and junior subordinated debentures with a face amount of \$61.9 million and a carrying amount of \$43.1 million (which are both included in Borrowed Funds). (See Note 10 of Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this Annual Report.) Management believes its available sources of funds are sufficient to fund current operations.

Our most liquid assets are cash and cash equivalents, which include cash and due from banks, overnight interest-earning deposits and federal funds sold with original maturities of 90 days or less. The level of these assets is dependent on our operating, financing, lending and investing activities during any given period. At December 31, 2020, cash and cash equivalents totaled \$157.4 million, an increase of \$107.6 million from December 31, 2019. We also held marketable securities available for sale with a market value of \$648.0 million at December 31, 2020.

At December 31, 2020, we had commitments to extend credit (principally real estate mortgage loans) of \$62.4 million and open lines of credit for borrowers (principally business lines of credit and home equity loan lines of credit) of \$411.7 million. Since generally all of the loan commitments are expected to be drawn upon, the total loan commitments approximate future cash requirements, whereas the amounts of lines of credit may not be indicative of our future cash requirements. The loan commitments generally expire in 90 days, while construction loan lines of credit mature within 18 months and home equity loan lines of credit mature within 10 years. We use the same credit policies in making commitments and conditional obligations as we do for on-balance-sheet instruments.

Our total interest expense and non-interest expense in 2020 were \$69.1 million and \$137.9 million, respectively.

We maintain three postretirement defined benefit plans for our employees: a noncontributory defined benefit pension plan which was frozen as of September 30, 2006, a contributory medical plan, and a noncontributory life insurance plan. The life insurance plan was amended to discontinue providing life insurance benefits to future retirees after January 1, 2010 and the medical plan was frozen to future retirees as of January 1, 2011. We also maintain a noncontributory defined benefit plan for certain of our non-employee directors, which was frozen as of January 1, 2004. The employee pension plan is the only plan that we have funded. During 2020, we incurred cash expenditures of \$0.1 million for each of the medical and life insurance plans and the non-employee director plan. We did not make a contribution to the employee pension plan in 2020. We expect to pay similar amounts for these plans in 2021. (See Note 13 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this Annual Report.)

(1) – Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019, filed with the SEC on March 2, 2020, which is available on our investor relations website at www.flushingbank.com and the SEC’s website at www.sec.gov.

The amounts reported in our financial statements are obtained from reports prepared by independent actuaries, and are based on significant assumptions. The most significant assumption is the discount rate used to determine the accumulated postretirement benefit obligation (“APBO”) for these plans. The APBO is the present value of projected benefits that employees and retirees have earned to date. The discount rate is a single rate at which the liabilities of the plans are discounted into today’s dollars and could be effectively settled or eliminated. The discount rate used is based on the FTSE Pension Discount Curve (formerly the Citigroup Pension Liability Index), and reflects a rate that could be earned on bonds over a similar period that we anticipate the plans’ liabilities will be paid. An increase in the discount rate would reduce the APBO, while a reduction in the discount rate would increase the APBO. During the past several years, when interest rates have been at historically low levels, the discount rate used for our plans has declined from 7.25% for 2001 to 2.18% for 2020. This decline in the discount rate has resulted in an increase in our APBO.

The Company’s actuaries use several other assumptions that could have a significant impact on our APBO and periodic expense for these plans. These assumptions include, but are not limited to, expected rate of return on plan assets, future increases in medical and life insurance premiums, turnover rates of employees, and life expectancy. The accounting standards for postretirement plans involve mechanisms that serve to limit the volatility of earnings by allowing changes in the value of plan assets and benefit obligations to be amortized over time when actual results differ from the assumptions used, there are changes in the assumptions used, or there are plan amendments. At December 31, 2020, our employee pension plan had an unrecognized loss of \$1.8 million and the medical and life insurance plan had an unrecognized loss of \$1.3 million. At December 31, 2020, the non-employee director plan had an unrecognized gain of \$0.3 million due to experience different from what had been estimated and changes in actuarial assumptions. The employee pension plan’s and medical and life insurance plan’s unrecognized losses are primarily attributed to the reduction in the discount rate. In addition, the medical and life insurance plan has a \$0.1 million past service credit due to plan amendments. The net after tax effect of the unrecognized gains and losses associated with these plans has been recorded in accumulated other comprehensive loss in stockholders’ equity, resulting in a reduction of stockholders’ equity of \$0.9 million as of December 31, 2020.

The change in the discount rate, the pension plan’s mortality table and the reduction in medical premiums are the only significant changes made to the assumptions used for these plans for each of the three years ended December 31, 2020. During the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, the actual return on the employee pension plan assets was approximately 311%, 372% and 94%, respectively, of the assumed return used to determine the periodic pension expense for that respective year.

The market value of the assets of our employee pension plan is \$27.7 million at December 31, 2020, which is \$3.5 million more than the projected benefit obligation. We do not anticipate a change in the market value of these assets which would have a significant effect on liquidity, capital resources, or results of operations.

During 2020, funds were provided by the Company’s investing activities and operating activities which amounted to \$93.1 million and \$71.3 million, respectively and were used for financing activities totaling \$56.8 million. The Company’s primary business objective is the origination and purchase of multi-family residential loans, commercial business loans and commercial real estate mortgage loans and to a lesser extent one-to-four family (including mixed-use properties). During the year ended December 31, 2020, the net total of loan originations and purchases less loan repayments and sales was \$241.1 million. During the year ended December 31, 2020, the Company also purchased \$217.4 million in securities and used \$54.8 million to fund the purchase of Empire. During 2020, funds were provided by a net increase of \$208.5 million in total deposits and \$215.4 million in long-term borrowings. Additionally, funds were provided by \$504.5 million in proceeds from maturities, sales, calls and prepayments of securities and \$86.3 million provided by the acquisition of Empire. The Company also used funds of \$452.0 million, \$24.8 million and \$3.9 million for the repayment of long-term borrowed funds, dividend payments and treasury stock, respectively, during the year ended December 31, 2020.

At the time of the Bank’s conversion from a federally chartered mutual savings bank to a federally chartered stock savings bank, the Bank was required by its primary regulator to establish a liquidation account which is reduced as and to the extent that eligible account holders reduce their qualifying deposits. Upon completion of the merger, the liquidation account was assumed by the Bank. The balance of the liquidation account at December 31, 2020 was \$0.4 million. In the unlikely event of a complete liquidation of the Bank, each eligible account holder will be entitled to receive

a distribution from the liquidation account. The Bank is not permitted to declare or pay a dividend or to repurchase any of its capital stock if the effect would be to cause the Bank's regulatory capital to be reduced below the amount required for the liquidation account but approval of the NYDFS Superintendent is required if the total of all dividends declared by the Bank in a calendar year would exceed the total of its net profits for that year combined with its retained net profits for the preceding two years less prior dividends paid. The Holding Company is subject to the same regulatory restrictions on the declaration of dividends as the Bank.

Regulatory Capital Position. Under applicable regulatory capital regulations, the Bank and the Company are required to comply with each of four separate capital adequacy standards: leverage capital, common equity Tier I risk-based capital, Tier I risk-based capital and total risk-based capital. Such classifications are used by the FDIC and other bank regulatory agencies to determine matters ranging from each institution's quarterly FDIC deposit insurance premium assessments, to approvals of applications authorizing institutions to grow their asset size or otherwise expand business activities. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, the Bank and the Company exceeded each of their four regulatory capital requirements. (See Note 15 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of this Annual Report.)

Critical Accounting Policies

The Company's accounting policies are integral to understanding the results of operations and statement of financial condition. These policies are described in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements. Several of these policies require management's judgment to determine the value of the Company's assets and liabilities. The Company has established detailed written policies and control procedures to ensure consistent application of these policies. The Company has identified four accounting policies that require significant management valuation judgment: the allowance for loan losses, fair value of financial instruments, including other-than-temporary impairment assessment, goodwill impairment and income taxes.

Allowance for Loan Losses. An allowance for loan losses ("ALL") is provided to absorb probable estimated losses inherent in the loan portfolio. Management reviews the adequacy of the ALL by reviewing individual loans when it has disparate risk characteristics from the rest of the loan portfolio. These loans include non-accrual and TDR loans, while the remainder of the portfolio is grouped by categories with similar risk characteristics. The amount of the ALL is based upon a loss rate model that considers multiple factors which reflects management's assessment of the credit quality of the loan portfolio. Management estimates the allowance balance using relevant information, from internal and external sources, relating to past events, current conditions, and reasonable and supportable forecasts. The factors are both quantitative and qualitative in nature including, but not limited to, historical losses, economic conditions, trends in delinquencies, value and adequacy of underlying collateral, volume and portfolio mix, and internal loan processes. Judgment is required to determine how many years of historical loss experience are to be included when reviewing historical loss experience. A full credit cycle must be used, or loss estimates may be inaccurate. This evaluation is inherently subjective, as it requires estimates that are susceptible to significant revisions as more information becomes available.

The quantitative allowance is calculated using a number of inputs and assumptions. The process and guidelines were developed using, among other factors, the guidance from federal banking regulatory agencies and GAAP. The results of this process, support management's assessment as to the adequacy of the ALL at each balance sheet date.

Notwithstanding the judgment required in assessing the components of the ALL, the Company believes that the ALL is adequate to cover losses inherent in the loan portfolio. The policy has been applied on a consistent basis for all periods presented in the Consolidated Financial Statements. See Notes 2 and 4 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of this Annual Report.

Fair Value of Financial Instruments. The Company carries certain financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value under the fair value option. Fair value is considered the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

The securities portfolio also consists of mortgage-backed and other securities for which the fair value election was not selected. These securities are classified as available for sale or held-to-maturity. Securities classified as available for sale are carried at fair value in the Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition, with changes in fair value recorded

in accumulated other comprehensive loss. Securities held-to-maturity are carried at their amortized cost in the Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition.

Financial assets and financial liabilities reported at fair value are required to be measured based on the following alternatives: (1) quoted prices in active markets for identical financial instruments (Level 1), (2) significant other observable inputs (Level 2), or (3) significant unobservable inputs (Level 3). Judgment is required in selecting the appropriate level to be used to determine fair value. The majority of financial assets and financial liabilities for which the fair value election was made, and the majority of investments classified as available for sale and held-to-maturity, were measured using Level 2 inputs, which require judgment to determine the fair value. The trust preferred securities held in the investment portfolio, and the Company's junior subordinated debentures, were measured using Level 3 inputs due to the inactive market for these securities. See Notes 2, 7 and 20 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of this Annual Report.

Goodwill Impairment. Goodwill is presumed to have an indefinite life and is tested for impairment, rather than amortized, on at least an annual basis. For the purpose of goodwill impairment testing, management has concluded that Company has one reporting unit. If the fair value of the reporting unit exceeds its carrying amount, there is no impairment of goodwill.

Quoted market prices in active markets are the best evidence of fair value and are to be used as the basis for measurement, when available. Other acceptable valuation methods include an asset approach, which determines a fair value based upon the value of assets net of liabilities, an income approach, which determines fair value using one or more methods that convert anticipated economic benefits into a present single amount, and a market approach, which determines a fair value based on the similar businesses that have been sold.

As described above, fair value of our reporting unit is derived using a combination of an asset approach, an income approach and a market approach. These valuation techniques consider several other factors beyond our market capitalization, such as the estimated future cash flows of our reporting unit, the discount rate used to present value such cash flows and the market multiples of comparable companies. Changes to input assumptions used in the analysis could result in materially different evaluations of goodwill impairment. See Notes 2 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of this Annual Report.

Income Taxes. The Company estimates its income taxes payable based on the amounts it expects to owe to the various taxing authorities (i.e. federal, state and local). In estimating income taxes, management assesses the relative merits and risks of the tax treatment of transactions, taking into account statutory, judicial and regulatory guidance in the context of the Company's tax position. Management also relies on tax opinions, recent audits, and historical experience.

The Company also recognizes deferred tax assets and liabilities for the future tax consequences of differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases. A valuation allowance is required for deferred tax assets that the Company estimates are more likely than not to be unrealizable, based on evidence available at the time the estimate is made. These estimates can be affected by changes to tax laws, statutory tax rates, and future income levels. See Notes 2 and 11 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 of this Annual Report.

Contractual Obligations

	Payments Due By Period				
	Total	Less Than 1 Year	1 - 3 Years	3 - 5 Years	More Than 5 Years
	<i>(In thousands)</i>				
Borrowings	\$ 1,020,895	\$ 835,831	\$ 185,064	\$ —	\$ —
Deposits	6,136,355	5,921,229	197,213	17,882	31
Loan commitments	474,028	474,028	—	—	—
Operating lease obligations	67,240	8,757	17,877	17,059	23,547
Purchase obligations	17,430	7,651	6,924	2,378	477
Pension and other postretirement benefits	5,521	543	1,153	1,060	2,765
Deferred compensation plans	18,971	476	952	952	16,591
Total	<u>\$ 7,740,440</u>	<u>\$ 7,248,515</u>	<u>\$ 409,183</u>	<u>\$ 39,331</u>	<u>\$ 43,411</u>

We have significant obligations that arise in the normal course of business. We finance our assets with deposits and borrowings. We also use borrowings to manage our interest-rate risk. Borrowings with call provisions are included in the period of the next call date. We have the means to refinance these borrowings as they mature or are called through financing arrangements with the FHLB-NY and our ability to arrange repurchase agreements with broker-dealers and the FHLB-NY. (See Notes 10 and 11 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this Annual Report.)

We focus our balance sheet growth on the origination of mortgage loans. At December 31, 2020, we had commitments to extend credit and lines of credit of \$474.0 million for mortgage and other loans. These loans will be funded through principal and interest payments received on existing mortgage loans and mortgage-backed securities, growth in customer deposits, and, when necessary, additional borrowings. (See Note 17 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this Annual Report.)

At December 31, 2020, the Bank had 25 branches, which were all leased. In addition, we lease our executive offices. We currently outsource our data processing, loan servicing and check processing functions. We believe that this is the most cost effective method for obtaining these services. These arrangements are usually volume dependent and have varying terms. The contracts for these services usually include annual increases based on the increase in the consumer price index. The amounts shown above for purchase obligations represent the current term and volume of activity of these contracts. We expect to renew these contracts as they expire.

The amounts shown for pension and other postretirement benefits reflect our directors' pension plan and amounts due under our plan for medical and life insurance benefits for retired employees. The amount shown in the "Less Than 1 Year" column represents our current estimate for these benefits, some of which are based on information supplied by actuaries. The amounts shown in columns reflecting periods over one year represent our current estimate based on the past year's actual disbursements and information supplied by actuaries. The amounts do not include an increase for possible future retirees or increases in health plan costs. The amount shown in the "More Than 5 Years" column represents the amount required to increase the total amount to the projected benefit obligation of the directors' plan and the medical and life insurance benefit plans, since these are unfunded plans and the underfunded portion of the employee pension plan. (See Note 13 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this Annual Report.)

We currently provide a non-qualified deferred compensation plan for officers who have achieved the designated level and completed one year of service. However, certain officers who have not reached the designated level but were already participants remain eligible to participate in the Plan. In addition to the amounts deferred by the officers, we match 50% of their contributions, generally up to a maximum of 5% of the officer's salary. These plans generally require the deferred balance to be credited with earnings at a rate earned by certain mutual funds. The amounts shown in the columns for less than five years represent the estimate of the amounts we will contribute to a rabbi trust with respect to matching contributions under these plans. The amount shown in the "More Than 5 Years" column represents the current accrued liability for these plans, adjusted for the activity in the columns for less than five years. This expense is provided in the Consolidated Statements of Income, and the liability has been provided in the Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition.

Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.

This information is contained in the section captioned "Interest Rate Risk" on page 62 and in Notes 20 and 21 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this Annual Report.

Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data.

FLUSHING FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition

	December 31, 2020	December 31, 2019
	<i>(Dollars in thousands, except per share data)</i>	
Assets		
Cash and due from banks	\$ 157,388	\$ 49,787
Securities held-to-maturity:		
Mortgage-backed securities (include assets pledged of \$5,853 and \$5,283 at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively; fair value of \$8,991 and \$8,114 at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively)	7,914	7,934
Other securities, net of allowance of \$907 at December 31, 2020 (none pledged; fair value of \$54,538 and \$53,998 at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively)	49,918	50,954
Securities available for sale, at fair value:		
Mortgage-backed securities (including assets pledged of \$264,968 and \$212,038 at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively; \$505 and \$772 at fair value pursuant to the fair value option at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively)	404,460	523,849
Other securities (including assets pledged of \$6,453 and none at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively; \$13,998 and \$13,548 at fair value pursuant to the fair value option at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively)	243,514	248,651
Loans, net of fees and costs	6,704,674	5,772,206
Less: Allowance for loan losses	(45,153)	(21,751)
Net loans	6,659,521	5,750,455
Interest and dividends receivable	44,041	25,722
Bank premises and equipment, net	28,179	28,676
Federal Home Loan Bank of New York stock, at cost	43,439	56,921
Bank owned life insurance	181,710	157,713
Goodwill	17,636	16,127
Other real estate owned, net	—	239
Core deposit intangibles	3,172	—
Right of Use Asset	50,743	41,254
Other assets	84,759	59,494
Total assets	<u>\$ 7,976,394</u>	<u>\$ 7,017,776</u>
Liabilities		
Due to depositors:		
Non-interest bearing	\$ 778,672	\$ 435,072
Interest-bearing	5,312,061	4,586,977
Total Due to depositors	6,090,733	5,022,049
Mortgagors' escrow deposits	45,622	44,375
Borrowed funds:		
Federal Home Loan Bank advances	887,579	1,118,528
Subordinated debentures	90,180	74,319
Junior subordinated debentures, at fair value	43,136	44,384
Total borrowed funds	1,020,895	1,237,231
Operating lease liability	59,100	49,367
Other liabilities	141,047	85,082
Total liabilities	<u>7,357,397</u>	<u>6,438,104</u>
Commitments and contingencies (Note 17)		
Stockholders' Equity		
Preferred stock (\$0.01 par value; 5,000,000 shares authorized; none issued)	—	—
Common stock (\$0.01 par value; 100,000,000 shares authorized; 34,087,623 shares and 31,530,595 shares issued at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively; 30,775,854 shares and 28,157,206 shares outstanding at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively)	341	315
Additional paid-in capital	261,533	226,691
Treasury stock, at average cost (3,311,769 shares and 3,373,389 shares at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively)	(69,400)	(71,487)
Retained earnings	442,789	433,960
Accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of taxes	(16,266)	(9,807)
Total stockholders' equity	<u>618,997</u>	<u>579,672</u>
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	<u>\$ 7,976,394</u>	<u>\$ 7,017,776</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

FLUSHING FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
Consolidated Statements of Income

	For the years ended December 31,		
	2020	2019	2018
	<i>(In thousands, except per share data)</i>		
Interest and dividend income			
Interest and fees on loans	\$ 248,153	\$ 251,744	\$ 232,719
Interest and dividends on securities:			
Interest	15,776	25,535	23,022
Dividends	43	73	67
Other interest income	355	1,604	1,190
Total interest and dividend income	<u>264,327</u>	<u>278,956</u>	<u>256,998</u>
Interest expense			
Deposits	42,312	88,057	64,497
Other interest expense	26,816	28,959	25,095
Total interest expense	<u>69,128</u>	<u>117,016</u>	<u>89,592</u>
Net interest income	195,199	161,940	167,406
Provision for credit losses	23,129	2,811	575
Net interest income after provision for credit losses	<u>172,070</u>	<u>159,129</u>	<u>166,831</u>
Non-interest income			
Banking services fee income	4,500	3,723	4,030
Net gain on sale of loans	48	870	168
Net loss on sale of securities	(701)	(15)	(1,920)
Net gain on sale of assets	—	770	1,141
Net loss from fair value adjustments	(2,142)	(5,353)	(4,122)
Federal Home Loan Bank of New York stock dividends	3,453	3,589	3,576
Life insurance proceeds	659	462	2,998
Bank owned life insurance	3,814	3,534	3,099
Other income	1,412	1,891	1,367
Total non-interest income	<u>11,043</u>	<u>9,471</u>	<u>10,337</u>
Non-interest expense			
Salaries and employee benefits	74,228	67,765	64,560
Occupancy and equipment	12,134	11,328	10,079
Professional services	9,374	8,358	8,360
FDIC deposit insurance	2,676	869	2,115
Data processing	8,586	5,878	5,663
Depreciation and amortization of bank premises and equipment	6,212	5,930	5,792
Other real estate owned / foreclosure expense (benefit)	216	204	(94)
Net loss (gain) from sales of real estate owned	36	—	(27)
Prepayment penalty on borrowings	7,834	—	—
Other operating expenses	16,635	14,937	15,235
Total non-interest expense	<u>137,931</u>	<u>115,269</u>	<u>111,683</u>
Income before income taxes	<u>45,182</u>	<u>53,331</u>	<u>65,485</u>
Provision for income taxes			
Federal	9,188	10,439	8,574
State and local	1,320	1,613	1,821
Total provision for income taxes	<u>10,508</u>	<u>12,052</u>	<u>10,395</u>
Net income	<u>\$ 34,674</u>	<u>\$ 41,279</u>	<u>\$ 55,090</u>
Basic earnings per common share	\$ 1.18	\$ 1.44	\$ 1.92
Diluted earnings per common share	\$ 1.18	\$ 1.44	\$ 1.92

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

FLUSHING FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income

	For the years ended December 31,		
	2020	2019	2018
	<i>(in thousands)</i>		
Net income	\$ 34,674	\$ 41,279	\$ 55,090
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax:			
Amortization of prior service credits, net of taxes of \$26, \$26 and \$12 for the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively	(59)	(59)	(27)
Amortization of net actuarial losses, net of taxes of (\$120), (\$40) and (\$167) for the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively	270	88	363
Unrecognized actuarial gains (losses), net of taxes of \$484, (\$290) and (\$1,162) for the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively	(1,112)	661	2,484
Change in net unrealized gains (losses) on securities available for sale, net of taxes of (\$2,169), (\$5,211) and \$4,473 for the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively	4,787	11,657	(10,127)
Reclassification adjustment for net losses included in net income, net of taxes of (\$216), (\$5) and (\$595) for the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively	485	10	1,325
Net unrealized (loss) gain on cash flow hedges, net of taxes of \$5,177, \$4,353 and (\$1,538) for the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively	(11,658)	(9,567)	3,423
Change in fair value of liabilities related to instrument-specific credit risk, net of taxes of (\$367), (\$74) and (\$35) for the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively	828	155	87
Total other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax	(6,459)	2,945	(2,472)
Comprehensive net income	\$ 28,215	\$ 44,224	\$ 52,618

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

FLUSHING FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity

	Total	Common Stock	Additional Paid-in Capital	Treasury Stock	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss
	<i>(Dollars in thousands, except per share data)</i>					
Balance at December 31, 2017	\$ 532,608	315	217,906	(57,675)	381,048	(8,986)
Reclassification of the Income Tax Effects of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) to Retained Earnings	—	—	—	—	2,073	(2,073)
Impact of adoption of Accounting Standard Update 2016-01	—	—	—	—	(779)	779
Net income	55,090	—	—	—	55,090	—
Award of common shares released from Employee Benefit Trust (129,601 shares)	2,728	—	2,728	—	—	—
Vesting of restricted stock unit awards (258,567 shares)	—	—	(4,929)	5,104	(175)	—
Exercise of stock options (900 shares)	6	—	(1)	10	(3)	—
Stock-based compensation expense	7,016	—	7,016	—	—	—
Purchase of treasury shares (787,069 shares)	(20,438)	—	—	(20,438)	—	—
Repurchase of shares to satisfy tax obligation (76,698 shares)	(2,147)	—	—	(2,147)	—	—
Dividends on common stock (\$0.80 per share)	(22,927)	—	—	—	(22,927)	—
Other comprehensive loss, net of tax	(2,472)	—	—	—	—	(2,472)
Balance at December 31, 2018	549,464	315	222,720	(75,146)	414,327	(12,752)
Impact of adoption of ASC 842 - Leases	2,716	—	—	—	2,716	—
Net income	41,279	—	—	—	41,279	—
Award of shares released from Employee Benefit Trust (154,746 shares)	2,307	—	2,307	—	—	—
Vesting of restricted stock unit awards (297,559 shares)	—	—	(6,099)	6,309	(210)	—
Exercise of stock options (300 shares)	3	—	—	6	(3)	—
Stock-based compensation expense	7,763	—	7,763	—	—	—
Purchase of treasury shares (40,000 shares)	(771)	—	—	(771)	—	—
Repurchase of shares to satisfy tax obligation (84,290 shares)	(1,885)	—	—	(1,885)	—	—
Dividends on common stock (\$0.84 per share)	(24,149)	—	—	—	(24,149)	—
Other comprehensive income, net of tax	2,945	—	—	—	—	2,945
Balance at December 31, 2019	579,672	315	226,691	(71,487)	433,960	(9,807)
Adoption of ASC 326- Credit Losses	(875)	—	—	—	(875)	—
Net income	34,674	—	—	—	34,674	—
Shares issued in acquisition of Empire Bancorp, Inc. (2,557,028 shares)	32,705	26	32,679	—	—	—
Award of shares released from Employee Benefit Trust (145,447 shares)	1,520	—	1,520	—	—	—
Vesting of restricted stock unit awards (281,636 shares)	—	—	(5,807)	5,964	(157)	—
Stock-based compensation expense	6,450	—	6,450	—	—	—
Purchase of treasury shares (142,405 shares)	(2,342)	—	—	(2,342)	—	—
Repurchase of shares to satisfy tax obligation (77,611 shares)	(1,535)	—	—	(1,535)	—	—
Dividends on common stock (\$0.84 per share)	(24,813)	—	—	—	(24,813)	—
Other comprehensive loss, net of tax	(6,459)	—	—	—	—	(6,459)
Balance at December 31, 2020	\$ 618,997	\$ 341	\$ 261,533	\$ (69,400)	\$ 442,789	\$ (16,266)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

FLUSHING FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

	For the years ended December 31,		
	2020	2019	2018
	<i>(In thousands)</i>		
Operating Activities			
Net income	\$ 34,674	\$ 41,279	\$ 55,090
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Provision for credit losses	23,129	2,811	575
Depreciation and amortization of premises and equipment	6,212	5,930	5,792
Net gain on sales of loans	(48)	(870)	(168)
Net loss on sales of securities	701	15	1,920
Net loss (gain) on sales of OREO	36	—	(27)
Net gain on sales of assets	—	(770)	(1,141)
Amortization of premium, net of accretion of discount	6,446	7,110	8,146
Fair value adjustments for financial assets and financial liabilities	2,142	5,353	4,122
Net loss from fair value adjustments of qualifying hedges	1,185	1,677	—
Income from bank owned life insurance	(3,814)	(3,534)	(3,099)
Life insurance proceeds	(659)	(462)	(2,998)
Stock-based compensation expense	6,450	7,763	7,016
Deferred compensation	(4,403)	(3,078)	(3,061)
Amortization of core deposit intangibles	108	—	—
Deferred income tax	(4,637)	(3,895)	(2,664)
Decrease in other assets	2,605	706	824
Increase in other liabilities	1,151	3,735	6,976
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>71,278</u>	<u>63,770</u>	<u>77,303</u>
Investing Activities			
Purchases of premises and equipment	(2,512)	(4,213)	(5,409)
Net purchases of Federal Home Loan Bank-NY shares	14,617	361	2,807
Purchases of securities held-to-maturity	—	(30,030)	(2,653)
Proceeds from calls of securities held-to-maturity	180	2,568	1,130
Proceeds from prepayments of securities held-to-maturity	603	583	377
Purchases of securities available for sale	(217,405)	(146,183)	(305,059)
Proceeds from sales and calls of securities available for sale	232,970	65,493	128,474
Proceeds from maturities and prepayments of securities available for sale	271,533	144,673	73,968
Proceeds from sale of assets	—	813	1,184
Purchase of bank owned life insurance	—	(25,000)	—
Proceeds from life insurance	2,477	3,071	6,165
Net originations of loans	(55,276)	(800)	(111,351)
Purchases of loans	(193,289)	(221,222)	(282,703)
Proceeds from sale of loans	7,493	15,117	14,410
Proceeds from sale of OREO, net	203	—	665
Cash used in acquisition of Empire Bancorp, Inc.	(54,836)	—	—
Cash provided by acquisition of Empire Bancorp, Inc.	86,340	—	—
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	<u>93,098</u>	<u>(194,769)</u>	<u>(477,995)</u>

Continued

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

FLUSHING FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (continued)

	For the years ended December 31,		
	2020	2019	2018
	<i>(In thousands)</i>		
Financing Activities			
Net increase in non interest-bearing deposits	\$ 174,104	\$ 21,325	\$ 28,478
Net increase in interest-bearing deposits	39,591	84,540	546,322
Net (decrease) increase in mortgagors' escrow deposits	(5,159)	(486)	2,255
Net proceeds from short-term borrowed funds	—	15,750	165,250
Proceeds from long-term borrowings	215,378	225,000	40,996
Repayment of long-term borrowings	(451,999)	(257,102)	(270,088)
Purchases of treasury stock	(3,877)	(2,656)	(22,585)
Proceeds from issuance of common stock upon exercise of stock options	—	3	6
Cash dividends paid	(24,813)	(24,149)	(22,927)
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	<u>(56,775)</u>	<u>62,225</u>	<u>467,707</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	107,601	(68,774)	67,015
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	49,787	118,561	51,546
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	<u>\$ 157,388</u>	<u>\$ 49,787</u>	<u>\$ 118,561</u>
Supplemental Cash Flow Disclosure			
Interest paid	\$ 71,380	\$ 115,616	\$ 85,112
Income taxes paid	17,919	15,369	6,616
Taxes paid if excess tax benefits on stock-based compensation were not tax deductible	17,764	15,403	7,245
Non-cash activities:			
Loans transferred to other real estate owned	—	239	673
Right-of-use assets	—	42,869	—
Operating lease liabilities	—	51,780	—
Reclassification of the income tax effects of Tax Cuts and Jobs Act from accumulated other comprehensive income to retained earnings	—	—	2,073

Continued

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

FLUSHING FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (continued)

Acquisition of Empire Bancorp, Inc. non-cash activities

	For the years ended December 31,		
	2020	2019	2018
	<i>(In thousands)</i>		
Assets acquired:			
Securities available for sale	\$ 159,369	\$ —	\$ —
Net loans	669,682	—	—
Interest and dividends receivable	5,394	—	—
Bank premises and equipment, net	3,203	—	—
Federal Home Loan Bank of New York stock, at cost	1,135	—	—
Bank owned life insurance	21,992	—	—
Core deposit Intangibles	3,280	—	—
Right of Use Asset	9,993	—	—
Other assets	22,300	—	—
	<u>896,348</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Liabilities assumed:			
Due to depositors:			
Non-interest bearing	169,496	—	—
Interest-bearing	685,393	—	—
Mortgagors' escrow deposits	6,406	—	—
Borrowed funds	21,215	—	—
Operating lease liability	11,039	—	—
Other liabilities	3,108	—	—
	<u>896,657</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Goodwill recorded	\$ 1,509	\$ —	\$ —
Common stock issued	\$ 32,705	\$ —	\$ —

FLUSHING FINANCIAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

For the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018

1. Nature of Operations

Flushing Financial Corporation (the “Holding Company”), a Delaware business corporation, is the bank holding company of its wholly-owned subsidiary Flushing Bank (the “Bank”). The Holding Company and its direct and indirect wholly-owned subsidiaries, including the Bank, Flushing Preferred Funding Corporation (“FPFC”), Flushing Service Corporation (“FSC”), and FSB Properties Inc. (“Properties”), are collectively herein referred to as the “Company.”

The Company’s principal business is attracting deposits from public entities and the general public, while investing those deposits together with funds generated from ongoing operations and borrowings, primarily in (1) originations and purchases of multi-family residential properties, commercial business loans, commercial real estate mortgage loans and, to a lesser extent, one-to-four family (focusing on mixed-use properties, which are properties that contain both residential dwelling units and commercial units); (2) construction loans, primarily for residential properties; (3) Small Business Administration (“SBA”) loans and other small business loans; (4) mortgage loan surrogates such as mortgage-backed securities; and (5) U.S. government securities, corporate fixed-income securities and other marketable securities. The Bank also originates certain other consumer loans including overdraft lines of credit. The Bank primarily conducts its business through twenty-five full-service banking offices, nine of which are located in Queens County, five in Nassau County, three in Suffolk County, five in Kings County (Brooklyn), and three in New York County (Manhattan), New York. The Bank also operates an internet branch, which operates under the brands of iGObanking.com® and BankPurely® (the “Internet Branch”), offering checking, savings, money market and certificates of deposit accounts.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The accounting and reporting policies of the Company follow accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“GAAP”) and general practices within the banking industry. The policies which materially affect the determination of the Company’s financial position, results of operations and cash flows are summarized below.

Principles of Consolidation:

The accompanying consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Holding Company and the following direct and indirect wholly-owned subsidiaries of the Holding Company: the Bank, FPFC, FSC, and Properties. FPFC is a real estate investment trust formed to hold a portion of the Bank’s mortgage loans to facilitate access to capital markets. FSC was formed to market insurance products and mutual funds. Properties is currently used to hold title to real estate owned acquired via foreclosure. Amounts held in a rabbi trust for certain non-qualified deferred compensation plans are included in the consolidated financial statements. All intercompany transactions and accounts are eliminated in consolidation.

The Holding Company also owns Flushing Financial Capital Trust II, Flushing Financial Capital Trust III, and Flushing Financial Capital Trust IV (the “Trusts”), which are special purpose business trusts formed to issue a total of \$60.0 million of capital securities and \$1.9 million of common securities (which are the only voting securities). The Holding Company owns 100% of the common securities of the Trusts. The Trusts used the proceeds from the issuance of these securities to purchase junior subordinated debentures from the Holding Company. The Trusts are not included in our consolidated financial statements as we would not absorb the losses of the Trusts if losses were to occur. See Note 10, “Borrowed Funds,” for additional information regarding these trusts.

When necessary, certain reclassifications were made to prior-year amounts to conform to the current-year presentation.

Use of Estimates:

In December 2019, a novel coronavirus (COVID-19) was reported in China, and, in March 2020, the World Health Organization declared it a pandemic. The outbreak of COVID-19 has adversely impacted a broad range of industries in which the Company's customers operate and could impair their ability to fulfill their financial obligations to the Company. The World Health Organization has declared COVID-19 to be a global pandemic indicating that almost all public commerce and related business activities must be, to varying degrees, curtailed with the goal of decreasing the rate of new infections. The spread of the outbreak has caused significant disruptions in the U.S. economy and has disrupted banking and other financial activity in the areas in which the Company operates.

As a result of the emergence of the pandemic and the uncertainty, it is not possible to determine the overall impact of the pandemic on the Company's business. However, if the pandemic continues for an extended period of time, there could be a material adverse effect on the Company's business, results of operations, financial condition and cash flows.

On March 27, 2020, the President of the United States signed into law the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security ("CARES") Act in response to the coronavirus pandemic. This legislation aims at providing relief for individuals and businesses that have been negatively impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. On December 27, 2020, the 2021 Consolidated Appropriations Act ("CAA") was signed into law, providing for, among other things, further suspension of the exception for loan modifications to not be classified as "troubled debt restructuring" ("TDR") if certain criteria are met, as described below.

The CARES Act includes a provision for the Company to opt out of applying the TDR accounting guidance in Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") 310-40 for certain loan modifications. Loan modifications made between March 1, 2020 and the earlier of i) December 31, 2020 or ii) 60 days after the President declares a termination of the COVID-19 national emergency are eligible for this relief if the related loans were not more than 30 days past due as of December 31, 2019. The Bank adopted this provision and at December 31, 2020, we have 134 active forbearances for loans with an aggregate outstanding loan balance of approximately \$364.4 million resulting in total deferment of \$23.6 million in principal, interest and escrow, as disclosed more fully in Note 4 ("Loans") of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Estimates that are particularly susceptible to change in the near term, including COVID-19 related changes, are used in connection with the determination of the allowance for credit losses, the evaluation of goodwill for impairment, the review of the need for a valuation allowance of the Company's deferred tax assets and the fair value of financial instruments.

Cash and Cash Equivalents:

For the purpose of reporting cash flows, the Company defines cash and due from banks, overnight interest-earning deposits and federal funds sold with original maturities of 90 days or less as cash and cash equivalents. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, the Company's cash and cash equivalents totaled \$157.4 million and \$49.8 million, respectively. Included in cash and cash equivalents at those dates were \$133.7 million and \$36.5 million, respectively, in interest-earning deposits in other financial institutions, primarily due from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York ("FHLB-NY"). At December 31, 2020, the Company's cash and cash equivalents included restricted cash totaling \$63.5 million. These funds are pledged as collateral for unrealized losses on interest-rate swaps. In prior periods the Company was required to maintain reserves at the Federal Reserve in an amount equal to a percentage of certain deposits as set by the Federal Reserve. Effective March 26, 2020, as part of the CARES Act, the Federal Reserve temporarily removed this requirement. The reserve requirement for December 31, 2019 was \$14.4 million and was included in total cash and cash equivalents.

Securities:

Securities are classified as held-to-maturity when management intends to hold the securities until maturity. Held-to-maturity securities are stated at amortized cost, adjusted for unamortized purchase premiums and discounts and an allowance for credit losses. Securities are classified as available for sale when management intends to hold the securities for an indefinite period of time or when the securities may be utilized for tactical asset/liability purposes and may be sold from time to time to effectively manage interest rate exposure and resultant prepayment risk and liquidity needs. Unrealized gains and losses on securities available for sale are excluded from earnings and reported as part of accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of taxes. Premiums and discounts are amortized or accreted, respectively, using the level-yield method. Realized gains and losses on the sales of securities are determined using the specific identification method.

Effective January 1, 2020, the Company adopted Accounting Standards Topic 326, “Financial Instruments – Credit Losses” which replaced the previously existing U.S. GAAP “incurred loss” approach to “expected credit losses” approach, which is referred as Current Expected Credit Losses (“CECL”). CECL modifies the accounting of impairment on available-for-sale debt securities by recognizing a credit loss through an allowance for credit losses. See Note 7 (“Securities”) of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

The Company recorded tax exempt interest income totaling \$1.9 million, \$2.0 million and \$3.4 million during the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Goodwill:

Goodwill is presumed to have an indefinite life and is tested annually for impairment, or more frequently when certain conditions are met. If the fair value of the reporting unit is greater than the carrying value, no further evaluation is required. If the fair value of the reporting unit is less than the carrying value, further evaluation would be required to compare the fair value of the reporting unit to the carrying value and determine if impairment is required.

Quoted market prices in active markets are the best evidence of fair value and are to be used as the basis for measurement, when available. Other acceptable valuation methods include an asset approach, which determines a fair value based upon the value of assets net of liabilities, an income approach, which determines fair value using one or more methods that convert anticipated economic benefits into a present single amount, and a market approach, which determines a fair value based on the similar businesses that have been sold.

Volatility in the Company’s stock price primarily driven by the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in the net book value of our reporting unit exceeding market capitalization, however, the fair value of our reporting unit is not driven solely by the market price of our stock. As described above, fair value of our reporting unit is derived using a combination of an asset approach, an income approach and a market approach. These valuation techniques consider several other factors beyond our market capitalization, such as the estimated future cash flows of our reporting unit, the discount rate used to present value such cash flows and the market multiples of comparable companies. Changes to input assumptions used in the analysis could result in materially different evaluations of goodwill impairment. We qualitatively assess whether the carrying value of our reporting unit exceeds fair value. If this qualitative assessment determines that it is more likely than not that the carrying value exceeds fair value, further qualitative evaluation for impairment would be required to compare the fair value of the reporting unit to the carrying value and determine if impairment is required.

In performing the goodwill impairment testing, the Company has identified a single reporting unit. The Company performed the quantitative assessment in reviewing the carrying value of goodwill as of December 31, 2020, and the qualitative assessment as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, concluding that there was no goodwill impairment in any period. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, the carrying amount of goodwill totaled \$17.6 million and \$16.1 million, respectively. The increase in the goodwill resulted from the consummation of merger with Empire Bancorp, Inc. The identification of additional reporting units, the use of other valuation techniques and/or changes to input assumptions used in the analysis could result in materially different evaluations of goodwill impairment.

Loans:

Loans are reported at their outstanding principal balance net of any unearned income, charge-offs, deferred loan fees and costs on originated loans and unamortized premiums or discounts on purchased loans. Loan fees and certain loan origination costs are deferred. Net loan origination costs and premiums or discounts on loans purchased are amortized into interest income over the contractual life of the loans using the level-yield method. Prepayment penalties received on loans which pay in full prior to their scheduled maturity are included in interest income in the period they are collected.

Interest on loans is recognized on the accrual basis. Accrued interest receivable totaled \$41.5 million and \$19.7 million at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively and was reported in “Interest and dividends receivable” on the Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition. The accrual of income on loans is generally discontinued when certain factors, such as contractual delinquency of 90 days or more, indicate reasonable doubt as to the timely collectability of such income. Uncollected interest previously recognized on non-accrual loans is reversed from interest income at the time the loan is placed on non-accrual status. A non-accrual loan can be returned to accrual status when contractual delinquency returns to less than 90 days delinquent. Payments received on non-accrual loans that do not bring the loan to less than 90 days delinquent are recorded on a cash basis. Payments can also be applied first as a reduction of principal until all principal is recovered and then subsequently to interest, if in management’s opinion, it is evident that recovery of all principal due is likely to occur.

Pursuant to the CARES Act, loan modifications made between March 1, 2020 and the earlier of i) December 30, 2020 or ii) 60 days after the President declares a termination of the COVID-19 national emergency are not classified as TDRs if the related loans were not more than 30 days past due as of December 31, 2019. On December 27, 2020, the CAA was signed into law, providing for, among other things, further suspension of the exception for loan modifications to not be classified as TDR if certain criteria are met, as described below. The Company has elected that loans temporarily modified for borrowers directly impacted by COVID-19 are not considered TDR, assuming the above criteria is met and as such, these loans are considered current and continue to accrue interest at its original contractual terms. Deferrals granted under the CARES Act are deemed in accrual status and interest income is accrued until the end of deferral period even if there are no payments being collected. When the forbearance period is over, borrowers are expected to resume contractual payments. The determination of whether a loan is past due is based on the modified terms of the agreement. Once the deferral period is over, the borrower will resume making payments and normal delinquency-based non-accrual policies will apply.

The Company recognizes a loan as non-performing when the borrower has demonstrated the inability to bring the loan current, or due to other circumstances which, in management’s opinion, indicate the borrower will be unable to bring the loan current within a reasonable time. All loans classified as non-performing, which includes all loans past due 90 days or more, are classified as non-accrual unless the loan is well secured and there is, in our opinion, compelling evidence the borrower will bring the loan current in the immediate future. Prior to a real estate secured loan becoming 90 days delinquent, an updated appraisal is ordered and/or an internal evaluation is prepared.

The Company may purchase loans to supplement originations. Loan purchases are evaluated at the time of purchase to determine the appropriate accounting treatment. Performing loans purchased at a premium/discount are recorded at the purchase price with the premium/discount being amortized/accreted into interest income over the life of the loan. All loans purchased during the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 were performing loans that did not display credit deterioration from origination at the time of purchase and therefore were not considered impaired when purchased. The Company purchased loans totaling \$193.3 million, \$221.2 million and \$294.6 million during the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018. The Company sold loans totaling \$7.4 million, \$13.7 million and \$14.0 million during the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018.

Allowance for Credit Losses:

The Allowance for credit losses (“ACL”) is an estimate that is deducted from the amortized cost basis of the financial asset to present the net carrying value at the amount expected to be collected on the financial assets. Loans are charged off against that ACL when management believes that a loan balance is uncollectable based on quarterly analysis of credit risk.

As of January 1, 2020, the Company adopted Topic 326, as disclosed in Note 22.

The amount of the ACL is based upon a loss rate model that considers multiple factors which reflects management's assessment of the credit quality of the loan portfolio. Management estimates the allowance balance using relevant information, from internal and external sources, relating to past events, current conditions, and reasonable and supportable forecasts. The factors are both quantitative and qualitative in nature including, but not limited to, historical losses, economic conditions, trends in delinquencies, value and adequacy of underlying collateral, volume and portfolio mix, and internal loan processes.

The quantitative allowance is calculated using a number of inputs and assumptions. The process and guidelines were developed using, among other factors, the guidance from federal banking regulatory agencies and GAAP. The results of this process, support management's assessment as to the adequacy of the ACL at each balance sheet date.

The process for calculating the allowance for credit losses begins with our historical losses by portfolio segment. The losses are then incorporated into reasonable and supportable forecast to develop the quantitative component of the allowance for credit losses.

The Bank has established an Asset Classification Committee which carefully evaluates loans which are past due 90 days and/or are classified. The Asset Classification Committee thoroughly assesses the condition and circumstances surrounding each loan meeting the criteria. The Bank also has a Delinquency Committee that evaluates loans meeting specific criteria. The Bank's loan policy requires loans to be placed into non-accrual status once the loan becomes 90 days delinquent unless there is, compelling evidence the borrower will bring the loan current in the immediate future.

For the quantitative measurement, the Company's portfolio consists of mortgage loans secured by real estate (both commercial and retail) and non-mortgage loans, which are primarily commercial business term loans and line of credit. Based on the Company's evaluation of the loan portfolio, listed below are the pools that were established as a baseline level of segmentation with their primary risk factor. The Company confirms this data remains relevant in absence of changes to the composition of the portfolio.

The mortgage portfolio is a substantial component of Company's portfolio and it is a focus of the Company's lending strategy, primarily focusing on multi-family and commercial real estate. While the mortgage portfolio consists of real-estate secured loans, the source of repayment and types of properties securing these loans varies and thus the Company first considered these differences as follows:

1. **One-to-four family residential property** – These loans are secured by residential properties for which the primary source of repayment is the income generated by the residential borrower. Delinquency status is considered a risk factor in this pool.
2. **One-to-four family mixed use** – These loans are secured by residential properties for which the primary source of repayment is the income generated by the property. Unlike the one-to-four residential credits, properties securing mixed use loans include a commercial space component. Delinquency status is considered a risk factor in this pool.
3. **Multi-family residential** – These loans are secured by multi-unit residential buildings for which the primary source of repayment is the income generated by the property. Properties securing multifamily loans have five or more residential units and thus a greater number of cash flow streams compared to one-to-four mixed use loans. Delinquency status and risk rating are considered risk factors in this pool.
4. **Commercial real estate (CRE)** – These loans are secured by properties for commercial use for which the primary source of repayment is the income generated by the property. Delinquency status, risk rating and collateral type are considered risk factors in this pool.
5. **Construction** – These loans are provided to fund construction projects for both residential and commercial properties. These loans are inherently different from all others as they represent “work in progress” and expose

the Company to risk from non-completion and less recovery value should the sponsor of an unfinished property default. Delinquency status and risk rating are considered risk factors in this pool.

Relative to the non-mortgage portfolio, the Company considered the following categories as a baseline for evaluation:

6. **Commercial Business** – These loans are not typically secured by real estate. The primary source of repayment is cash flows from operations of the borrower’s business. Within this category are Small Business Administration (“SBA”) credits and equipment finance credits. Delinquency status, risk rating and industry are considered a risk factors in this pool.

7. **Commercial Business secured by real estate** – These loans are secured by properties used by the borrower for commercial use where the primary source of repayment is expected to be the income generated by the borrower’s business use of the property. As a result of the Coronavirus pandemic and the strain placed upon many businesses, the Company recognized in circumstances where the borrower is not performing, the real estate collateral would be the source of repayment. The Company considers these credits to be less risky than commercial business loans, however, riskier than commercial real estate loans. Delinquency status, risk rating and industry are considered risk factors in this pool.

8. **Taxi Medallions** – These loans consist primarily of loans made to New York taxi medallion owners and are secured by liens on the taxi medallions. No new taxi medallions have been originated since 2014, the remaining portfolio is running off and all credits are individually evaluated for expected credit losses.

9. **Overdrafts** – These are unsecured consumer lines of credits and are an immaterial component of the Company’s portfolio.

For the qualitative measurement, the Company aggregated the portfolio segments according to three business units: business banking, residential and commercial real estate. In accordance with the interagency statement and SEC guidance, Management evaluates nine qualitative risk factors to determine if the risk is captured elsewhere in the ACL process. If not captured elsewhere, the Company has identified specific risk factors to evaluate and incorporate into its Qualitative Framework. Some risk factors include time to maturity, origination loan-to-value, loan type composition, the value of underlying collateral, changes in policies and procedures for lending strategies and underwriting standards, collection and recovery practices, internal credit review, changes in personnel, divergence between the levels of NYC and national unemployment, divergence between the NYC GDP and national GDP, industry concentrations and riskiness and large borrower concentrations.

The Company recorded a provision for loans losses totaling \$22.6 million, \$2.8 million and \$0.6 million for the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively. The increase in the provision in 2020 was primarily due to the economic conditions resulting from COVID-19. The Company specifies both the reasonable and supportable forecast and reversion periods in three economic conditions (expansion, transition, contraction). When calculating the ACL estimate for December 31, 2020, Management acknowledged deteriorated economic conditions as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic were captured in the forecast within the model platform. As such, when determining the reasonable and supportable forecast, Management adjusted the period to reflect a forecast of four quarters, to align with a previously established framework for contraction periods. Similarly, the reversion period was adjusted to four quarters.

The Company may restructure loans that are not directly impacted by COVID-19 to enable a borrower experiencing financial difficulties to continue making payments when it is deemed to be in the Company’s best long-term interest. This restructure may include reducing the interest rate or amount of the monthly payment for a specified period of time, after which the interest rate and repayment terms revert to the original terms of the loan. We classify these loans as TDR.

These restructurings have not included a reduction of principal balance. The Company believes that restructuring these loans in this manner will allow certain borrowers to become and remain current on their loans. All loans classified as TDR are individually evaluated, however TDR loans which have been current for six consecutive months at the time

they are restructured as TDR remain on accrual status and are not included as part of non-performing loans. Loans which were delinquent at the time they are restructured as a TDR are placed on non-accrual status and reported as non-accrual performing TDR loans until they have made timely payments for six consecutive months. These restructurings have not included a reduction of principal balance.

Purchased financial assets with credit deterioration:

Purchased financial assets with credit deterioration (“PCD”) assets are acquired in an acquisition and which have experienced more-than-insignificant deterioration in credit quality since origination. PCD assets are accounted for in accordance with ASC 326, where the purchased impaired asset will be grossed up initial amortized cost equal to the sum of purchase price and the estimate of credit losses at the time of acquisition. Day 1 ACL is established for these loans without statement of operations effect. At October 30, 2020, the Company acquired PCD assets with a fair value totaling \$286.1 million. The Company recorded Day 1 ACL of \$4.1 million allowance for loans losses resulting from PCD loans.

Loans Held for Sale:

Loans held for sale are carried at the lower of cost or estimated fair value. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, there were no loans classified as held for sale.

Bank Owned Life Insurance:

Bank owned life insurance (“BOLI”) represents life insurance on the lives of certain current and past employees who have provided positive consent allowing the Company to be the beneficiary of such policies. BOLI is carried in the Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition at its cash surrender value. Increases in the cash value of the policies, as well as proceeds received, are recorded in other non-interest income, and are not subject to income taxes.

Other Real Estate Owned:

OREO consists of property acquired through foreclosure. At the time of foreclosure these properties are acquired at fair value and subsequently carried at the lower of cost or fair value, less estimated selling costs. The fair value is based on appraised value through a current appraisal, or at times through an internal review, additionally adjusted by the estimated costs to sell the property. This determination is made on an individual asset basis. If the fair value of a property is less than the carrying amount of the loan, the difference is recognized as a charge to the ALL. Further decreases to the estimated value will be recorded directly to the Consolidated Statements of Income. Included within net loans as of December 31, 2020 and 2019, was a recorded investment of \$5.9 million and \$6.6 million, respectively, of consumer mortgage loans secured by residential real estate properties for which formal foreclosure proceedings were in process according to local requirements of the applicable jurisdiction.

Bank Premises and Equipment:

Bank premises and equipment are stated at cost, less depreciation accumulated on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the related assets, recorded in the Depreciation Expense in Consolidated Statements of Income. For equipment and furniture the useful life is between 3 to 10 years. Leasehold improvements are amortized on a straight-line basis over the term of the related leases or the lives of the assets, whichever is shorter. Maintenance, repairs and minor improvements are charged to non-interest expense in the period incurred.

Federal Home Loan Bank Stock:

The FHLB-NY has assigned to the Company a mandated membership stock ownership requirement, based on its asset size. In addition, for all borrowing activity, the Company is required to purchase shares of FHLB-NY non-marketable capital stock at par. Such shares are redeemed by FHLB-NY at par with reductions in the Company's borrowing levels. The Company carries its investment in FHLB-NY stock at historical cost. The Company periodically reviews its FHLB-NY stock to determine if impairment exists. At December 31, 2020, the Company considered among other things the earnings performance, credit rating and asset quality of the FHLB-NY. Based on this review, the Company did not consider the value of our investment in FHLB-NY stock to be impaired at December 31, 2020.

Income Taxes:

Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are determined using the asset and liability (or balance sheet) method. Under this method, the net deferred tax asset or liability is determined based on the tax effects of the temporary differences between book and tax basis of the various balance sheet assets and liabilities. A deferred tax liability is recognized on all taxable temporary differences and a deferred tax asset is recognized on all deductible temporary differences and operating losses and tax credit carry-forwards. A valuation allowance is recognized to reduce the potential deferred tax asset, if it is "more likely than not" that all or some portion of that potential deferred tax asset will not be realized. Uncertain tax positions that meet the more likely than not recognition threshold are measured to determine the amount to recognize. An uncertain tax position is measured at the amount that management believes has a greater than 50% likelihood of realization upon settlement. The Company must also take into account changes in tax laws or rates when valuing the deferred income tax amounts it carries on its Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition.

Stock Compensation Plans:

The Company accounts for its stock-based compensation using a fair-value-based measurement method for share-based payment transactions with employees and directors. The Company measures the cost of employee and directors services received in exchange for an award of an equity instrument based on the grant date fair value of the award. That cost is recognized over the period during which the employee and directors are required to provide services in exchange for the award. The requisite service period is usually the vesting period. Forfeitures are recorded in the period they occur.

Benefit Plans:

The Company sponsors a qualified pension, 401(k), and profit sharing plan for its employees. The Company also sponsors postretirement health care and life insurance benefits plans for its employees, a non-qualified deferred compensation plan for officers who have achieved the level of at least senior vice president, and a non-qualified pension plan for its outside directors.

The Company recognizes the funded status of a benefit plan – measured as the difference between plan assets at fair value and the benefit obligation – in the Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition, with the unrecognized credits and charges recognized, net of taxes, as a component of accumulated other comprehensive loss. These credits or charges arose as a result of gains or losses and prior service costs or credits that arose during prior periods but were not recognized as components of net periodic benefit cost.

Treasury Stock:

The Company records treasury stock at cost. Treasury stock is reissued at average cost.

Derivatives:

Derivatives are recorded on the Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition at fair value on a gross basis in "Other assets" and/or "Other liabilities". The accounting for changes in value of a derivative depends on the type of hedge and on whether or not the transaction has been designated and qualifies for hedge accounting. Derivatives that are not

designated as hedges are reported and measured at fair value through earnings and included in Net loss from fair value adjustments on the Consolidated Statements of Income.

To qualify for hedge accounting, a derivative must be highly effective at reducing the risk associated with the exposure being hedged. In addition, for a derivative to be designated as a hedge, the risk management objective and strategy must be documented. Hedge documentation must identify the derivative hedging instrument, the asset or liability or forecasted transaction and type of risk to be hedged, and how the effectiveness of the derivative is assessed prospectively and retrospectively. The extent to which a derivative has been, and is expected to continue to be, effective at offsetting changes in the fair value of the hedged item must be assessed at least quarterly. For cash flow hedges, the changes in the fair value of the derivative is recorded as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income or loss, net of tax, and subsequently reclassified into earnings when the hedged transaction affects earnings. For fair value hedges, the gain or loss on the derivative, as well as the offsetting loss or gain on the hedged item attributable to the hedged risk, is recognized in earnings on the same line as hedged item. If it is determined that a derivative is not highly effective at hedging the designated exposure, hedge accounting is discontinued. Changes in the fair value of derivatives are disclosed in the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows within operating activities in the line items Fair Value Adjustment for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities and net loss from fair value adjustments on qualifying hedges.

Leases:

In 2019, the Company adopted Topic 842, Leases, by recording a cumulative adjustment at adoption. Topic 842 provides a number of optional practical expedients in transition. The Company has elected the “package of practical expedients”, which permits the Company not to reassess prior conclusions about lease identification, lease classification and initial direct costs. The Company did not elect the use-of-hindsight or the practical expedient pertaining to land easements; the latter not being applicable to the Company. Topic 842 also provides certain accounting policy elections for an entity’s ongoing accounting. For operating leases wherein the Company is the lessee, the Company has elected the practical expedient to not separate lease and non-lease components. Upon adoption, the Company recorded right of use assets totaling \$45.4 million and operating lease liabilities totaling \$54.0 million. Additionally, a deferred gain from the sale of buildings totaling \$2.7 million, net of tax, was reclassified to retained earnings. Prior period financial statements were not adjusted under the new standard.

The Company has 28 operating leases for branches (including the headquarters) and office spaces, 10 operating leases for vehicles, and one operating lease for equipment. Additionally, one of our leased locations is subleased. Our leases have remaining lease terms ranging from one month to approximately 15 years, none of which has a renewal option reasonably certain of exercise, which has been reflected in the Company’s calculation of lease term.

The Company has elected the short-term lease recognition exemption such that the Company will not recognize Right of Use assets or lease liabilities for leases with a term of less than 12 months from the commencement date. The Company’s operating lease expense was recorded in Occupancy and equipment on the Consolidated Statements of Income, and totaled \$7.7 million and \$7.6 million for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively. The Company has one agreement that qualifies as a short-term lease with expense totaling \$0.1 million for each of the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, included in Professional services on the Consolidated Statements of Income. The Company’s variable lease payments, which include insurance and real estate tax expenses was recorded in Occupancy and equipment on the Consolidated Statements of Income and totaled \$1.1 million and \$1.0 million for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively. At December 31, 2020, the weighted-average remaining lease term for our operating leases is approximately eight years and the weighted average discount rate is 3.2%. Our lease agreements do not contain any residual value guarantees.

Certain leases have escalation clauses for operating expenses and real estate taxes. The Company’s non-cancelable operating lease agreements expire through 2036.

Comprehensive Income:

Comprehensive income consists of net income and other comprehensive income (loss). Other comprehensive income (loss) includes (i) unrealized gains and losses on securities available for sale and reclassification adjustments for

realized gains and losses on securities available for sale; (ii) unrealized gains and losses on derivatives in cash flow hedge relationships and reclassifications of deferred gains and losses when the hedge item impacts earnings; (iii) adjustments to net periodic pension costs; and (iv) changes in the fair value of instrument-specific credit risk from the Company's liabilities carried at fair value pursuant to the fair value option.

Segment Reporting:

Management views the Company as operating as a single unit, a community bank. Therefore, segment information is not provided.

Advertising Expense:

Costs associated with advertising are expensed as incurred. The Company recorded advertising expenses of \$1.8 million, \$2.2 million and \$2.2 million for the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively, recorded in the professional services in the Consolidated Statements of Income.

Earnings per Common Share:

Basic earnings per common share is computed by dividing net income available to common shareholders by the total weighted average number of common shares outstanding, which includes unvested participating securities. Unvested share-based payment awards that contain non-forfeitable rights to dividends or dividend equivalents (whether paid or unpaid) are participating securities and as such are included in the calculation of earnings per share. The Company's unvested restricted stock unit awards are considered participating securities. Therefore, weighted average common shares outstanding used for computing basic earnings per common share includes common shares outstanding plus unvested restricted stock unit awards. The computation of diluted earnings per share includes the additional dilutive effect of stock options outstanding and other common stock equivalents during the period. Common stock equivalents that are anti-dilutive are not included in the computation of diluted earnings per common share. The numerator for calculating basic and diluted earnings per common share is net income available to common shareholders. The shares held in the Company's Employee Benefit Trust are not included in shares outstanding for purposes of calculating earnings per common share.

Earnings per common share have been computed based on the following, for the years ended December 31:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
	<i>(In thousands, except per share data)</i>		
Net income, as reported	<u>\$ 34,674</u>	<u>\$ 41,279</u>	<u>\$ 55,090</u>
Divided by:			
Weighted average common shares outstanding	29,301	28,709	28,709
Weighted average common stock equivalents	—	—	1
Total weighted average common shares outstanding and common stock equivalents	<u>29,301</u>	<u>28,709</u>	<u>28,710</u>
Basic earnings per common share	\$ 1.18	\$ 1.44	\$ 1.92
Diluted earnings per common share	\$ 1.18	\$ 1.44	\$ 1.92
Dividend Payout ratio	71.2 %	58.3 %	41.7 %

There were no options that were anti-dilutive for the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018.

3. Business Combination

On October 30, 2020, the Company completed its acquisition of 100% of the outstanding voting and non-voting shares of Empire Bancorp, Inc. ("Empire"). In connection with the transaction, Empire National Bank ("Empire Bank"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Empire, merged with and into Flushing Bank, with Flushing Bank as the surviving entity.

The shareholders of Empire received total consideration of \$87.5 million which consisted of \$54.8 million in cash and 2,557,028 shares of Flushing Financial Corporation common stock.

The merger was accounted for under the acquisition method of accounting, in which the assets and liabilities are acquired at preliminary estimated fair values at the merger date. The excess of the fair value of the consideration paid over the preliminary net fair value of Empire's assets and liabilities resulted in recognition of goodwill totaling \$1.5 million, none of which is deductible for tax purposes. Upon closing of the merger, the Company's assets increased by \$982.7 million and four new branch locations were added, which expanded our presence on Long Island with having entrance to Suffolk County.

The assets acquired and liabilities assumed in the merger were recorded at their estimated fair values based on management's best estimates, using the information available at the date of merger, including the use of third party valuation specialists. The fair values are subject to adjustment for up to one year after the closing date of the transaction.

The following table summarizes the consideration paid:

<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	Amount
Consideration Paid :	
Company stock issued (2,557,028 shares)	\$ 32,705
Cash payment	54,836
Total consideration paid	<u>\$ 87,541</u>

The following table summarizes the estimated fair value of the acquired assets and liabilities assumed at October 30, 2020:

<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	Amount
Assets acquired:	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 86,340
Securities available for sale	159,369
Net loans	669,682
Interest and dividends receivable	5,394
Bank premises and equipment, net	3,203
Federal Home Loan Bank of New York stock, at cost	1,135
Bank owned life insurance	21,992
Core deposit Intangibles	3,280
Right of Use Asset	9,993
Other assets	22,300
	<u>\$ 982,688</u>
Liabilities assumed:	
Due to depositors:	
Non-interest bearing	169,496
Interest-bearing	685,393
Mortgagors' escrow deposits	6,406
Borrowed funds	21,215
Operating lease liability	11,039
Other liabilities	3,108
	<u>\$ 896,657</u>
Goodwill recorded	\$ 1,509

ASC 805-10 provides guidance for business combinations, it requires the acquirer to consider all pertinent factors which could result in adjustments to the preliminary provisional amounts and subsequently measure and account for assets acquired, liabilities assumed and equity instruments. Fair value estimates related to acquired assets and liabilities are subject to adjustment up to one year after the closing date of the acquisition as additional information becomes available.

Investments were measured upon quoted market prices, where available. If a quoted market price was not available, fair value was estimated using quoted market prices for similar securities and adjusted for differences between the quoted instrument and the instrument being valued.

Loans acquired were recorded at fair value and subsequently accounted for in accordance with ASC Topic 310. The fair values of the loans were estimated utilizing the cash flow projections based on the remaining maturities and repricing terms. Cash flows were adjusted for estimated future credit losses and estimated prepayments. Projected cash flows were then discounted to present value, utilizing the Company’s CECL model. The Company recorded Day 1 ACL of \$4.1 million resulting from PCD loans and non credit discount of \$7.6 million.

Core deposit intangibles (“CDI”) were recorded at fair value estimated based on discounted cash flow methodology that gave appropriate consideration to expected client attrition rates, cost of deposit base, reserve requirements, net maintenance cost attributable to client deposits and an estimate of the cost associated with alternative funding sources. The discount rates used for CDI assets are based on market rates. The CDI is being amortized over 10 years based upon the estimated economic benefit received using sum of months digit method.

Deposits were recorded at fair value calculated based on discounted cash flow calculation using the current interest rate being offered to the contractual interest rates on such deposits.

Long-term debt was recorded at fair value based on current incremental borrowing rates for similar type of instruments.

Supplemental Pro Forma Financial Information

The following table presents unaudited financial information regarding the former Empire operations included in Company’s Consolidated Statements of Income from the date of the acquisition (October 30, 2020) through December 31, 2020, under the column “Actual from Acquisition Date to December 31, 2020”. In addition, the table presents unaudited condensed pro forma financial information assuming that the acquisition had been completed as of beginning of the full twelve month periods presented. In the table, merger related expenses totaling \$6.9 million were excluded. The table has been prepared for comparative purposes only and does not reflect cost savings.

	Actual from Acquisition Date to December 31, 2020 ⁽¹⁾	Unaudited Proforma for the twelve months ended December 31, 2020	Unaudited Proforma for the twelve months ended December 31, 2019
	(Dollars in thousands)		
Net interest Income	\$ 4,159	\$ 220,153	\$ 186,894
Non-Interest Income (loss)	(96)	12,142	10,570
Non-Interest Expense	1,657	140,979	125,211
Income Taxes	706	16,084	16,025
Net Income	\$ 2,256	\$ 52,659	\$ 53,973

(1) Non-interest income (loss) includes \$0.3 million from loss on sale of securities.

4. Loans and Allowance for Credit Losses

The composition of loans is as follows at December 31:

	2020	2019
	<i>(In thousands)</i>	
Multi-family residential	\$ 2,533,952	\$ 2,238,591
Commercial real estate	1,754,754	1,582,008
One-to-four family — mixed-use property	602,981	592,471
One-to-four family — residential	245,211	188,216
Co-operative apartments	8,051	8,663
Construction	83,322	67,754
Small Business Administration ⁽¹⁾	167,376	14,445
Taxi medallion	2,757	3,309
Commercial business and other	1,303,225	1,061,478
Gross loans	6,701,629	5,756,935
Net unamortized premiums and unearned loan fees	3,045	15,271
Total loans, net of fees and costs	<u>\$ 6,704,674</u>	<u>\$ 5,772,206</u>

(1) Includes \$151.9 million of SBA PPP loans at December 31, 2020.

The majority of our loan portfolio is invested in multi-family residential, commercial real estate and commercial business and other loans, which totaled 83.4% and 84.8% of our gross loans at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively. Our concentration in these types of loans increases the overall level of credit risk inherent in our loan portfolio. The greater risk associated with these types of loans could require us to increase our provision for loan losses and to maintain an ACL as a percentage of total loans in excess of the allowance currently maintained. At December 31, 2020, we were servicing \$62.0 million of loans for others.

Loans secured by multi-family residential property and commercial real estate generally involve a greater degree of risk than residential mortgage loans and generally carry larger loan balances. The increased credit risk is the result of several factors, including the concentration of principal in a smaller number of loans and borrowers, the effects of general economic conditions on income producing properties and the increased difficulty in evaluating and monitoring these types of loans. Furthermore, the repayments of loans secured by these types of properties are typically dependent upon the successful operation of the related property, which is usually owned by a legal entity with the property being the entity's only asset. If the cash flow from the property is reduced, the borrower's ability to repay the loan may be impaired. If the borrower defaults, our only remedy may be to foreclose on the property, for which the market value may be less than the balance due on the related mortgage loan.

Loans secured by commercial business and other loans involve a greater degree of risk for the same reasons as for multi-family residential and commercial real estate loans with the added risk that many of the loans are not secured by improved properties.

To minimize the risks involved in the origination of multi-family residential, commercial real estate and commercial business and other loans, the Company adheres to defined underwriting standards, which include reviewing the expected net operating income generated by the real estate collateral securing the loan, the age and condition of the collateral, the financial resources and income level of the borrower and the borrower's experience in owning or managing similar properties. We typically require debt service coverage of at least 125% of the monthly loan payment. We generally originate these loans up to a maximum of 75% of the appraised value or the purchase price of the property, whichever is less. Any loan with a final loan-to-value ratio in excess of 75% must be approved by the Bank Board of Directors or the Loan Committee as an exception to policy. We generally rely on the income generated by the property as the primary means by which the loan is repaid. However, personal guarantees may be obtained for additional security from these

borrowers. Additionally, for commercial business and other loans which are not secured by improved properties, the Bank will secure these loans with business assets, including accounts receivables, inventory and real estate and generally require personal guarantees.

The following tables show loans modified and classified as TDR during the periods indicated:

<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	For the year ended December 31, 2020		Modification description
	Number	Balance	
Commercial real estate	1	\$ 7,583	Loan received a below market interest rate and had an amortization extension
One-to-four family - mixed-use property	1	270	Loan received a below market interest rate.
Total	<u>2</u>	<u>\$ 7,853</u>	

<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	For the year ended December 31, 2019		Modification description
	Number	Balance	
Commercial business and other	3	\$ 951	Loan amortization extension.
Total	<u>3</u>	<u>\$ 951</u>	

<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	For the year ended December 31, 2018		Modification description
	Number	Balance	
Commercial business and other	1	\$ 1,620	Loan amortization extension.
Total	<u>1</u>	<u>\$ 1,620</u>	

The recorded investment of the loans modified and classified as TDR, presented in the tables above, were unchanged as there was no principal forgiven in these modifications. There were seven loans that were acquired as TDR in the acquisition totaling \$3.5 million.

The following table shows our recorded investment for loans classified as TDR at amortized cost that are performing according to their restructured terms at the periods indicated:

<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	December 31, 2020	
	Number of contracts	Amortized Cost
Multi-family residential	6	\$ 1,700
Commercial real estate	1	7,702
One-to-four family - mixed-use property	5	1,731
One-to-four family - residential	3	507
Taxi medallion	2	440
Commercial business and other	8	3,831
Total performing	25	\$ 15,911

<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	December 31, 2019	
	Number of contracts	Recorded investment
Multi-family residential	7	\$ 1,873
One-to-four family - mixed-use property	4	1,481
One-to-four family - residential	3	531
Taxi medallion	7	1,668
Commercial business and other	3	941
Total performing	24	\$ 6,494

The following table shows our recorded investment for loans classified as TDR at amortized cost that are not performing according to their restructured terms at the periods indicated:

<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	December 31, 2020	
	Number of contracts	Amortized Cost
Taxi medallion	11	\$ 1,922
Commercial business and other	1	279
Total troubled debt restructurings that subsequently defaulted	12	\$ 2,201

<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	December 31, 2019	
	Number of contracts	Recorded investment
Taxi medallion	4	\$ 1,065
Commercial business and other	1	279
Total TDR's that subsequently defaulted	5	\$ 1,344

During the year ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, there were no defaults of TDR loans within 12 months of their modification date.

The following table shows our non-accrual loans at amortized cost with no related allowance and interest income recognized for loans ninety days or more past due and still accruing for period shown below:

	At or for the year December 31, 2020				
	Non-accrual amortized cost beginning of the reporting period	Non-accrual amortized cost ending of the reporting period	Non-accrual with no related allowance	Interest income recognized	Loans ninety days or more past due and still accruing:
<i>(In thousands)</i>					
Multi-family residential	\$ 2,723	\$ 2,576	\$ 2,576	\$ —	\$ 201
Commercial real estate	2,714	1,766	1,766	—	2,547
One-to-four family - mixed-use property ⁽¹⁾	1,704	1,706	1,706	—	—
One-to-four family - residential	9,992	5,313	5,313	—	—
Small Business Administration	1,169	1,168	1,168	—	—
Taxi medallion ⁽¹⁾	2,318	2,758	2,758	—	—
Commercial business and other ⁽¹⁾	7,406	5,660	1,593	58	—
Total	<u>\$ 28,026</u>	<u>\$ 20,947</u>	<u>\$ 16,880</u>	<u>\$ 58</u>	<u>\$ 2,748</u>

(1) Included in the above analysis are non-accrual performing TDR one-to-four family – mixed-use property totaling \$0.3 million, non-accrual performing TDR taxi medallion loans totaling \$0.4 million December 31, 2020 and non-accrual performing TDR commercial business loans totaling \$2.2 million at December 31, 2020.

The following table shows our non-performing loans at the periods indicated:

<i>(In thousands)</i>	At December 31, 2019
Loans ninety days or more past due and still accruing:	
Multi-family residential	\$ 445
Total	445
Non-accrual mortgage loans:	
Multi-family residential	2,296
Commercial real estate	367
One-to-four family mixed-use property	274
One-to-four family residential	5,139
Total	8,076
Non-accrual non-mortgage loans:	
Small Business Administration	1,151
Taxi medallion ⁽¹⁾	1,641
Commercial business and other ⁽¹⁾	1,945
Total	4,737
Total non-accrual loans	12,813
Total non-performing loans	\$ 13,258

(1) Not included in the above analysis are non-accrual performing TDR taxi medallions loans totaling \$1.7 million and non-accrual performing TDR commercial business loans totaling \$0.9 million.

The following is a summary of interest foregone on non-accrual loans and loans classified as TDR for the years ended December 31:

	2020	2019	2018
	<i>(In thousands)</i>		
Interest income that would have been recognized had the loans performed in accordance with their original terms	\$ 1,845	\$ 1,546	\$ 1,604
Less: Interest income included in the results of operations	412	418	623
Total foregone interest	<u>\$ 1,433</u>	<u>\$ 1,128</u>	<u>\$ 981</u>

The following tables shows the aging of the amortized cost basis in past-due loans at the period indicated by class of loans at December 31, 2020:

<i>(in thousands)</i>	30 - 59 Days Past Due	60 - 89 Days Past Due	Greater than 90 Days	Total Past Due	Current	Total Loans
Multi-family residential	\$ 7,582	\$ 3,186	\$ 2,777	\$ 13,545	\$ 2,522,432	\$ 2,535,977
Commercial real estate	17,903	5,123	4,313	27,339	1,731,045	1,758,384
One-to-four family — mixed-use property	5,673	1,132	1,433	8,238	598,647	606,885
One-to-four family — residential	3,087	805	5,313	9,205	243,486	252,691
Co-operative apartments	—	—	—	—	—	—
Construction	750	—	—	750	82,411	83,161
Small Business Administration	1,823	—	1,168	2,991	162,579	165,570
Taxi medallion	—	—	2,318	2,318	279	2,597
Commercial business and other	129	1,273	1,593	2,995	1,296,414	1,299,409
Total	<u>\$ 36,947</u>	<u>\$ 11,519</u>	<u>\$ 18,915</u>	<u>\$ 67,381</u>	<u>\$ 6,637,293</u>	<u>\$ 6,704,674</u>

The following table shows by delinquency an analysis of our recorded investment in loans at December 31, 2019:

<i>(in thousands)</i>	30 - 59 Days Past Due	60 - 89 Days Past Due	Greater than 90 Days	Total Past Due	Current	Total Loans
Multi-family residential	\$ 4,042	\$ 1,563	\$ 2,741	\$ 8,346	\$ 2,230,245	\$ 2,238,591
Commercial real estate	—	4,941	367	5,308	1,576,700	1,582,008
One-to-four family - mixed-use property	1,117	496	274	1,887	590,584	592,471
One-to-four family - residential	720	1,022	5,139	6,881	181,335	188,216
Co-operative apartments	—	—	—	—	8,663	8,663
Construction loans	—	—	—	—	67,754	67,754
Small Business Administration	—	—	1,151	1,151	13,294	14,445
Taxi medallion	—	—	1,065	1,065	2,244	3,309
Commercial business and other	2,340	5	1,945	4,290	1,057,188	1,061,478
Total	<u>\$ 8,219</u>	<u>\$ 8,027</u>	<u>\$ 12,682</u>	<u>\$ 28,928</u>	<u>\$ 5,728,007</u>	<u>\$ 5,756,935</u>

The following tables show the activity in the allowance for loan losses for the periods indicated:

For the year ended December 31, 2020										
<i>(in thousands)</i>	Multi-family residential	Commercial real estate	One-to-four family - mixed-use property	One-to-four family - residential	Co-operative apartments	Construction loans	Small Business Administration	Taxi medallion	Commercial business and other	Total
Allowance for credit losses:										
Beginning balance	\$ 5,391	\$ 4,429	\$ 1,817	\$ 756	\$ —	\$ 441	\$ 363	\$ —	\$ 8,554	\$ 21,751
Impact of CECL Adoption	(650)	1,170	(55)	(160)	—	(279)	1,180	—	(827)	379
Empire Acquisition	444	587	183	158	—	20	278	124	2,305	4,099
Charge-offs	—	—	(3)	—	—	—	(178)	(1,075)	(2,749)	(4,005)
Recoveries	38	—	138	12	—	—	70	—	108	366
Provision (benefit)	1,334	2,141	(94)	103	—	315	538	951	17,275	22,563
Ending balance	<u>\$ 6,557</u>	<u>\$ 8,327</u>	<u>\$ 1,986</u>	<u>\$ 869</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 497</u>	<u>\$ 2,251</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 24,666</u>	<u>\$ 45,153</u>

For the year ended December 31, 2019										
<i>(in thousands)</i>	Multi-family residential	Commercial real estate	One-to-four family - mixed-use property	One-to-four family - residential	Co-operative apartments	Construction loans	Small Business Administration	Taxi medallion	Commercial business and other	Total
Allowance for credit losses:										
Beginning balance	\$ 5,676	\$ 4,315	\$ 1,867	\$ 749	\$ —	\$ 329	\$ 418	\$ —	\$ 7,591	\$ 20,945
Charge-offs	(190)	—	(89)	(113)	—	—	—	—	(2,386)	(2,778)
Recoveries	44	37	197	13	—	—	60	134	288	773
Provision (benefit)	(139)	77	(158)	107	—	112	(115)	(134)	3,061	2,811
Ending balance	<u>\$ 5,391</u>	<u>\$ 4,429</u>	<u>\$ 1,817</u>	<u>\$ 756</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 441</u>	<u>\$ 363</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 8,554</u>	<u>\$ 21,751</u>

For the year ended December 31, 2018										
<i>(in thousands)</i>	Multi-family residential	Commercial real estate	One-to-four family - mixed-use property	One-to-four family - residential	Co-operative apartments	Construction loans	Small Business Administration	Taxi medallion	Commercial business and other	Total
Allowance for credit losses:										
Beginning balance	\$ 5,823	\$ 4,643	\$ 2,545	\$ 1,082	\$ —	\$ 68	\$ 669	\$ —	\$ 5,521	\$ 20,351
Charge-offs	(99)	—	(3)	(1)	—	—	(392)	(393)	(44)	(932)
Recoveries	6	—	136	569	—	—	51	143	46	951
Provision (benefit)	(54)	(328)	(811)	(901)	—	261	90	250	2,068	575
Ending balance	<u>\$ 5,676</u>	<u>\$ 4,315</u>	<u>\$ 1,867</u>	<u>\$ 749</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 329</u>	<u>\$ 418</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 7,591</u>	<u>\$ 20,945</u>

In accordance with our policy and the current regulatory guidelines, we designate loans as “Special Mention,” which are considered “Criticized Loans,” and “Substandard,” “Doubtful,” or “Loss,” which are considered “Classified Loans”. If a loan does not fall within one of the previous mentioned categories and management believes weakness is evident then we designate the loan as “Watch”, all other loans would be considered “Pass.” Loans that are non-accrual are designated as Substandard, Doubtful or Loss. These loan designations are updated quarterly. We designate a loan as Substandard when a well-defined weakness is identified that may jeopardize the orderly liquidation of the debt. We designate a loan Doubtful when it displays the inherent weakness of a Substandard loan with the added provision that collection of the debt in full, on the basis of existing facts, is highly improbable. We designate a loan as Loss if it is deemed the debtor is incapable of repayment. The Company does not hold any loans designated as Loss, as loans that are designated as Loss are charged to the Allowance for Credit Losses. We designate a loan as Special Mention if the asset does not warrant classification within one of the other classifications, but does contain a potential weakness that deserves closer attention. Loans that are in forbearance pursuant to the CARES Act generally continued to be reported in the same category as they were reported immediately prior to modification.

The following table summarizes the risk category of mortgage and non-mortgage loans by loan portfolio segments and class of loans by year of origination:

(In thousands)	For the year ended						Revolving Loans, Amortized Cost Basis	Lines of Credit converted to term loans	Total
	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	Prior			
1-4 Family Residential									
Pass	\$ 32,266	\$ 37,149	\$ 38,063	\$ 21,293	\$ 13,229	\$ 65,916	\$ 10,793	\$ 15,974	\$ 234,683
Watch	486	720	—	3,302	446	2,599	635	2,397	10,585
Special Mention	—	—	—	—	—	1,338	—	383	1,721
Substandard	—	—	—	—	960	3,183	—	1,559	5,702
Total 1-4 Family Residential	\$ 32,752	\$ 37,869	\$ 38,063	\$ 24,595	\$ 14,635	\$ 73,036	\$ 11,428	\$ 20,313	\$ 252,691
1-4 Family Mixed-Use									
Pass	\$ 36,491	\$ 72,920	\$ 77,037	\$ 58,404	\$ 53,518	\$ 282,169	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 580,539
Watch	816	—	4,077	6,107	882	9,617	—	—	21,499
Special Mention	—	—	—	368	722	1,433	—	—	2,523
Substandard	—	—	809	—	—	1,515	—	—	2,324
Total 1-4 Family Mixed Use	\$ 37,307	\$ 72,920	\$ 81,923	\$ 64,879	\$ 55,122	\$ 294,734	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 606,885
Commercial Real Estate									
Pass	\$ 173,089	\$ 263,007	\$ 266,949	\$ 191,532	\$ 220,560	\$ 499,186	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 1,614,323
Watch	938	1,359	15,557	15,687	29,445	62,587	—	—	125,573
Special Mention	—	—	—	2,547	2,576	1,350	—	—	6,473
Substandard	—	9,436	—	—	—	2,579	—	—	12,015
Total Commercial Real Estate	\$ 174,027	\$ 273,802	\$ 282,506	\$ 209,766	\$ 252,581	\$ 565,702	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 1,758,384
Construction									
Pass	\$ 16,768	\$ 16,793	\$ 28,984	\$ 5,253	\$ —	\$ 590	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 68,388
Watch	—	1,115	9,572	750	—	—	—	—	11,437
Special Mention	—	—	761	2,575	—	—	—	—	3,336
Total Construction	\$ 16,768	\$ 17,908	\$ 39,317	\$ 8,578	\$ —	\$ 590	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 83,161
Multifamily									
Pass	\$ 245,551	\$ 343,887	\$ 479,644	\$ 376,275	\$ 282,185	\$ 769,712	\$ 4,572	\$ —	\$ 2,501,826
Watch	1,126	4,906	982	931	3,457	14,806	798	—	27,006
Special Mention	—	699	—	2,536	464	668	—	—	4,367
Substandard	—	—	1,997	—	—	580	201	—	2,778
Total Multifamily	\$ 246,677	\$ 349,492	\$ 482,623	\$ 379,742	\$ 286,106	\$ 785,766	\$ 5,571	\$ —	\$ 2,535,977
Commercial Business - Secured by RE									
Pass	\$ 110,649	\$ 43,909	\$ 54,016	\$ 36,010	\$ 50,230	\$ 86,662	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 381,476
Watch	24,539	51,466	17,390	1,320	962	16,192	—	—	111,869
Special Mention	—	613	—	—	—	—	—	—	613
Substandard	—	—	—	—	—	4,220	—	—	4,220
Total Commercial Business - Secured by RE	\$ 135,188	\$ 95,988	\$ 71,406	\$ 37,330	\$ 51,192	\$ 107,074	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 498,178
Commercial Business									
Pass	\$ 97,071	\$ 118,501	\$ 104,304	\$ 51,627	\$ 17,340	\$ 66,398	\$ 250,633	\$ —	\$ 705,874
Watch	250	22,490	19,202	20,591	39	26	11,564	—	74,162
Special Mention	—	—	2,411	93	—	—	246	—	2,750
Substandard	4,897	594	17	6,441	2,285	1,647	1,161	—	17,042
Doubtful	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,273	—	1,273
Total Commercial Business	\$ 102,218	\$ 141,585	\$ 125,934	\$ 78,752	\$ 19,664	\$ 68,071	\$ 264,877	\$ —	\$ 801,101
Small Business Administration									
Pass	\$ 151,449	\$ 1,453	\$ 4,194	\$ 1,327	\$ 1,882	\$ 1,523	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 161,828
Watch	—	—	—	1,948	570	—	—	—	2,518
Special Mention	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—	50
Substandard	—	—	—	1,168	6	—	—	—	1,174
Total Small Business Administration	\$ 151,449	\$ 1,453	\$ 4,194	\$ 4,443	\$ 2,458	\$ 1,573	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 165,570
Taxi Medallions									
Substandard	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 279	\$ —	\$ 2,318	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 2,597
Total Taxi Medallions	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 279	\$ —	\$ 2,318	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 2,597
Other									
Pass	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 37	\$ 93	\$ —	\$ 130
Total Other	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 37	\$ 93	\$ —	\$ 130
Total Loans	\$ 896,386	\$ 991,017	\$ 1,125,966	\$ 808,364	\$ 681,758	\$ 1,898,901	\$ 281,969	\$ 20,313	\$ 6,704,674

The following table sets forth the recorded investment in loans designated as Criticized or Classified at December 31, 2019:

<i>(In thousands)</i>	Special Mention	Substandard	Doubtful	Loss	Total
Multi-family residential	\$ 1,563	\$ 2,743	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 4,306
Commercial real estate	5,525	367	—	—	5,892
One-to-four family - mixed-use property	1,585	453	—	—	2,038
One-to-four family - residential	1,095	5,787	—	—	6,882
Small Business Administration ⁽¹⁾	55	85	—	—	140
Taxi medallion	—	3,309	—	—	3,309
Commercial business and other	3,924	11,289	266	—	15,479
Total loans	<u>\$ 13,747</u>	<u>\$ 24,033</u>	<u>\$ 266</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 38,046</u>

(1) Balance reported net of SBA Guaranteed portion.

The following table presents types of collateral-dependent loans by class of loans as of December 31, 2020:

<i>(In thousands)</i>	Collateral Type	
	Real Estate	Business Assets
Multi-family residential	\$ 2,576	\$ —
Commercial real estate	2,994	—
One-to-four family - mixed-use property	1,706	—
One-to-four family - residential	5,313	—
Small Business Administration	—	1,168
Commercial business and other	—	3,482
Taxi Medallion	—	2,758
Total	<u>\$ 12,589</u>	<u>\$ 7,408</u>

Off-Balance Sheet Credit Losses

Also included within scope of the CECL standard are off-balance sheet loan commitments, which includes the unfunded portion of committed lines of credit and commitments “in-process”. Commitments “in-process” reflect loans not in the Company’s books but rather negotiated loan / line of credit terms and rates that the Company has offered to customers and is committed to honoring. In reference to “in-process” credits, the Company defines an unfunded commitment as a credit that has been offered to and accepted by a borrower, which has not closed and by which the obligation is not unconditionally cancellable.

The Company estimates expected credit losses over the contractual period in which the company is exposed to credit risk through a contractual obligation to extend credit, unless that obligation is unconditionally cancellable by the Company. The allowance for credit losses on losses on off-balance sheet exposures is adjusted as a provision for credit loss expense. The Company uses similar assumptions and risk factors that are developed for collectively evaluated financing receivables. This estimates includes consideration of the likelihood that funding will occur and an estimate of expected credit losses on commitments to be funded over its estimated life.

At December 31, 2020, allowance for off-balance-sheet credit losses is \$1.8 million, which is included the “Other liabilities” on the Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition. During the year ended December 31, 2020, the Company has \$1.2 million in credit loss expense for off-balance-sheet items, which is included in the “Other operating expense” on the Consolidated Statements of Income.

PCD Financial Assets

The Company acquired purchased financial assets with credit deterioration during the acquisition of Empire. The following table shows a reconciliation between the purchase price of the financial assets and the par value of the assets.

<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	Amount
Purchase price ⁽¹⁾	\$ 297,807
Allowance for Credit Losses at Acquisition Date	(4,099)
Noncredit Discount	(7,616)
Total consideration paid	\$ 286,092

(1) Purchase price includes \$1.7 million of charge-offs by ENB prior to acquisition.

5. Loans held for sale

At December 31, 2020 and 2019, the Company did not have any loans held for sale.

The Company has implemented a strategy of selling certain delinquent and non-performing loans. Once the Company has decided to sell a loan, the sale usually closes in a short period of time, generally within the same quarter. Loans designated held for sale are reclassified from loans held for investment to loans held for sale. Terms of sale include cash due upon the closing of the sale, no contingencies or recourse to the Company and servicing is released to the buyer. Additionally, at times the Company may sell participating interests in performing loans.

The following tables show loans sold during the period indicated:

<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	For the year ended December 31, 2020			
	Loans sold	Proceeds	Net charge-offs	Net gain (loss)
Delinquent and non-performing loans				
Multi-family residential	1	\$ 284	\$ —	\$ 42
One-to-four family - mixed-use property	1	296	—	—
Total	2	\$ 580	\$ —	\$ 42
Performing loans				
Commercial business and other	1	6,139	—	(62)
Small Business Administration	1	\$ 774	\$ —	\$ 68
Total	2	\$ 6,913	\$ —	\$ 6

<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	For the year ended December 31, 2019			
	Loans sold	Proceeds	Net charge-offs	Net gain
Delinquent and non-performing loans				
Multi-family residential	5	\$ 2,115	\$ —	\$ 367
Commercial real estate	2	6,800	—	383
One-to-four family - mixed-use property	3	885	(1)	6
Commercial business and other	1	3,248	—	—
Total	11	\$ 13,048	\$ (1)	\$ 756
Performing loans				
Small Business Administration	3	\$ 2,069	\$ —	\$ 114
Total	3	\$ 2,069	\$ —	\$ 114

<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	For the year ended December 31, 2018			
	Loans sold	Proceeds	Net (charge-offs) recoveries	Net gain (loss)
Delinquent and non-performing loans				
Multi-family residential	4	\$ 1,559	\$ —	\$ —
Commercial real estate	4	6,065	—	(235)
One-to-four family - mixed-use property	2	725	(4)	—
One-to-four family - residential	2	390	72	10
Total	12	\$ 8,739	\$ 68	\$ (225)
Performing loans				
Small Business Administration	9	\$ 5,671	\$ —	\$ 393
Total	9	\$ 5,671	\$ —	\$ 393

6. Other Real Estate Owned

The following table shows the activity in OREO during the periods indicated:

	For the years ended December 31,		
	2020	2019	2018
	<i>(In thousands)</i>		
Balance at beginning of year	\$ 239	\$ —	\$ —
Additions	—	239	638
Reductions to carrying value	(31)	—	—
Sales	(208)	—	(638)
Balance at end of year	\$ —	\$ 239	\$ —

The following table shows the gross gains, gross losses and write-downs of OREO reported in the Consolidated Statements of Income during the periods presented:

	For the years ended December 31,		
	2020	2019	2018
	<i>(In thousands)</i>		
Gross gains	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 27
Gross losses	(5)	—	—
Write-down of carrying value	(31)	—	—
Total income	\$ (36)	\$ —	\$ 27

7. Securities

The Company did not hold any trading securities at December 31, 2020 and 2019. Securities available for sale are recorded at fair value. Securities held-to-maturity are recorded at amortized cost.

Allowance for credit losses

The Company's estimate of expected credit losses for held-to-maturity debt securities is based on historical information, current conditions and a reasonable and supportable forecast. The Company's portfolio is made up of three securities, one which is structured similar to a commercial owner occupied loan, which is modeled for credit losses similar to commercial business loans secured by real estate, one that currently has an active forbearance with a specific reserve of \$0.6 million and one security is issued and guaranteed by Fannie Mae, which is a government sponsored enterprise that has a credit rating and perceived credit risk comparable to the U.S. government and therefore the Company assumes a zero loss expectation. As of December 31, 2020, the active forbearance has an outstanding balance of \$21.0 million. During the time this security is in forbearance, it is considered current and as such, continues to accrue interest at its original contractual terms. Accrued interest receivable on held-to-maturity securities totaled \$0.1 million at December 31, 2020 and is excluded from estimates of credit losses.

The following table summarizes the Company's portfolio of securities held-to-maturity at December 31, 2020:

	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Gross Unrecognized Gains	Gross Unrecognized Losses	Allowance for Credit Losses
			<i>(In thousands)</i>		
Securities held-to-maturity:					
Municipals	\$ 50,825	\$ 54,538	\$ 3,713	\$ —	\$ (907)
Total municipals	<u>50,825</u>	<u>54,538</u>	<u>3,713</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>(907)</u>
FNMA	7,914	8,991	1,077	—	—
Total mortgage-backed securities	<u>7,914</u>	<u>8,991</u>	<u>1,077</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Total	<u>\$ 58,739</u>	<u>\$ 63,529</u>	<u>\$ 4,790</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ (907)</u>

The following table summarizes the Company's portfolio of securities held-to-maturity at December 31, 2019:

	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Gross Unrecognized Gains	Gross Unrecognized Losses	Allowance for Credit Losses
			<i>(In thousands)</i>		
Securities held-to-maturity:					
Municipals	\$ 50,954	\$ 53,998	\$ 3,044	\$ —	\$ —
Total municipals	<u>50,954</u>	<u>53,998</u>	<u>3,044</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
FNMA	7,934	8,114	180	—	—
Total mortgage-backed securities	<u>7,934</u>	<u>8,114</u>	<u>180</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Total	<u>\$ 58,888</u>	<u>\$ 62,112</u>	<u>\$ 3,224</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>

The following table summarizes the Company's portfolio of securities available for sale at December 31, 2020:

	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses
	<i>(In thousands)</i>			
U.S. government agencies	\$ 6,452	\$ 6,453	\$ 2	\$ 1
Corporate	130,000	123,865	131	6,266
Mutual funds	12,703	12,703	—	—
Collateralized loan obligations	100,561	99,198	—	1,363
Other	1,295	1,295	—	—
Total other securities	251,011	243,514	133	7,630
REMIC and CMO	175,142	180,877	5,735	—
GNMA	13,009	13,053	66	22
FNMA	143,154	146,169	3,046	31
FHLMC	63,796	64,361	648	83
Total mortgage-backed securities	395,101	404,460	9,495	136
Total securities available for sale	<u>\$ 646,112</u>	<u>\$ 647,974</u>	<u>\$ 9,628</u>	<u>\$ 7,766</u>

The following table summarizes the Company's portfolio of securities available for sale at December 31, 2019:

	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses
	<i>(In thousands)</i>			
Corporate	\$ 130,000	\$ 123,050	\$ —	\$ 6,950
Municipals	12,797	12,916	119	—
Mutual funds	12,216	12,216	—	—
Collateralized loan obligations	100,349	99,137	—	1,212
Other	1,332	1,332	—	—
Total other securities	256,694	248,651	119	8,162
REMIC and CMO	348,236	348,989	2,193	1,440
GNMA	653	704	51	—
FNMA	104,235	104,882	1,073	426
FHLMC	68,476	69,274	871	73
Total mortgage-backed securities	521,600	523,849	4,188	1,939
Total securities available for sale	<u>\$ 778,294</u>	<u>\$ 772,500</u>	<u>\$ 4,307</u>	<u>\$ 10,101</u>

We did not hold any private issue CMO's that are collateralized by commercial real estate mortgages at December 31, 2020 and 2019. The corporate securities held by the Company at December 31, 2020 and 2019 are issued by U.S. banking institutions.

The following table details the amortized cost and fair value of the Company's securities classified as held-to-maturity at December 31, 2020, by contractual maturity. Expected maturities will differ from contractual maturities because borrowers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties.

	Amortized Cost	Fair Value
	<i>(In thousands)</i>	
Due after ten years	\$ 50,825	\$ 54,538
Total other securities	50,825	54,538
Mortgage-backed securities	7,914	8,991
Total securities held-to-maturity	<u>\$ 58,739</u>	<u>\$ 63,529</u>

The amortized cost and fair value of the Company's securities, classified as available for sale at December 31, 2020, by contractual maturity, are shown below.

	Amortized Cost	Fair Value
	<i>(In thousands)</i>	
Due after one year through five years	\$ 45,000	\$ 43,738
Due after five years through ten years	138,730	133,201
Due after ten years	54,578	53,872
Total other securities	238,308	230,811
Mutual funds	12,703	12,703
Mortgage-backed securities	395,101	404,460
Total securities available for sale	<u>\$ 646,112</u>	<u>\$ 647,974</u>

The following table shows the Company's securities with gross unrealized losses and their fair value, aggregated by category and length of time that individual securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position, at December 31, 2020.

		Total		Less than 12 months		12 months or more	
	Count	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses
		<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>					
Available for sale securities							
U.S. government agencies	1	\$ 4,988	\$ 1	\$ 4,988	\$ 1	\$ —	\$ —
Corporate	14	113,734	6,266	—	—	113,734	6,266
CLO	13	99,199	1,363	7,441	52	91,758	1,311
Total other securities	<u>28</u>	<u>217,921</u>	<u>7,630</u>	<u>12,429</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>205,492</u>	<u>7,577</u>
GNMA	1	10,341	22	10,341	22	—	—
FNMA	5	32,463	31	23,864	28	8,599	3
FHLMC	3	30,095	83	30,095	83	—	—
Total mortgage-backed securities	<u>9</u>	<u>72,899</u>	<u>136</u>	<u>64,300</u>	<u>133</u>	<u>8,599</u>	<u>3</u>
Total securities available for sale	<u>37</u>	<u>\$ 290,820</u>	<u>\$ 7,766</u>	<u>\$ 76,729</u>	<u>\$ 186</u>	<u>\$ 214,091</u>	<u>\$ 7,580</u>

The following table shows the Company's available for sale securities with gross unrealized losses and their fair value, aggregated by category and length of time that individual securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position, at December 31, 2019.

	Count	Total		Less than 12 months		12 months or more	
		Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses
<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>							
Available for sale securities							
Corporate	16	\$ 123,050	\$ 6,950	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 123,050	\$ 6,950
CLO	13	99,137	1,212	25,451	108	73,686	1,104
Total other securities	29	222,187	8,162	25,451	108	196,736	8,054
REMIC and CMO	23	120,989	1,440	102,384	1,117	18,605	323
GNMA	1	49	—	49	—	—	—
FNMA	8	67,618	426	19,073	138	48,545	288
FHLMC	1	30,200	73	—	—	30,200	73
Total mortgage-backed securities	33	218,856	1,939	121,506	1,255	97,350	684
Total securities available for sale	62	\$ 441,043	\$ 10,101	\$ 146,957	\$ 1,363	\$ 294,086	\$ 8,738

The Company reviewed each available for sale debt security that had an unrealized loss at December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019. At December 31, 2020, the Company evaluated whether the decline in fair value of a debt security resulted from credit losses or other factors under ASC 326. The Company does not have the intent to sell these securities and it is more likely than not the Company will not be required to sell the securities before recovery of the securities' amortized cost basis. This conclusion is based upon considering the Company's cash and working capital requirements and contractual and regulatory obligations, none of which the Company believes would cause the sale of the securities. All of these securities are rated investment grade or above and have a long history of no credit losses. It is not anticipated that these securities would be settled at a price that is less than the amortized cost of the Company's investment.

In determining the risk of loss for available for sale securities, the Company considered that mortgage-backed securities are either fully guaranteed or issued by a government sponsored enterprise, which has a credit rating and perceived credit risk comparable to U.S. government, the issuer of Corporate securities are global systematically important banks, and the tranche of the purchased CLO's. Each of these securities is performing according to its terms and, in the opinion of management, will continue to perform according to its terms. Based on this review, management believes that the unrealized losses have resulted from other factors not deemed credit-related and no allowance for credit loss was recorded.

Accrued interest receivable on available-for-sale debt securities totaled \$1.3 million at December 31, 2020 and is excluded from the estimate of credit losses.

Upon adoption of ASC Topic 326, "Credit Losses" on January 1, 2020, see Note 22 related to the adoption of Topic 326, we recorded a transition adjustment of \$0.3 million in the allowance for credit losses for held-to-maturity debt securities.

The following table presents the activity in the allowance for credit losses for debt securities held-to-maturity for the year ended December 31, 2020:

	Mortgage-backed securities		Other securities	
	<i>(In thousands)</i>			
Beginning balance	\$	—	\$	—
CECL adoption		—		340
Provision		—		567
Allowance for credit losses - securities	\$	—	\$	907

The Company sold available for sale securities with carrying values at the time of sale totaling \$221.0 million, \$26.4 million and \$67.0 million during the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively. The Company purchased mortgage-backed available for sale securities totaling \$308.1 million, \$128.0 million and \$196.4 million during the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

The following table represents the gross gains and gross losses realized from the sale of securities available for sale for the periods indicated:

	For the years ended December 31,		
	2020	2019	2018
	<i>(In thousands)</i>		
Gross gains from the sale of securities	\$ 1,499	\$ 423	\$ 105
Gross losses from the sale of securities	(2,200)	(438)	(2,025)
Net losses from the sale of securities	<u>\$ (701)</u>	<u>\$ (15)</u>	<u>\$ (1,920)</u>

Included in “Other assets” within our Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition are amounts held in a rabbi trust for certain non-qualified deferred compensation plans totaling \$22.6 million and \$20.0 million at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

8. Bank Premises and Equipment, Net

Bank premises and equipment are as follows at December 31:

	2020	2019
	<i>(In thousands)</i>	
Leasehold improvements	\$ 44,984	\$ 41,304
Equipment and furniture	29,202	27,166
Total	74,186	68,470
Less: Accumulated depreciation and amortization	46,007	39,794
Bank premises and equipment, net	<u>\$ 28,179</u>	<u>\$ 28,676</u>

9. Deposits

Total deposits at December 31, 2020 and 2019, and the weighted average rate on deposits at December 31, 2020, are as follows:

	2020	2019	Weighted Average Rate 2020
	<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>		
Interest-bearing deposits:			
Certificate of deposit accounts	\$ 1,138,361	\$ 1,437,890	0.97 %
Savings accounts	168,183	191,485	0.18
Money market accounts	1,682,345	1,592,011	0.50
NOW accounts	<u>2,323,172</u>	<u>1,365,591</u>	0.28
Total interest-bearing deposits	5,312,061	4,586,977	
Non-interest bearing demand deposits			
Total due to depositors	<u>6,090,733</u>	<u>5,022,049</u>	
Mortgagors' escrow deposits	45,622	44,375	0.02
Total deposits	<u>\$ 6,136,355</u>	<u>\$ 5,066,424</u>	

The aggregate amount of time deposits with denominations of \$250,000 or more (excluding brokered deposits issued in \$1,000 amounts under a master certificate of deposit) was \$266.9 million and \$351.0 million at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively. The aggregate amount of brokered deposits was \$1,074.1 million and \$388.8 million at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

During 2018, Section 29 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act was amended to no longer consider reciprocal deposits held by an FDIC-insured depository institution brokered deposits. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, reciprocal deposits subject to certain limitations, totaled \$735.4 million and \$805.6 million, respectively.

Government deposits are collateralized by either securities, letters of credit issued by FHLB-NY or are placed in an Insured Cash Sweep service ("ICS"). The letters of credit are collateralized by mortgage loans pledged by the Company.

At December 31, 2020, government deposits totaled \$1,615.4 million, of which \$524.0 million were ICS deposits and \$1,091.4 million were collateralized by \$260.3 million in securities and \$855.4 million of letters of credit. At December 31, 2019, government deposits totaled \$1,265.1 million, of which \$685.0 million were ICS deposits and \$580.1 million were collateralized by \$181.0 million in securities and \$494.0 million of letters of credit.

Interest expense on deposits is summarized as follows for the years ended December 31:

	2020	2019	2018
	<i>(In thousands)</i>		
Certificate of deposit accounts	\$ 18,096	\$ 35,078	\$ 28,310
Savings accounts	495	1,378	1,370
Money market accounts	14,368	27,819	18,707
NOW accounts	<u>9,309</u>	<u>23,553</u>	<u>15,896</u>
Total due to depositors	42,268	87,828	64,283
Mortgagors' escrow deposits	44	229	214
Total interest expense on deposits	<u>\$ 42,312</u>	<u>\$ 88,057</u>	<u>\$ 64,497</u>

Scheduled remaining maturities of certificate of deposit accounts are summarized as follows for the years ended December 31:

	2020	2019
	<i>(In thousands)</i>	
Within 12 months	\$ 923,235	\$ 1,220,601
More than 12 months to 24 months	139,088	143,520
More than 24 months to 36 months	58,125	14,223
More than 36 months to 48 months	14,488	48,318
More than 48 months to 60 months	3,394	11,082
More than 60 months	31	146
Total certificate of deposit accounts	<u>\$ 1,138,361</u>	<u>\$ 1,437,890</u>

10. Borrowed Funds

Borrowed funds are summarized as follows at December 31:

	2020		2019	
	Amount	Weighted Average Rate	Amount	Weighted Average Rate
	<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>			
FHLB-NY advances - fixed rate:				
Due in 2020	\$ —	—	\$ 727,516	1.86
Due in 2021	702,515	0.57	200,016	1.65
Due in 2022	55,685	0.52	175,000	1.93
Due in 2023	39,001	0.48	15,996	3.14
Total FHLB-NY advances	<u>797,201</u>	<u>0.56</u>	<u>1,118,528</u>	<u>1.85</u>
Other Borrowings:				
Due in 2022	<u>90,378</u>	<u>0.35</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Subordinated debentures - fixed rate through 2021				
Due in 2025	15,523	6.12	—	—
Due in 2026	<u>74,657</u>	<u>5.27</u>	<u>74,319</u>	<u>5.30</u>
Total Subordinated debentures	<u>90,180</u>	<u>5.42</u>	<u>74,319</u>	<u>5.30</u>
Junior subordinated debentures - adjustable rate Due in 2037	43,136	2.35	44,384	4.65
Total borrowings	<u>\$ 1,020,895</u>	<u>1.05 %</u>	<u>\$ 1,237,231</u>	<u>2.16 %</u>

The FHLB-NY advances are fixed rate borrowings with no call provisions. The borrowings terms range from one day to five years.

At December 31, 2020, the Company was able to borrow up to \$3,568.0 million from the FHLB-NY in Federal Home Loan Bank advances and letters of credit. As of December 31, 2020, the Bank had \$1,652.6 million outstanding in combined balances of FHLB-NY advances and letters of credit. At December 31, 2020, the Bank also has unsecured lines of credit with other commercial banks totaling \$618.0 million, with no outstanding balance.

Subordinated Debentures

During the year ended December 31, 2016, the Holding Company issued subordinated debt with an aggregated principal amount of \$75.0 million. The subordinated debt was issued at 5.25% fixed-to-floating rate maturing in 2026. The

debt is fixed-rate for the first five years, after which it resets quarterly. Additionally, the debt is callable at par quarterly through its maturity date beginning December 15, 2021. In the acquisition of Empire, the Company acquired \$15.3 million in subordinated debentures. The subordinated debentures the Company hold qualify as Tier 2 capital for regulatory purposes.

The following table shows the terms of the subordinated debt issued or acquired by the Holding Company:

	Subordinated Debentures	Subordinated Debentures	Subordinated Debentures
	<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>		
Amount	\$ 75,000	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,750
Issue Date	December 12, 2016	December 17, 2015	December 17, 2015
Initial Rate	5.25 %	7.38 %	6.50 %
First Reset Date	December 15, 2021	N/A	December 20, 2020
First Call Date	December 15, 2021	December 20, 2020	December 20, 2020
Holding Type	Variable	Fixed	Variable
Spread over 3-month LIBOR	3.44 %	N/A %	4.88 %
Maturity Date	December 15, 2026	December 17, 2025	December 17, 2025

The subordinated debentures acquired through the acquisition of Empire are callable at any time through the maturity date of December 17, 2025. The subordinated debt issued by the Company may not be redeemed prior to December 15, 2021, except that the Company may redeem the subordinated debt at any time, at its option, in whole but not in part, subject to obtaining any required regulatory approvals, if (i) a change or prospective change in law occurs that could prevent the Company from deducting interest payable on the subordinated debt for U.S. federal income tax purposes, (ii) a subsequent event occurs that precludes the subordinated debt from being recognized as Tier 2 capital for regulatory capital purposes, or (iii) the Company is required to register as an investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, in each case, at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the subordinated debt plus any accrued and unpaid interest through, but excluding, the redemption date.

Junior Subordinated Debentures

The Holding Company has three trusts formed under the laws of the State of Delaware for the purpose of issuing capital and common securities, and investing the proceeds thereof in junior subordinated debentures of the Holding Company. Each of these trusts issued \$20.6 million of securities which had a fixed-rate for the first five years, after which they reset quarterly based on a spread over 3-month LIBOR. The securities were first callable at par after five years, and pay cumulative dividends. The Holding Company has guaranteed the payment of these trusts' obligations under their capital securities. The terms of the junior subordinated debentures are the same as those of the capital securities issued by the trusts. The junior subordinated debentures issued by the Holding Company are carried at fair value in the consolidated financial statements.

The table below shows the terms of the securities issued by the trusts.

	Flushing Financial Capital Trust II	Flushing Financial Capital Trust III	Flushing Financial Capital Trust IV
Issue Date	June 20, 2007	June 21, 2007	July 3, 2007
Initial Rate	7.14 %	6.89 %	6.85 %
First Reset Date	September 01, 2012	June 15, 2012	July 30, 2012
Spread over 3-month LIBOR	1.41 %	1.44 %	1.42 %
Maturity Date	September 01, 2037	September 15, 2037	July 30, 2037

The consolidated financial statements do not include the securities issued by the trusts, but rather include the junior subordinated debentures of the Holding Company.

11. Income Taxes

Flushing Financial Corporation files consolidated Federal and combined New York State and New York City income tax returns with its subsidiaries, with the exception of the trusts, which file separate Federal income tax returns as trusts, and FPFC, which files a separate Federal income tax return as a real estate investment trust. The Bank also files various other state tax returns. The Company is undergoing examinations of New York State income tax returns for 2014, 2015 and 2016. Additionally, the Company remains subject to examination for its Federal and various other states income tax returns for the years ending on or after December 31, 2017. The Company believes it has accrued for all potential amounts that may be due to all taxing authorities.

Income tax provisions are summarized as follows for the years ended December 31:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
	<i>(In thousands)</i>		
Federal:			
Current	\$ 14,178	\$ 12,404	\$ 9,183
Deferred	<u>(4,990)</u>	<u>(1,965)</u>	<u>(609)</u>
Total federal tax provision	<u>9,188</u>	<u>10,439</u>	<u>8,574</u>
State and Local:			
Current	967	3,543	3,876
Deferred	<u>353</u>	<u>(1,930)</u>	<u>(2,055)</u>
Total state and local tax provision	<u>1,320</u>	<u>1,613</u>	<u>1,821</u>
Total provision for income taxes	<u>\$ 10,508</u>	<u>\$ 12,052</u>	<u>\$ 10,395</u>

The income tax provision in the Consolidated Statements of Income has been provided at effective rates of 23.3%, 22.7% and 15.9% for the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively. The effective rates differ from the statutory federal income tax rate as follows for the years ended December 31:

	<u>2020</u>		<u>2019</u>		<u>2018</u>	
	<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>					
Taxes at federal statutory rate	\$ 9,489	21.0 %	\$ 11,200	21.0 %	\$ 13,752	21.0 %
Increase (reduction) in taxes resulting from:						
State and local income tax, net of Federal income tax benefit	1,043	2.3	1,274	2.4	1,439	2.2
Tax exempt	(875)	(1.9)	(878)	(1.6)	(1,961)	(3.0)
Nondeductible merger expense	543	1.2	328	0.6	—	—
Other	308	0.7	128	0.3	(2,835)	(4.3)
Taxes at effective rate	<u>\$ 10,508</u>	<u>23.3 %</u>	<u>\$ 12,052</u>	<u>22.7 %</u>	<u>\$ 10,395</u>	<u>15.9 %</u>

The components of the net deferred tax assets are as follows at December 31:

	2020	2019
	<i>(In thousands)</i>	
Deferred tax assets:		
Postretirement benefits	\$ 7,600	\$ 7,188
Allowance for loan losses	13,886	6,782
Operating lease liabilities	18,175	12,863
Stock based compensation	2,845	2,950
Depreciation	2,002	1,875
Unrealized loss on securities available for sale	—	1,812
Fair value adjustment on financial assets carried at fair value	23	95
Fair value hedges	2,726	1,669
Adjustment required to recognize funded status of postretirement pension plans	837	447
Cashflow hedges	7,780	2,668
Deferred loan income	2,000	1,367
Fair Value of Loans from Empire acquisition	3,465	—
Net operating loss (NYS)	23	—
Net operating loss (NYC)	1,395	880
Other	3,412	1,690
Deferred tax assets	<u>66,169</u>	<u>42,286</u>
Deferred tax liabilities:		
FPFC deferred income	2,084	2,256
Right of Use Asset	15,582	12,863
Fair value adjustment on financial liabilities carried at fair value	4,968	5,003
Entity specific fair value	821	456
Unrealized gains on securities	573	—
Deferred loan cost	6,426	5,994
Other	1,459	341
Deferred tax liabilities	<u>31,913</u>	<u>26,913</u>
Net deferred tax asset included in other assets	<u>\$ 34,256</u>	<u>\$ 15,373</u>

The deferred tax asset represents the anticipated net federal, state and local tax benefits expected to be realized in future years upon the utilization of the underlying tax attributes comprising this balance. The Company has reported taxable income for each of the past three years. In management's opinion, in view of the Company's previous, current and projected future earnings trend, the probability that some of the Company's \$31.9 million deferred tax liability can be used to offset a portion of the deferred tax asset it is more likely than not that the deferred tax asset will be fully realized. Accordingly, no valuation allowance was deemed necessary for the deferred tax asset at December 31, 2020 and 2019.

The Company does not have uncertain tax positions that are deemed material. The Company's policy is to recognize interest and penalties on income taxes in tax expense. During the three years ended December 31, 2020, the Company did not recognize any material amounts of interest or penalties on income taxes.

12. Stock-Based Compensation

For the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018 the Company's net income, as reported, includes \$6.0 million, \$7.9 million and \$6.5 million, respectively, of stock-based compensation costs, including the benefit or expense of phantom stock awards, and \$1.4 million, \$1.8 million and \$1.4 million, respectively, of income tax benefits related to the stock-based compensation plans.

No stock options have been granted by the Company since 2009. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, there are no stock options outstanding.

The 2014 Omnibus Incentive Plan (“2014 Omnibus Plan”) became effective on May 20, 2014 after adoption by the Board of Directors and approval by the stockholders. The 2014 Omnibus Plan authorizes the issuance of 1,100,000 shares. To the extent that an award under the 2014 Omnibus Plan is cancelled, expired, forfeited, settled in cash, settled by issuance of fewer shares than the number underlying the award, or otherwise terminated without delivery of shares to a participant in payment of the exercise price or taxes relating to an award, the shares retained by or returned to the Company will be available for future issuance under the 2014 Omnibus Plan. On May 31, 2017, stockholders approved an amendment to the 2014 Omnibus Plan (the “Amendment”) authorizing an additional 672,000 shares available for future issuance. In addition, to increasing the number of shares for future grants, the Amendment eliminated, in the case of stock options and SARs, the ability to recycle shares used to satisfy the exercise price or taxes for such awards. No other amendments to the 2014 Omnibus Plan were made. Including the additional shares authorized from the Amendment, 324,738 shares are available for future issuance under the 2014 Omnibus Plan at December 31, 2020. To fund restricted stock unit awards or option exercises, shares are issued from treasury stock, if available; otherwise new shares are issued. Options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, restricted stock units and other stock-based awards granted under the 2014 Omnibus Plan are generally subject to a minimum vesting period of three years with stock options having a 10-year maximum contractual term. Other awards do not have a contractual term of expiration. The Compensation Committee is authorized to grant awards that vest upon a participant’s retirement. These amounts are included in stock-based compensation expense at the time of the participant’s retirement eligibility.

The Company has a long-term incentive compensation program for certain Company executive officers that includes grants of performance-based restricted stock units (“PRSUs”) in addition to time-based restricted stock units (“RSU”). Under the terms of the PRSU Agreement, the number of PRSUs that may be earned depends on the extent to which performance goals for the award are achieved over a three-year performance period, as determined by the Compensation Committee of the Board. The number of PRSUs that may be earned ranges from 0% to 150% of the target award, with no PRSUs earned for below threshold-level performance, 50% of PRSUs earned for threshold-level performance, 100% of PRSUs earned for target-level performance, and 150% of PRSUs earned for maximum-level performance. As of December 31, 2020, PRSU’s granted in 2019 are being accrued at above target and PRSU’s granted in 2020 are being accrued at target. The different levels of accrual are commensurate with the projected performance of the respective grant.

The Company uses the fair value of the common stock on the date of award to measure compensation cost for restricted stock unit awards. Compensation cost is recognized over the vesting period of the award using the straight line method. There were 173,528 RSU's, 263,574 RSU's and 280,590 RSU's granted for the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively and 72,143 and 67,352 PRSU's granted for the year ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

The following table summarizes the Company's RSU and PRSU awards under the 2014 Omnibus Plan for the year ended December 31, 2020:

	RSU Awards		PRSU Awards	
	Shares	Weighted-Average Grant-Date Fair Value	Shares	Weighted-Average Grant-Date Fair Value
Non-vested at December 31, 2019	428,295	\$ 24.42	34,186	\$ 22.38
Granted	173,528	19.63	72,143	20.38
Vested	(258,745)	22.43	(39,749)	20.64
Forfeited	(6,180)	24.61	—	—
Non-vested at December 31, 2020	<u>336,898</u>	<u>\$ 23.48</u>	<u>66,580</u>	<u>\$ 21.26</u>
Vested but unissued at December 31, 2020	<u>234,481</u>	<u>\$ 23.25</u>	<u>67,115</u>	<u>\$ 21.35</u>

As of December 31, 2020, there was \$5.4 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to RSU and PRSU awards granted under the 2014 Omnibus Plan. That cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.3 years. The total fair value of awards vested for the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018 were \$5.7 million, \$7.4 million and \$7.1 million, respectively. The vested but unissued RSU awards consist of awards made to employees and directors who are eligible for retirement. The vested but unissued PRSU awards consist of awards made to employees who are eligible for retirement. According to the terms of these awards, which provide for vesting upon retirement, these employees and directors have no risk of forfeiture. These shares will be issued at the original contractual vesting and settlement dates. As of December 31, 2020 and 2019, there is no remaining unrecognized compensation cost related to stock options granted.

Phantom Stock Plan: The Company maintains a non-qualified phantom stock plan as a supplement to its profit sharing plan for officers who have achieved the designated level and completed one year of service. Awards are made under this plan on certain compensation not eligible for contributions made under the profit sharing plan, due to the terms of the profit sharing plan and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code"). Employees receive awards under this plan proportionate to the amount they would have received under the profit sharing plan, but for limits imposed by the profit sharing plan and the Internal Revenue Code. The awards are made as cash awards, and then converted to common stock equivalents (phantom shares) at the then current fair value of the Company's common stock. Dividends are credited to each employee's account in the form of additional phantom shares each time the Company pays a dividend on its common stock. In the event of a change of control (as defined in this plan), an employee's interest is converted to a fixed dollar amount and deemed to be invested in the same manner as their interest in the Bank's non-qualified deferred compensation plan. Employees vest under this plan 20% per year for the first 5 years of employment and are 100% vested thereafter. Employees also become 100% vested upon a change of control. Employees receive their vested interest in this plan in the form of a cash lump sum payment or installments, as elected by the employee, after termination of employment. The Company adjusts its liability under this plan to the fair value of the shares at the end of each period.

The following table summarizes the Company's Phantom Stock Plan at or for the year ended December 31, 2020:

Phantom Stock Plan	Shares	Fair Value
Outstanding at December 31, 2019	109,226	\$ 21.61
Granted	11,912	14.81
Distributions	(890)	11.73
Outstanding at December 31, 2020	<u>120,248</u>	<u>\$ 16.64</u>
Vested at December 31, 2020	<u>120,212</u>	<u>\$ 16.64</u>

The Company recorded stock-based compensation (benefit) expense for the phantom stock plan of (\$0.4) million, \$0.1 million and (\$0.5) million for the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively. The total fair value of distributions from the phantom stock plan were \$10,000, \$31,000 and \$12,000 for the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

13. Pension and Other Postretirement Benefit Plans

The amounts recognized in accumulated other comprehensive loss, on a pre-tax basis, consist of the following, as of December 31:

	Net Actuarial Loss (Gain)			Prior Service Cost (Credit)			Total		
	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018
	<i>(In thousands)</i>								
Employee Retirement Plan	\$ 1,775	\$ 2,273	\$ 3,238	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 1,775	\$ 2,273	\$ 3,238
Other Postretirement Benefit Plans	1,333	(265)	35	(112)	(198)	(283)	1,221	(463)	(248)
Outside Directors Plan	(274)	(380)	(566)	—	—	—	(274)	(380)	(566)
Total	\$ 2,834	\$ 1,628	\$ 2,707	\$ (112)	\$ (198)	\$ (283)	\$ 2,722	\$ 1,430	\$ 2,424

Employee Retirement Plan:

The Company has a funded noncontributory defined benefit retirement plan covering substantially all of its salaried employees who were hired before September 1, 2005 (the “Retirement Plan”). The benefits are based on years of service and the employee’s compensation during the three consecutive years out of the final ten years of service, which was completed prior to September 30, 2006, the date the Retirement Plan was frozen, that produces the highest average. The Bank’s funding policy is to contribute annually the amount recommended by the Retirement Plan’s actuary. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, the Bank’s Retirement Plan is invested 100% in fixed income funds. The Company did not make a contribution to the Retirement Plan during the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018. The Company uses a December 31 measurement date for the Retirement Plan.

The following table sets forth, for the Retirement Plan, the change in benefit obligation and assets, and for the Company, the amounts recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition at December 31:

	2020	2019
	<i>(In thousands)</i>	
Change in benefit obligation:		
Projected benefit obligation at beginning of year	\$ 22,443	\$ 20,344
Interest cost	652	797
Actuarial loss	2,109	2,265
Benefits paid	(977)	(963)
Projected benefit obligation at end of year	<u>24,227</u>	<u>22,443</u>
Change in plan assets:		
Market value of assets at beginning of year	25,505	22,419
Actual return on plan assets	3,192	4,049
Benefits paid	(977)	(963)
Market value of plan assets at end of year	<u>27,720</u>	<u>25,505</u>
Accrued pension asset included in other assets	<u>\$ 3,493</u>	<u>\$ 3,062</u>

Assumptions used to determine the Retirement Plan's benefit obligations are as follows at December 31:

	2020	2019
Weighted average discount rate	2.18 %	3.00 %
Rate of increase in future compensation levels	n/a	n/a

The mortality assumptions for 2020 were based on the Pri-2012 Total Dataset with Scale MP 2020 and the mortality assumptions for 2019 were based on the Pri-2012 Total Dataset with Scale MP 2019.

The components of the net pension expense for the Retirement Plan are as follows for the years ended December 31:

	2020	2019	2018
	<i>(In thousands)</i>		
Interest cost	\$ 652	\$ 797	\$ 781
Amortization of unrecognized loss	444	269	621
Expected return on plan assets	(1,028)	(1,088)	(1,452)
Net pension (benefit) expense	68	(22)	(50)
Current year actuarial gain	(54)	(696)	(2,307)
Amortization of actuarial loss	(444)	(269)	(621)
Total recognized in other comprehensive income	(498)	(965)	(2,928)
Total recognized in net pension benefit and other comprehensive loss	<u>\$ (430)</u>	<u>\$ (987)</u>	<u>\$ (2,978)</u>

Assumptions used to develop periodic pension cost for the Retirement Plan for the years ended December 31:

	2020	2019	2018
Weighted average discount rate	3.00 %	4.06 %	3.42 %
Rate of increase in future compensation levels	n/a	n/a	n/a
Expected long-term rate of return on assets	4.75 %	5.25 %	7.00 %

The following benefit payments are expected to be paid by the Retirement Plan for the years ending December 31:

	Future Benefit Payments
	<i>(In thousands)</i>
2021	\$ 1,386
2022	1,231
2023	1,247
2024	1,228
2025	1,214
2026-2030	6,020

The long-term rate of return on assets assumption was set based on historical returns earned by equities and fixed income securities, adjusted to reflect expectations of future returns as applied to the plan's target allocation of asset classes. Equities and fixed income securities were assumed to earn real rates of return in the ranges of 8-10% and 3-5%, respectively. When these overall return expectations are applied to the plans target allocation, the result is an expected rate return of 4.75% for 2020.

The Retirement Plan's weighted average asset allocations by asset category at December 31:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Equity securities	— %	— %
Debt securities	100 %	100 %

At December 31, 2020, Plan assets are invested in a diversified mix of fixed income funds.

The long-term investment objectives are to maintain plan assets at a level that will sufficiently cover long-term obligations and to generate a return on plan assets that will meet or exceed the rate at which long-term obligations will grow. At December 31, 2020, the plan's assets were 100% invested in fixed income securities. Adjustments to this mix are made periodically based on current capital market conditions and plan funding levels. Performance of the investment fund managers is monitored on an ongoing basis using modern portfolio risk analysis and appropriate index benchmarks.

The Company does not expect to make a contribution to the Retirement Plan in 2021.

The following table sets forth the Retirement Plan's assets at the periods indicated:

	<u>At December 31,</u>	
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
	<i>(In thousands)</i>	
Pooled Separate Accounts		
Long duration bond fund (a)	\$ 12,229	\$ 11,242
Long corporate bond fund (b)	5,587	5,069
Prudential short term (c)	286	403
Mutual Fund		
Investment grade bond fund (d)	9,618	8,791
Total	<u>\$ 27,720</u>	<u>\$ 25,505</u>

- a. Comprised of fixed income securities with durations of longer than six years that seek to maximize total return consistent with the preservation of capital and prudent investment management.
- b. Comprised of corporate bonds with an average duration within 0.25 years of the benchmark and its average credit quality is no lower than BBB. The fund seeks to outperform the Bloomberg Barclays Long Corporate Bond Index.
- c. Comprised of money market instruments with an emphasis on safety and liquidity.
- d. Comprised of high quality corporate bonds diversified broadly across industries, issuers and regions. The funds primary benchmark is the Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Credit Index.

The fair value of the mutual fund is determined daily using quoted market prices in an open market (level 1). The fair value of the pooled separate accounts is determined by the investment manager and is based on the value of the underlying assets held at December 31, 2020 and 2019. These are measured at net asset value under the practical expedient with future redemption dates.

The fair values of the Plan's investments in pooled separate accounts are calculated each business day. All investments can be redeemed on a daily basis without restriction. The investments in pooled separate accounts, which are valued at net asset value, have not been classified in the fair value hierarchy in accordance with Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2015-07 "Disclosures for Investments in Certain Entities That Calculate Net Asset Value per Share (or Its Equivalent)".

Other Postretirement Benefit Plans:

The Company sponsors two unfunded postretirement benefit plans (the "Postretirement Plans") that cover all retirees hired prior to January 1, 2011, who were full-time permanent employees with at least five years of service, and

their spouses. Effective January 1, 2011, the Postretirement Plans are no longer available for new hires. One plan provides medical benefits through a 50% cost sharing arrangement. Effective January 1, 2000, the spouses of future retirees were required to pay 100% of the premiums for their coverage. The other plan provides life insurance benefits and is noncontributory. Effective January 1, 2010, life insurance benefits are not available for future retirees. Under these programs, eligible retirees receive lifetime medical and life insurance coverage for themselves and lifetime medical coverage for their spouses. The Company reserves the right to amend or terminate these plans at its discretion.

Comprehensive medical plan benefits equal the lesser of the normal plan benefit or the total amount not paid by Medicare. Life insurance benefits for retirees are based on annual compensation and age at retirement. As of December 31, 2020, the Company has not funded these plans. The Company used a December 31 measurement date for these plans.

The following table sets forth, for the Postretirement Plans, the change in benefit obligation and assets, and for the Company, the amounts recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition at December 31:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
	<i>(In thousands)</i>	
Change in benefit obligation:		
Projected benefit obligation at beginning of year	\$ 8,762	\$ 8,518
Service cost	274	280
Interest cost	259	341
Actuarial gain	1,599	(301)
Benefits paid	(95)	(76)
Projected benefit obligation at end of year	<u>10,799</u>	<u>8,762</u>
Change in plan assets:		
Market value of assets at beginning of year	—	—
Employer contributions	95	76
Benefits paid	(95)	(76)
Market value of plan assets at end of year	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Accrued pension cost included in other liabilities	<u>\$ 10,799</u>	<u>\$ 8,762</u>

Assumptions used in determining the actuarial present value of the accumulated postretirement benefit obligations at December 31 are as follows:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Discount rate	2.18 %	3.00 %
Rate of increase in health care costs		
Initial	7.50 %	7.50 %
Ultimate (year 2026)	5.00 %	5.00 %
Annual rate of salary increase for life insurance	n/a	n/a

The mortality assumptions for 2020 were based on the Pri-2012 with Scale MP 2020 and the mortality assumptions for 2019 were based on the Pri-2012 with Scale MP 2019.

The resulting net periodic postretirement expense consisted of the following components for the years ended December 31:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
	<i>(In thousands)</i>		
Service cost	\$ 274	\$ 280	\$ 350
Interest cost	259	341	307
Amortization of unrecognized loss	—	—	33
Amortization of past service credit	(85)	(85)	(85)
Net postretirement benefit expense	<u>448</u>	<u>536</u>	<u>605</u>
Current year actuarial (gain) loss	1,599	(301)	(1,155)
Amortization of actuarial loss	—	—	(33)
Amortization of prior service credit	85	85	85
Total recognized in other comprehensive income	<u>1,684</u>	<u>(216)</u>	<u>(1,103)</u>
Total recognized in net postretirement expense and other comprehensive loss	<u>\$ 2,132</u>	<u>\$ 320</u>	<u>\$ (498)</u>

Assumptions used to develop periodic postretirement expense for the Postretirement Plans for the years ended December 31:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Rate of return on plan assets	n/a	n/a	n/a
Discount rate	3.00 %	4.06 %	3.42 %
Rate of increase in health care costs			
Initial	7.50 %	7.00 %	7.00 %
Ultimate (year 2026)	5.00 %	5.00 %	5.00 %
Annual rate of salary increase for life insurance	n/a	n/a	n/a

The following benefit payments under the Postretirement Plan, which reflect expected future service, are expected to be paid for the years ending December 31:

	<u>Future Benefit Payments</u>
	<i>(In thousands)</i>
2021	\$ 255
2022	299
2023	310
2024	315
2025	333
2026-2030	2,029

Defined Contribution Plans:

The Bank maintains a tax qualified 401(k) plan which covers substantially all salaried employees who have completed one year of service. Currently, annual matching contributions under the Bank's 401(k) plan equal 50% of the employee's contributions, up to a maximum of 3% of the employee's base salary. In addition, the 401(k) plan includes the Defined Contribution Retirement Plan ("DCRP"), under which the Bank contributes an amount equal to 4% of an employee's eligible compensation as defined in the plan, and the Profit Sharing Plan ("PSP"), under which at the discretion of the Company's Board of Directors a contribution is made. Contributions for the DCRP and PSP are made in the form

of Company common stock at or after the end of each year. Annual contributions under these plans are subject to the limits imposed under the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions by the Company into the 401(k) plan vest 20% per year over the employee’s first five years of service. Contributions to these plans are 100% vested upon a change of control (as defined in the applicable plan). Compensation expense recorded by the Company for these plans amounted to \$3.7 million, \$3.0 million and \$4.1 million for the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

The Bank provides a non-qualified deferred compensation plan as an incentive for officers who have achieved the designated level and completed one year of service. In addition to the amounts deferred by the officers, the Bank matches 50% of their contributions, generally up to a maximum of 5% of the officers’ base salary. Matching contributions under this plan vest 20% per year for five years. The non-qualified deferred compensation plan assets are held in a rabbi trust totaling \$16.6 million and \$14.4 million at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively. Contributions become 100% vested upon a change of control (as defined in the plan). Compensation expense recorded by the Company for this plan amounted to \$0.5 million, \$0.5 million and \$0.5 million for the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Employee Benefit Trust:

An Employee Benefit Trust (“EBT”) has been established to assist the Company in funding its benefit plan obligations. Dividend payments received are used to purchase additional shares of common stock. Shares released are used solely for funding matching contributions under the Bank’s 401(k) plan, contributions to the 401(k) plan for the DCRP, and contributions to the PSP. For the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, the Company funded \$2.6 million, \$3.4 million and \$3.6 million, respectively, of employer contributions to the 401(k), DCRP and profit sharing plans from the EBT.

Upon a change of control (as defined in the EBT), the EBT will terminate and any trust assets remaining after certain benefit plan contributions will be distributed to all full-time employees of the Company with at least one year of service, in proportion to their compensation over the four most recently completed calendar years plus the portion of the current year prior to the termination of the EBT.

As shares are released from the suspense account, the Company reports compensation expense equal to the current market price of the shares, and the shares become outstanding for earnings per share computations.

The EBT shares are as follows at December 31:

	2020	2019
Shares owned by Employee Benefit Trust, beginning balance	181,611	329,090
Shares purchased	3,697	7,267
Shares released and allocated	(145,447)	(154,746)
Shares owned by Employee Benefit Trust, ending balance	39,861	181,611
Market value of unallocated shares	<u>\$ 663,287</u>	<u>\$ 3,924,614</u>

Outside Director Retirement Plan:

The Bank has an unfunded noncontributory defined benefit Outside Director Retirement Plan (the “Directors’ Plan”), which provides benefits to each non-employee director who became a non-employee director before January 1, 2004. Upon termination an eligible director will be paid an annual retirement benefit equal to \$48,000. Such benefit will be paid in equal monthly installments for 120 months. In the event of a termination of Board service due to a change of control, an eligible non-employee director will receive a cash lump sum payment equal to 120 months of benefit. In the event of the director’s death, the surviving spouse will receive the equivalent benefit. No benefits will be payable to a director who is removed for cause. The Holding Company has guaranteed the payment of benefits under the Directors’ Plan, for this reason the Bank has assets held in a rabbi trust totaling \$4.2 million and \$4.3 million at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively. The Bank uses a December 31 measurement date for the Directors’ Plan.

The following table sets forth, for the Directors’ Plan, the change in benefit obligation and assets, and for the Company, the amounts recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition at December 31:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
	<i>(In thousands)</i>	
Change in benefit obligation:		
Projected benefit obligation at beginning of year	\$ 2,290	\$ 2,265
Service cost	15	39
Interest cost	64	86
Actuarial loss	51	44
Benefits paid	<u>(144)</u>	<u>(144)</u>
Projected benefit obligation at end of year	<u>2,276</u>	<u>2,290</u>
Change in plan assets:		
Market value of assets at beginning of year	—	—
Employer contributions	144	144
Benefits paid	<u>(144)</u>	<u>(144)</u>
Market value of plan assets at end of year	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Accrued pension cost included in other liabilities	<u>\$ 2,276</u>	<u>\$ 2,290</u>

The components of the net pension expense for the Directors’ Plan are as follows for the years ended December 31:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
	<i>(In thousands)</i>		
Service cost	\$ 15	\$ 39	\$ 42
Interest cost	64	86	78
Amortization of unrecognized gain	(55)	(141)	(91)
Amortization of past service liability	—	—	12
Net pension expense	<u>24</u>	<u>(16)</u>	<u>41</u>
Current actuarial (gain) loss	51	44	(184)
Amortization of actuarial gain	55	141	91
Amortization of prior service cost	—	—	(12)
Total recognized in other comprehensive income	<u>106</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>(105)</u>
Total recognized in net pension expense and other comprehensive income	<u>\$ 130</u>	<u>\$ 169</u>	<u>\$ (64)</u>

Assumptions used to determine benefit obligations and periodic pension expense for the Directors' Plan for the years ended December 31:

	2020	2019	2018
Weighted average discount rate for the benefit obligation	2.18 %	3.00 %	4.06 %
Weighted average discount rate for periodic pension benefit expense	3.00 %	4.06 %	3.42 %
Rate of increase in future compensation levels	n/a	n/a	n/a

The following benefit payments under the Directors' Plan, which reflect expected future service, are expected to be paid for the years ending December 31:

	Future Benefit Payments <i>(In thousands)</i>
2021	\$ 288
2022	288
2023	256
2024	220
2025	192
2026 - 2030	736

14. Stockholders' Equity

Dividend Restrictions on the Bank:

In connection with the Bank's conversion from mutual to stock form in November 1995, a special liquidation account was established at the time of conversion, in accordance with the requirements of its primary regulator, which was equal to its capital as of June 30, 1995. The liquidation account is reduced as and to the extent that eligible account holders have reduced their qualifying deposits. Subsequent increases in deposits do not restore an eligible account holder's interest in the liquidation account. In the event of a complete liquidation of the Bank, each eligible account holder will be entitled to receive a distribution from the liquidation account in an amount proportionate to the current adjusted qualifying balances for accounts then held. As of December 31, 2020 and 2019, the Bank's liquidation account was \$0.4 million and \$0.5 million, respectively, and was presented within retained earnings.

In addition to the restriction described above, New York State and Federal banking regulations place certain restrictions on dividends paid by the Bank to the Holding Company. The total amount of dividends which may be paid at any date is generally limited to the net income of the Bank for the current year and prior two years, less any dividends previously paid from those earnings. As of December 31, 2020, the Bank had \$10.7 million in retained earnings available to distribute to the Holding Company in the form of cash dividends.

In addition, dividends paid by the Bank to the Holding Company would be prohibited if the effect thereof would cause the Bank's capital to be reduced below applicable minimum capital requirements.

As a bank holding company, the Holding Company is subject to similar dividend restrictions.

Treasury Stock Transactions:

The Holding Company repurchased 142,405 common shares at an average cost of \$16.45 and 40,000 common shares at an average cost of \$19.28 during the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively. At December 31, 2020, 284,806 shares remained subject to repurchase under the authorized stock repurchase program. Stock will be purchased under the authorized stock repurchase program from time to time, in the open market or through private transactions, subject to market conditions and at the discretion of the management of the Company. There is no expiration or maximum dollar amount under this authorization.

Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss:

The following are changes in accumulated other comprehensive loss by component, net of tax, for the years ended:

December 31, 2020	Unrealized Gains (Losses) on Available for Sale Securities	Unrealized Gains (Losses) on Cash flow Hedges	Defined Benefit Pension Items	Fair Value Option Elected on Liabilities	Total
	<i>(In thousands)</i>				
Beginning balance, net of tax	\$ (3,982)	\$ (5,863)	\$ (983)	\$ 1,021	\$ (9,807)
Other comprehensive income before reclassifications, net of tax	4,787	(14,924)	(1,112)	828	(10,421)
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax	485	3,266	211	—	3,962
Net current period other comprehensive income, net of tax	5,272	(11,658)	(901)	828	(6,459)
Ending balance, net of tax	\$ 1,290	\$ (17,521)	\$ (1,884)	\$ 1,849	\$ (16,266)
December 31, 2019	Unrealized Gains (Losses) on Available for Sale Securities	Unrealized Gains (Losses) on Cash flow Hedges	Defined Benefit Pension Items	Fair Value Option Elected on Liabilities	Total
	<i>(In thousands)</i>				
Beginning balance, net of tax	\$ (15,649)	\$ 3,704	\$ (1,673)	\$ 866	\$ (12,752)
Other comprehensive income before reclassifications, net of tax	11,657	(8,606)	661	155	3,867
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax	10	(961)	29	—	(922)
Net current period other comprehensive income, net of tax	11,667	(9,567)	690	155	2,945
Ending balance, net of tax	\$ (3,982)	\$ (5,863)	\$ (983)	\$ 1,021	\$ (9,807)
December 31, 2018	Unrealized Gains (Losses) on Available for Sale Securities	Unrealized Gains (Losses) on Cash flow Hedges	Defined Benefit Pension Items	Fair Value Option Elected on Liabilities	Total
	<i>(In thousands)</i>				
Beginning balance, net of tax	\$ (5,522)	\$ 231	\$ (3,695)	\$ —	\$ (8,986)
Reclassification of the Income Tax Effects of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act to Retained Earnings	(1,325)	50	(798)	—	(2,073)
Impact of adoption of Accounting Standard Update 2016-01	—	—	—	779	779
Other comprehensive income before reclassifications, net of tax	(10,127)	3,351	2,484	87	(4,205)
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax	1,325	72	336	—	1,733
Net current period other comprehensive income, net of tax	(8,802)	3,423	2,820	87	(2,472)
Ending balance, net of tax	\$ (15,649)	\$ 3,704	\$ (1,673)	\$ 866	\$ (12,752)

The following tables set forth significant amounts reclassified out of accumulated other comprehensive loss by component for the periods indicated:

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020		
Details about Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income Components	Amounts Reclassified from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income	Affected Line Item in the Statement Where Net Income is Presented
	<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	
Unrealized gains (losses) on available for sale securities:	\$ (701)	Net loss on sale of securities
	216	Tax expense
	<u>\$ (485)</u>	Net of tax
Cash flow hedges:		
Interest rate swaps	\$ (4,732)	Interest expense
	1,466	Tax expense
	<u>\$ (3,266)</u>	Net of tax
Amortization of defined benefit pension items:		
Actuarial losses	\$ (390)(1)	Other operating expenses
Prior service credits	85 (1)	Other operating expenses
	(305)	Total before tax
	94	Tax expense
	<u>\$ (211)</u>	Net of tax

(1) These accumulated other comprehensive loss components are included in the computation of net periodic pension cost (see Note 13 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements “Pension and Other Postretirement Benefit Plans”).

For the Year Ended December 31, 2019		
Details about Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income Components	Amounts Reclassified from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income	Affected Line Item in the Statement Where Net Income is Presented
	<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	
Unrealized gains (losses) on available for sale securities:	\$ (15)	Net loss on sale of securities
	5	Tax expense
	<u>\$ (10)</u>	Net of tax
Cash flow hedges:		
Interest rate swaps	\$ 1,392	Interest expense
	(431)	Tax expense
	<u>\$ 961</u>	Net of tax
Amortization of defined benefit pension items:		
Actuarial losses	\$ (128)(1)	Other operating expenses
Prior service credits	85 (1)	Other operating expenses
	(43)	Total before tax
	14	Tax expense
	<u>\$ (29)</u>	Net of tax

(1) These accumulated other comprehensive loss components are included in the computation of net periodic pension cost (see Note 13 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements “Pension and Other Postretirement Benefit Plans”).

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

Details about Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income Components	Amounts Reclassified from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Dollars in thousands)	Affected Line Item in the Statement Where Net Income is Presented
Unrealized gains (losses) on available for sale securities:	\$ (1,920)	Net loss on sale of securities
	595	Tax expense
	<u>\$ (1,325)</u>	Net of tax
Cash flow hedges:		
Interest rate swaps	\$ (104)	Interest expense
	32	Tax expense
	<u>\$ (72)</u>	Net of tax
Amortization of defined benefit pension items:		
Actuarial losses	\$ (530)(1)	Other operating expenses
Prior service credits	39 (1)	Other operating expenses
	(491)	Total before tax
	155	Tax expense
	<u>\$ (336)</u>	Net of tax

(1) These accumulated other comprehensive loss components are included in the computation of net periodic pension cost (see Note 13 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements “Pension and Other Postretirement Benefit Plans”).

15. Regulatory Capital

Under current capital regulations, the Bank is required to comply with four separate capital adequacy standards. As of December 31, 2020, the Bank continued to be categorized as “well-capitalized” under the prompt corrective action regulations and continued to exceed all regulatory capital requirements. The Bank is also required to comply with a Capital Conservation Buffer (“CCB”). The CCB is designed to establish a capital range above minimum capital requirements and impose constraints on dividends, share buybacks and discretionary bonus payments when capital levels fall below prescribed levels. The minimum CCB is 2.5%. The CCB for the Bank at December 31, 2020 and 2019 was 4.30% and 5.43%, respectively.

Set forth below is a summary of the Bank’s compliance with banking regulatory capital standards.

	December 31, 2020		December 31, 2019	
	Amount	Percent of Assets	Amount	Percent of Assets
<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>				
Tier I (leverage) capital:				
Capital level	\$ 733,010	9.27 %	\$ 680,749	9.65 %
Requirement to be well capitalized	395,510	5.00	352,581	5.00
Excess	337,500	4.27	328,168	4.65
Common Equity Tier I risk-based capital:				
Capital level	\$ 733,010	11.65 %	\$ 680,749	13.02 %
Requirement to be well capitalized	408,929	6.50	339,944	6.50
Excess	324,081	5.15	340,805	6.52
Tier I risk-based capital:				
Capital level	\$ 733,010	11.65 %	\$ 680,749	13.02 %
Requirement to be well capitalized	503,297	8.00	418,393	8.00
Excess	229,713	3.65	262,356	5.02
Total risk-based capital:				
Capital level	\$ 773,807	12.30 %	\$ 702,500	13.43 %
Requirement to be well capitalized	629,121	10.00	522,991	10.00
Excess	144,686	2.30	179,509	3.43

The Holding Company is subject to the same regulatory capital requirements as the Bank. As of December 31, 2020, the Holding Company continues to be categorized as “well-capitalized” under the prompt corrective action regulations and continues to exceed all regulatory capital requirements. The CCB for the Holding Company at December 31, 2020 and 2019 was 4.54% and 5.62%, respectively.

Set forth below is a summary of the Holding Company’s compliance with banking regulatory capital standards.

	December 31, 2020		December 31, 2019	
	Amount	Percent of Assets	Amount	Percent of Assets
<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>				
Tier I (leverage) capital:				
Capital level	\$ 662,987	8.38 %	\$ 615,500	8.73 %
Requirement to be well capitalized	395,439	5.00	352,581	5.00
Excess	267,548	3.38	262,919	3.73
Common Equity Tier I risk-based capital:				
Capital level	\$ 621,247	9.88 %	\$ 572,651	10.95 %
Requirement to be well capitalized	408,694	6.50	339,929	6.50
Excess	212,553	3.38	232,722	4.45
Tier I risk-based capital:				
Capital level	\$ 662,987	10.54 %	\$ 615,500	11.77 %
Requirement to be well capitalized	503,008	8.00	418,374	8.00
Excess	159,979	2.54	197,126	3.77
Total risk-based capital:				
Capital level	\$ 794,034	12.63 %	\$ 712,251	13.62 %
Requirement to be well capitalized	628,760	10.00	522,967	10.00
Excess	165,274	2.63	189,284	3.62

16. Leases

The following table summarizes the operating lease ROU assets and liabilities at and for the period indicated:

<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	At or for the twelve months ended December 31, 2020	At or for the twelve months ended December 31, 2019
Operating lease ROU assets	\$ 50,743	\$ 41,254
Operating lease liabilities	\$ 59,100	\$ 49,367
Lease Cost		
Operating lease cost	\$ 7,725	\$ 7,575
Short-term lease cost	139	136
Variable lease cost	1,128	1,020
Total lease cost	\$ 8,992	\$ 8,731

Other information

Cash paid for amounts included in the measurement of lease liabilities		
Operating cash flows from operating leases	\$ 8,316	\$ 8,051
Right-of-use assets obtained in exchange for new operating lease liabilities	\$ 5,484	\$ 1,576
Right-of-use assets obtained in acquisition	\$ 9,993	\$ —
Weighted-average remaining lease term-operating leases	8.3 years	7.5 years
Weighted average discount rate-operating leases	3.2%	3.8%

The rental expense under legacy lease accounting totaled \$6.1 million for the year ended 2018.

The Company's minimum annual rental payments at December 31, 2020 for Bank facilities due under non-cancelable leases are as follows:

	<u>Minimum Rental</u>
	<i>(In thousands)</i>
Years ended December 31:	
2021	\$ 8,757
2022	8,871
2023	9,006
2024	8,847
2025	8,212
Thereafter	<u>23,547</u>
Total minimum payments required	67,240
Less: implied interest	<u>8,140</u>
Total lease obligations	<u>\$ 59,100</u>

The Company's minimum annual rental payments at December 31, 2019 for Bank facilities due under non-cancelable leases are as follows:

	<u>Minimum Rental</u>
	<i>(In thousands)</i>
Years ended December 31:	
2020	\$ 8,113
2021	7,675
2022	7,260
2023	7,397
2024	7,425
Thereafter	<u>19,148</u>
Total minimum payments required	57,018
Less: implied interest	<u>7,651</u>
Total lease obligations	<u>\$ 49,367</u>

17. Commitments and Contingencies

Commitments:

The Company is a party to financial instruments with off-balance-sheet risk in the normal course of business to meet the financing needs of its customers. These financial instruments include commitments to extend credit and lines of credit. The instruments involve, to varying degrees, elements of credit and market risks in excess of the amount recognized in the consolidated financial statements.

The Company's exposure to credit loss in the event of nonperformance by the counterparty to the financial instrument for loan commitments and lines of credit is represented by the contractual amounts of these instruments.

Commitments to extend credit (principally real estate mortgage loans) and lines of credit (principally business lines of credit and home equity lines of credit) amounted to \$62.4 million and \$411.7 million, respectively, at December 31, 2020. Included in these commitments were \$38.4 million of fixed-rate commitments at a weighted average rate of 3.82% and \$436.7 million of adjustable-rate commitments with a weighted average rate of 3.84%, as of December 31, 2020. Since generally all of the loan commitments are expected to be drawn upon, the total loan commitments approximate future cash requirements, whereas the amounts of lines of credit may not be indicative of the Company's future cash requirements. The loan commitments generally expire in 90 days, while construction loan lines of credit mature within eighteen months and home equity lines of credit mature within ten years. The Company uses the same credit policies in making commitments and conditional obligations as it does for on-balance-sheet instruments.

Commitments to extend credit are legally binding agreements to lend to a customer as long as there is no violation of any condition established in the contract. Commitments generally have fixed expiration dates and require payment of a fee. The Company evaluates each customer's creditworthiness on a case-by-case basis. Collateral held consists primarily of real estate.

The Bank collateralized a portion of its deposits with letters of credit issued by FHLB-NY. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, there were \$855.4 million and \$494.0 million, respectively, of letters of credit outstanding. The letters of credit are collateralized by mortgage loans pledged by the Bank.

The Company had purchase obligations totaling \$17.4 million and \$22.0 million as of December 31, 2020 and 2019, which are primarily related to contracts with data processing, loan servicing and check processing services provided by third-party vendors.

The Trusts issued capital securities with a par value of \$61.9 million in June and July 2007. The Holding Company has guaranteed the payment of the Trusts' obligations under these capital securities.

Contingencies:

The Company is a defendant in various lawsuits. Management of the Company, after consultation with outside legal counsel, believes that the resolution of these various matters will not result in any material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

18. Concentration of Credit Risk

The Company's lending is concentrated in the New York City metropolitan area. The Company evaluates each customer's creditworthiness on a case-by-case basis under the Company's established underwriting policies. The collateral obtained by the Company generally consists of first liens on one-to-four family residential, multi-family residential, and commercial real estate. At December 31, 2020, the largest amount the Bank could lend to one borrower was approximately \$110.0 million, and at that date, the Bank's largest aggregate amount of loans to one borrower was \$87.8 million, all of which were performing according to their terms.

19. Related Party Transactions

At December 31, 2020 and 2019, there were no outstanding loans to a related party. Deposits of related parties totaled \$13.4 million and \$7.7 million at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

20. Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The Company carries certain financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value in accordance with GAAP which defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. GAAP permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value. At December 31, 2020, the Company carried financial assets and financial liabilities under the fair value option with fair values of \$14.5 million and \$43.1 million, respectively. At December 31, 2019, the Company carried financial assets and financial liabilities under the fair value option with fair values of \$14.3 million and \$44.4 million, respectively. The Company did not purchase or sell any financial assets or liabilities under the fair value option during the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019.

Management selected the fair value option for certain investment securities, and certain borrowed funds as the yield, at the time of election, on the financial assets was below-market, while the rate on the financial liabilities was above-market rate. Management also considered the average duration of these instruments, which, for investment securities, was longer than the average for the portfolio of securities, and, for borrowings, primarily represented the longer-term borrowings of the Company. Choosing these instruments for the fair value option adjusted the carrying value of these financial assets and financial liabilities to their current fair value, and more closely aligned the financial performance of the Company with the economic value of these financial instruments. Management believed that electing the fair value option for these financial assets and financial liabilities allows them to better react to changes in interest rates. At the time of election, Management did not elect the fair value option for investment securities and borrowings with shorter duration, adjustable rates, and yields that approximated the then current market rate, as management believed that these financial assets and financial liabilities approximated their economic value.

The following table presents the financial assets and financial liabilities reported at fair value under the fair value option at December 31, 2020 and 2019, and the changes in fair value included in the Consolidated Statement of Income – Net loss from fair value adjustments:

Description	Fair Value Measurements at December 31, 2020	Fair Value Measurements at December 31, 2019	Changes in Fair Values For Items Measured at Fair Value Pursuant to Election of the Fair Value Option		
			For the year ended December 31,		
			2020	2019	2018
<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>					
Mortgage-backed securities	\$ 505	\$ 772	\$ 3	\$ 3	\$ (19)
Other securities	13,998	13,548	230	427	(109)
Borrowed funds	43,136	44,384	(50)	(2,802)	(4,913)
Net gain (loss) from fair value adjustments ⁽¹⁾			<u>\$ 183</u>	<u>\$ (2,372)</u>	<u>\$ (5,041)</u>

(1) The net loss from fair value adjustments presented in the above table does not include net (losses) gains of (\$2.3) million, (\$3.0) million and \$0.9 million from the change in fair value of derivative instruments during the years ended December 31, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Included in the fair value of the financial assets and financial liabilities selected for the fair value option is the accrued interest receivable or payable for the related instrument. The Company reports as interest income or interest expense in the Consolidated Statement of Income, the interest receivable or payable on the financial instruments selected for the fair value option at their respective contractual rates.

The borrowed funds have a contractual principal amount of \$61.9 million at December 31, 2020 and 2019. The fair value of borrowed funds includes accrued interest payable of \$0.1 million and \$0.2 million at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

The Company generally holds its earning assets, other than securities available for sale, to maturity and settles its liabilities at maturity. However, fair value estimates are made at a specific point in time and are based on relevant market information. These estimates do not reflect any premium or discount that could result from offering for sale at one time the Company's entire holdings of a particular instrument. Accordingly, as assumptions change, such as interest rates and prepayments, fair value estimates change and these amounts may not necessarily be realized in an immediate sale.

Disclosure of fair value does not require fair value information for items that do not meet the definition of a financial instrument or certain other financial instruments specifically excluded from its requirements. These items include core deposit intangibles and other customer relationships, premises and equipment, leases, income taxes and equity.

Further, fair value disclosure does not attempt to value future income or business. These items may be material and accordingly, the fair value information presented does not purport to represent, nor should it be construed to represent, the underlying "market" or franchise value of the Company.

Financial assets and financial liabilities reported at fair value are required to be measured based on either: (1) quoted prices in active markets for identical financial instruments (Level 1); (2) significant other observable inputs (Level 2); or (3) significant unobservable inputs (Level 3).

A description of the methods and significant assumptions utilized in estimating the fair value of the Company's assets and liabilities that are carried at fair value on a recurring basis are as follows:

Level 1 – where quoted market prices are available in an active market. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, Level 1 included one mutual fund.

Level 2 – when quoted market prices are not available, fair value is estimated using quoted market prices for similar financial instruments and adjusted for differences between the quoted instrument and the instrument being valued. Fair value can also be estimated by using pricing models, or discounted cash flows. Pricing models primarily use market-based or independently sourced market parameters as inputs, including, but not limited to, yield curves, interest rates, equity or debt prices and credit spreads. In addition to observable market information, models also incorporate maturity and cash flow assumptions. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, Level 2 included mortgage related securities, corporate debt, municipals and interest rate swaps.

Level 3 – when there is limited activity or less transparency around inputs to the valuation, financial instruments are classified as Level 3. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, Level 3 included trust preferred securities owned and junior subordinated debentures issued by the Company.

The methods described above may produce fair values that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. While the Company believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with those of other market participants, the use of different methodologies, assumptions and models to determine fair value of certain financial instruments could produce different estimates of fair value at the reporting date.

The following table sets forth the Company's assets and liabilities that are carried at fair value on a recurring basis, including those reported at fair value under the fair value option, and the level that was used to determine their fair value, at December 31:

	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)		Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)		Significant Other Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)		Total carried at fair value on a recurring basis	
	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019
<i>(In thousands)</i>								
Assets:								
Securities available for sale								
Mortgage-backed								
Securities	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 404,460	\$ 523,849	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 404,460	\$ 523,849
Other securities	12,703	12,216	229,516	235,103	1,295	1,332	243,514	248,651
Interest rate swaps	—	—	1,319	2,352	—	—	1,319	2,352
Total assets	\$ 12,703	\$ 12,216	\$ 635,295	\$ 761,304	\$ 1,295	\$ 1,332	\$ 649,293	\$ 774,852
Liabilities:								
Borrowings	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 43,136	\$ 44,384	\$ 43,136	\$ 44,384
Interest rate swaps	—	—	60,987	19,653	—	—	60,987	19,653
Total liabilities	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 60,987	\$ 19,653	\$ 43,136	\$ 44,384	\$ 104,123	\$ 64,037

There were no transfers between Levels 1, 2 and 3 during the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019.

The following tables set forth the Company's assets and liabilities that are carried at fair value on a recurring basis, classified within Level 3 of the valuation hierarchy for the periods indicated:

	For the year ended			
	December 31, 2020		December 31, 2019	
	Trust preferred securities	Junior subordinated debentures	Trust preferred securities	Junior subordinated debentures
<i>(In thousands)</i>				
Beginning balance	\$ 1,332	\$ 44,384	\$ 1,256	\$ 41,849
Net (loss) gain from fair value adjustment of financial assets ⁽¹⁾	(34)	—	78	—
Net loss from fair value adjustment of financial liabilities ⁽¹⁾	—	50	—	2,803
Decrease in accrued interest	(3)	(103)	(2)	(39)
Change in unrealized losses included in other comprehensive loss	—	(1,195)	—	(229)
Ending balance	\$ 1,295	\$ 43,136	\$ 1,332	\$ 44,384
Changes in unrealized gains held at period end	\$ —	\$ 2,670	\$ —	\$ 1,476

(1) These totals in the table above are presented in the Consolidated Statement of Income under net loss from fair value adjustments.

The following tables present the qualitative information about recurring Level 3 fair value of financial instruments and the fair value measurements at the periods indicated:

December 31, 2020					
	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Valuation Technique</u>	<u>Unobservable Input</u>	<u>Range</u>	<u>Weighted Average</u>
<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>					
Assets:					
Trust preferred securities	\$ 1,295	Discounted cash flows	Discount rate	n/a	4.2 %
Liabilities:					
Junior subordinated debentures	\$ 43,136	Discounted cash flows	Discount rate	n/a	4.2 %

December 31, 2019					
	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Valuation Technique</u>	<u>Unobservable Input</u>	<u>Range</u>	<u>Weighted Average</u>
<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>					
Assets:					
Trust preferred securities	\$ 1,332	Discounted cash flows	Discount rate	n/a	4.2 %
Liabilities:					
Junior subordinated debentures	\$ 44,384	Discounted cash flows	Discount rate	n/a	4.2 %

The significant unobservable inputs used in the fair value measurement of the Company's trust preferred securities and junior subordinated debentures valued under Level 3 at December 31, 2020 and 2019, are the effective yields used in the cash flow models. Significant increases or decreases in the effective yield in isolation would result in a significantly lower or higher fair value measurement.

The following table sets forth the Company's assets that are carried at fair value on a non-recurring basis, and the level that was used to determine their fair value, at December 31:

	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)		Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)		Significant Other Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)		Total carried at fair value on a non-recurring basis	
	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019
	<i>(In thousands)</i>							
Assets:								
Non-accrual loans	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 11,980	\$ 1,081	\$ 11,980	\$ 1,081
Other repossessed assets	—	—	—	—	—	239	—	239
Total assets	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 11,980	\$ 1,320	\$ 11,980	\$ 1,320

The following tables present the qualitative information about non-recurring Level 3 fair value measurements of financial instruments at the periods indicated:

	Fair Value	Valuation Technique	At December 31, 2020		
			Unobservable Input <i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	Range	Weighted Average
Assets:					
Non-accrual loans	\$ 10,690	Sales approach	Reduction for planned expedited disposal	-100.0% to 15.0 %	6.8 %
Non-accrual loans	\$ 1,290	Discounted Cashflow	Discount Rate	4.3% to 5.5 %	4.9 %
			Probability of Default	20.0% to 35.0 %	27.4 %
Assets:					
	Fair Value	Valuation Technique	At December 31, 2019		
			Unobservable Input <i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	Range	Weighted Average
Non-accrual loans	\$ 809	Discounted Cashflow	Discount Rate	6.4 %	6.4 %
			Probability of Default	20.0 %	20.0 %
Non-accrual loans	\$ 272	Blended income and sales approach	Adjustment to sales comparison value to reconcile differences between comparable sales	-10.0% to 15.0 %	3 %
			Capitalization rate	9.5 %	9.5 %
			Reduction for planned expedited disposal	15.0 %	15.0 %
Other repossessed assets	\$ 239	Sales approach	Reduction for planned expedited disposal	0.5% to 12.5 %	6.5 %

The Company did not have any liabilities that were carried at fair value on a non-recurring basis at December 31, 2020 and 2019.

The methods and assumptions used to estimate fair value at December 31, 2020 and 2019 are as follows:

Securities:

The fair values of securities are contained in Note 7 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements. Fair value is based upon quoted market prices, where available. If a quoted market price is not available, fair value is estimated using quoted market prices for similar securities and adjusted for differences between the quoted instrument and the instrument being valued. When there is limited activity or less transparency around inputs to the valuation, securities are valued using discounted cash flows.

Non-accrual Loans:

For non-accruing loans, fair value is generally estimated by discounting management's estimate of future cash flows with a discount rate commensurate with the risk associated with such assets or, for collateral dependent loans, 85% of the appraised or internally estimated value of the property, except for taxi medallion loans. The fair value of the underlying collateral of taxi medallion loans is the most recent reported arm's length transaction. When there is no recent sale activity, the fair value is calculated using capitalization rates.

Other Real Estate Owned and Other Repossessed Assets:

The fair value for OREO is based on appraised value through a current appraisal, or sometimes through an internal review, additionally adjusted by the estimated costs to sell the property. The fair value for other repossessed assets are based upon the most recently reported arm's length sales transaction. When there is no recent sale activity, the fair value is calculated using capitalization rates.

Junior Subordinated Debentures:

The fair value of the junior subordinated debentures was developed using a credit spread based on the subordinated debt issued by the Company adjusting for differences in the junior subordinated debt's credit rating, liquidity

and time to maturity. The unrealized net gain/loss attributable to changes in our own credit risk was determined by adjusting the fair value as determined in the preceding sentence by the average rate of default on debt instruments with a similar debt rating as our junior subordinated debentures, with the difference from the original calculation and this calculation resulting in the instrument-specific unrealized gain/loss.

Interest Rate Swaps:

The fair value of interest rate swaps is based upon broker quotes.

The following tables set forth the carrying amounts and fair values of selected financial instruments based on the assumptions described above used by the Company in estimating fair value at the periods indicated:

	December 31, 2020				
	Carrying	Fair	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	Amount	Value	<i>(In thousands)</i>		
Assets:					
Cash and due from banks	\$ 157,388	\$ 157,388	\$ 157,388	\$ —	\$ —
Securities held-to-maturity					
Mortgage-backed securities	7,914	8,991	—	8,991	—
Other securities	49,918	54,538	—	—	54,538
Securities available for sale					
Mortgage-backed securities	404,460	404,460	—	404,460	—
Other securities	243,514	243,514	12,703	229,516	1,295
Loans	6,704,674	6,793,985	—	—	6,793,985
FHLB-NY stock	43,439	43,439	—	43,439	—
Accrued interest receivable	44,041	44,041	2	1,389	42,650
Interest rate swaps	1,319	1,319	—	1,319	—
Liabilities:					
Deposits	\$ 6,136,355	\$ 6,141,775	\$ 4,997,994	\$ 1,143,781	\$ —
Borrowings	1,020,895	1,017,573	—	974,437	43,136
Accrued interest payable	4,755	4,755	—	4,755	—
Interest rate swaps	60,987	60,987	—	60,987	—

	December 31, 2019				
	Carrying	Fair	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	Amount	Value	<i>(In thousands)</i>		
Assets:					
Cash and due from banks	\$ 49,787	\$ 49,787	\$ 49,787	\$ —	\$ —
Securities held-to-maturity					
Mortgage-backed securities	7,934	8,114	—	8,114	—
Other securities	50,954	53,998	—	—	53,998
Securities available for sale					
Mortgage-backed securities	523,849	523,849	—	523,849	—
Other securities	248,651	248,651	12,216	235,103	1,332
Loans	5,772,206	5,822,124	—	—	5,822,124
FHLB-NY stock	56,921	56,921	—	56,921	—
Accrued interest receivable	25,722	25,722	9	2,519	23,194
Interest rate swaps	2,352	2,352	—	2,352	—
Liabilities:					
Deposits	\$ 5,066,424	\$ 5,070,046	\$ 3,628,534	\$ 1,441,512	\$ —
Borrowings	1,237,231	1,389,883	—	1,345,499	44,384
Accrued interest payable	6,752	6,752	—	6,752	—
Interest rate swaps	19,653	19,653	—	19,653	—

21. Derivative Financial Instruments

At December 31, 2020 and 2019, the Company's derivative financial instruments consist of interest rate swaps. The Company's interest rate swaps are used for four purposes: 1) to mitigate the Company's exposure to rising interest rates on a portion (\$18.0 million) of its floating rate junior subordinated debentures that have a contractual value of \$61.9 million, at December 31, 2020 and 2019; 2) to mitigate the Company's exposure to rising interest rates on certain fixed rate loans totaling \$316.1 million and \$326.0 million at December 31, 2020 and 2019 respectively; 3) to facilitate risk management strategies for our loan customers with \$125.6 million of swaps outstanding, which include \$62.8 million with customers and \$62.8 million with bank counterparties at December 31, 2020 and 4) to mitigate exposure to rising interest rates on certain short-term advances totaling \$1,021.5 million and \$541.5 million at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively.

The Company's derivative instruments are carried at fair value in the Company's financial statements as part of Other Assets for derivatives with positive fair values and Other Liabilities for derivatives with negative fair values. The accounting for changes in the fair value of a derivative instrument is dependent upon whether or not it qualifies and has been designated as a hedge for accounting purposes, and further, by the type of hedging relationship.

At December 31, 2020 and 2019, we held derivatives designated as cash flow hedges, fair value hedges and certain derivatives not designated as hedges.

At December 31, 2020 and 2019, derivatives with a combined notional amount of \$143.6 million and \$18.0 million, respectively, were not designated as hedges. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, derivatives with a combined notional amount of \$316.1 million and \$326.0 million were designated as fair value hedges. At December 31, 2020 and 2019, derivatives with a combined notional amount of \$1,021.5 million and \$541.5 million, respectively, were designated as cash flow hedges.

For cash flow hedges, the changes in the fair value of the derivative is reported in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax. Amounts in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) are reclassified into earnings in the same period during which the hedged forecasted transaction effects earnings. During the year ended December 31, 2020, \$4.7 million was reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) to interest expense. The estimated amount to be reclassified in next 12 months out of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) into earnings is \$4.7 million.

Changes in the fair value of interest rate swaps not designated as hedges are reflected in "Net loss from fair value adjustments" in the Consolidated Statements of Income.

The following table sets forth information regarding the Company's derivative financial instruments at the periods indicated:

	December 31, 2020		December 31, 2019	
	Notional Amount	Fair Value ⁽¹⁾	Notional Amount	Fair Value ⁽¹⁾
	<i>(In thousands)</i>			
Interest rate swaps (fair value hedge)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 139,960	\$ 2,352
Interest rate swaps (non-hedge)	62,779	1,319	—	—
Interest rate swaps (fair value hedge)	316,051	(28,689)	186,009	(7,769)
Interest rate swaps (cash flow hedge)	1,021,500	(25,300)	541,500	(8,530)
Interest rate swaps (non-hedge)	80,779	(6,998)	18,000	(3,354)
Total derivatives	<u>\$ 1,481,109</u>	<u>\$ (59,668)</u>	<u>\$ 885,469</u>	<u>\$ (17,301)</u>

(1) Derivatives in a net positive position are recorded as "Other assets" and derivatives in a net negative position are recorded as "Other liabilities" in the Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition.

The following table sets forth the effect of derivative instruments on the Consolidated Statements of Income for the periods indicated:

<i>(In thousands)</i>	Affected Line Item in the Statement Where Net income is Presented	For the years ended December 31,		
		2020	2019	2018
Financial Derivatives:				
	Other interest expense	\$ (434)	\$ (140)	\$ (193)
	Net gain (loss) from fair value adjustments	(2,325)	(2,981)	919
Interest rate swaps (non-hedge)		(2,759)	(3,121)	726
Interest rate swaps (fair value hedge)	Interest and fees on loans	(5,226)	(837)	43
Interest rate swaps (cash flow hedge)	Other interest expense	(6,703)	1,232	156
Net (loss) income		<u>\$ (14,688)</u>	<u>\$ (2,726)</u>	<u>\$ 925</u>

The Company's interest rate swaps are subject to master netting arrangements between the Company and its three designated counterparties. The Company has not made a policy election to offset its derivative positions.

The following tables present the effect of the master netting arrangements on the presentation of the derivative assets and liabilities in the Consolidated Statements of Condition as of the dates indicated:

December 31, 2020						
<i>(In thousands)</i>	Gross Amount of Recognized Assets	Gross Amount Offset in the Statement of Condition	Net Amount of Assets Presented in the Statement of Condition	Gross Amounts Not Offset in the Consolidated Statement of Condition		
				Financial Instruments	Cash Collateral Received	Net Amount
Interest rate swaps	\$ 1,319	\$ —	\$ 1,319	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 1,319

<i>(In thousands)</i>	Gross Amount of Recognized Liabilities	Gross Amount Offset in the Statement of Condition	Net Amount of Liabilities Presented in the Statement of Condition	Gross Amounts Not Offset in the Consolidated Statement of Condition		
				Financial Instruments	Cash Collateral Pledged	Net Amount
Interest rate swaps	\$ 60,987	\$ —	\$ 60,987	\$ 99	\$ 63,517	\$ (2,629)

December 31, 2019						
<i>(In thousands)</i>	Gross Amount of Recognized Assets	Gross Amount Offset in the Statement of Condition	Net Amount of Assets Presented in the Statement of Condition	Gross Amounts Not Offset in the Consolidated Statement of Condition		Net Amount
				Financial Instruments	Cash Collateral Received	
Interest rate swaps	\$ 2,352	\$ —	\$ 2,352	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 2,352

<i>(In thousands)</i>	Gross Amount of Recognized Liabilities	Gross Amount Offset in the Statement of Condition	Net Amount of Liabilities Presented in the Statement of Condition	Gross Amounts Not Offset in the Consolidated Statement of Condition		Net Amount
				Financial Instruments	Cash Collateral Pledged	
Interest rate swaps	\$ 19,653	\$ —	\$ 19,653	\$ 19,265	\$ —	\$ 388

22. New Authoritative Accounting Pronouncements

Accounting Standards Adopted in 2020:

Effective January 1, 2020, the Company adopted Accounting Standards Topic 326, “Financial Instruments – Credit Losses” which replaced the previously existing U.S. GAAP “incurred loss” approach to “expected credit losses” approach, which is referred as Current Expected Credit Losses (“CECL”). CECL measures the credit loss associated with financial assets carried at amortized cost, including loan receivables, held-to-maturity debt securities, off balance sheet credit exposures and certain leases recognized by a lessor. CECL introduced the concept of purchased credit-deteriorated (PCD) financial assets, in which it requires the estimate of expected credit losses embedded in the purchase price of PCD assets to be estimated and separately recognized as an allowance as of the date of acquisition. It also modifies the accounting of impairment on available-for-sale debt securities by recognizing a credit loss through an allowance for credit.

The Company adopted Topic 326 using the modified retrospective method for all financial assets measured at amortized cost and off-balances sheet exposures. Results for reporting periods beginning after January 1, 2020 are presented under Topic 326 while prior period amounts continue to be reported in accordance with previously applicable GAAP. Upon adoption we recorded a cumulative-effect adjustment to retained earnings totaling \$1.3 million, \$0.9 million, net of tax. The transition adjustment includes changes to the three applicable components of the ACL: increases of \$0.4 million in the allowance for loan losses, \$0.3 million in the allowance for held-to-maturity debt securities and \$0.6 million in the allowance for off-balance sheet items.

At January 1, 2020, the reasonable and supportable forecast indicated economic growth and low unemployment.

Effective January 1, 2020, the Company adopted ASU No. 2018-13, “Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820)”. The Update modifies the disclosure requirements on fair value measurements in Topic 820. The guidance did not have a significant impact on the Company’s financial positions, results of operations or disclosures.

Effective January 1, 2020, the Company adopted ASU No. 2017-04, “Intangibles - Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Simplifying the Test for Goodwill Impairment.” The ASU simplifies the subsequent measurement of goodwill and eliminates Step 2 from the goodwill impairment test. Under this ASU, the Company should perform its goodwill impairment test by comparing the fair value of a reporting unit with its carrying amount. An impairment charge should be recognized for the amount by which the carrying amount exceeds the reporting unit’s fair value. The impairment charge is limited to the amount of goodwill allocated to that reporting unit. The guidance did not have a significant impact on the Company’s financial positions, results of operations or disclosures.

Effective December 31, 2020, the Company adopted ASU No. 2018-14, “Compensation – Retirement Benefits – Defined Benefit Plans – General (Subtopic 715-20).” The ASU provided targeted improvements to the disclosures required

for Defined Benefit Plans. The guidance did not have a significant impact on the Company's financial positions, results of operations or disclosures.

Accounting Standards Pending Adoption:

In January 2021, the FASB issued ASU No. 2021-01, "Reference Rate Reform" (Topic 848), which clarifies that certain optional expedients and exceptions in ASC 848 for contract modifications and hedge accounting apply to derivatives that are affected by the discounting transition. ASU 2021-01 also amends the expedients and exceptions in ASC 848 to capture the incremental consequences of the scope clarification and to tailor the existing guidance to derivative instruments affected by discounting transition. ASU 2021-01 was effective upon issuance and generally can be applied through December 31, 2022.

In March 2020, the FASB issued ASU No. 2020-04, "Reference Rate Reform" (Topic 848), which provides optional expedients and exceptions for applying GAAP to loan and lease agreements, derivative contracts, and other transactions affected by the anticipated transition away from LIBOR toward new interest rate benchmarks. For transactions that are modified because of reference rate reform and that meet certain scope guidance (i) modifications of loan agreements should be accounted for by prospectively adjusting the effective interest rate and the modification will be considered "minor" so that any existing unamortized origination fees/costs would carry forward and continue to be amortized and (ii) modifications of lease agreements should be accounted for as a continuation of the existing agreement with no reassessments of the lease classification and the discount rate or re-measurements of lease payments that otherwise would be required for modifications not accounted for as separate contracts. ASU 2020-04 also provides numerous optional expedients for derivative accounting. ASU 2020-04 is effective March 12, 2020 through December 31, 2022. An entity may elect to apply ASU 2020-04 for contract modifications as of January 1, 2020, or prospectively from a date within an interim period that includes or is subsequent to March 12, 2020, up to the date that the financial statements are available to be issued. Once elected for a Topic or an Industry Subtopic within the Codification, the amendments in this ASU must be applied prospectively for all eligible contract modifications for that Topic or Industry Subtopic. We anticipate this ASU will simplify any modifications we execute between the selected start date (yet to be determined) and December 31, 2022 that are directly related to LIBOR transition by allowing prospective recognition of the continuation of the contract, rather than extinguishment of the old contract resulting in writing off unamortized fees/costs. We are evaluating the impacts of this ASU and have not yet determined whether LIBOR transition and this ASU will have material effects on our business operations and consolidated financial statements. The amendments in this Update apply to contract modifications that replace a reference rate reform and contemporaneous modifications of other terms related to the replacement of the reference rate.

23. Quarterly Financial Data (unaudited)

Selected unaudited quarterly financial data for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 is presented below:

	2020				2019			
	4th	3rd	2nd	1st	4th	3rd	2nd	1st
<i>(In thousands, except per share data)</i>								
Quarterly operating data:								
Interest income	\$ 68,971	\$ 63,914	\$ 64,772	\$ 66,670	\$ 70,179	\$ 69,389	\$ 69,575	\$ 69,813
Interest expense	13,239	13,990	16,055	25,844	29,000	30,440	29,566	28,010
Net interest income	55,732	49,924	48,717	40,826	41,179	38,949	40,009	41,803
Provision (benefit) for credit losses	3,862	2,470	9,619	7,178	(318)	683	1,474	972
Other operating (loss) income	(1,181)	1,351	13,737	(2,864)	5,038	1,039	2,451	943
Other operating expense	46,811	29,985	28,755	32,380	29,647	26,045	27,158	32,419
Income (loss) before income tax expense	3,878	18,820	24,080	(1,596)	16,888	13,260	13,828	9,355
Income tax expense	417	4,489	5,808	(206)	3,957	2,536	3,272	2,287
Net income (loss)	\$ 3,461	\$ 14,331	\$ 18,272	\$ (1,390)	\$ 12,931	\$ 10,724	\$ 10,556	\$ 7,068
Basic earnings (loss) per common share	\$ 0.11	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.63	\$ (0.05)	\$ 0.45	\$ 0.37	\$ 0.37	\$ 0.25
Diluted earnings (loss) per common share	\$ 0.11	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.63	\$ (0.05)	\$ 0.45	\$ 0.37	\$ 0.37	\$ 0.25
Dividends per common share	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.21
Average common shares outstanding for:								
Basic earnings per share	30,603	28,874	28,867	28,853	28,723	28,730	28,761	28,621
Diluted earnings per share	30,603	28,874	28,867	28,853	28,723	28,730	28,761	28,621

24. Parent Company Only Financial Information

Earnings of the Bank are recognized by the Holding Company using the equity method of accounting. Accordingly, earnings of the Bank are recorded as increases in the Holding Company's investment, any dividends would reduce the Holding Company's investment in the Bank, and any changes in the Bank's unrealized gain or loss on securities available for sale, net of taxes, would increase or decrease, respectively, the Holding Company's investment in the Bank.

The condensed financial statements for the Holding Company are presented below:

Condensed Statements of Financial Condition	December 31,	December 31,
	2020	2019
	<i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>	
Assets:		
Cash and due from banks	\$ 28,033	\$ 14,401
Securities available for sale:		
Other securities	1,295	1,332
Investment in Bank	726,802	684,643
Goodwill	2,185	2,185
Other assets	839	1,897
Total assets	\$ 759,154	\$ 704,458
Liabilities:		
Subordinated debentures	\$ 90,180	\$ 74,319
Junior subordinated debentures, at fair value	43,136	44,384
Other liabilities	6,841	6,083
Total liabilities	140,157	124,786
Stockholders' Equity:		
Common stock	341	315
Additional paid-in capital	261,533	226,691
Treasury stock, at average cost (3,311,769 shares and 3,373,389 at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively)	(69,400)	(71,487)
Retained earnings	442,789	433,960
Accumulated other comprehensive loss, net of taxes	(16,266)	(9,807)
Total equity	618,997	579,672
Total liabilities and equity	\$ 759,154	\$ 704,458

Condensed Statements of Income	For the years ended December 31,		
	2020	2019	2018
	<i>(In thousands)</i>		
Dividends from the Bank	\$ 78,833	\$ 32,000	\$ 34,000
Interest income	466	250	275
Interest expense	(5,858)	(6,677)	(6,479)
Net loss from fair value adjustments	(85)	(2,725)	(4,769)
Other operating expenses	(3,975)	(2,833)	(1,391)
Income before taxes and equity in undistributed earnings of subsidiary	69,381	20,015	21,636
Income tax benefit	2,274	3,173	3,907
Income before equity in undistributed earnings of subsidiary	71,655	23,188	25,543
Equity in undistributed earnings of the Bank	(36,981)	18,091	29,547
Net income	34,674	41,279	55,090
Other comprehensive gain (loss), net of tax	(6,459)	2,945	(2,472)
Comprehensive net income	\$ 28,215	\$ 44,224	\$ 52,618

Condensed Statements of Cash Flows	For the years ended December 31,		
	2020	2019	2018
	<i>(In thousands)</i>		
Operating activities:			
Net income	\$ 34,674	\$ 41,279	\$ 55,090
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Equity in undistributed earnings of the Bank	36,981	(18,091)	(29,547)
Deferred income tax benefit	(291)	(769)	(1,915)
Fair value adjustments for financial assets and financial liabilities	85	2,725	4,769
Stock-based compensation expense	6,450	7,763	7,016
Net change in operating assets and liabilities	3,490	3,945	4,246
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>81,389</u>	<u>36,852</u>	<u>39,659</u>
Investing activities:			
Cash used in acquisition of Empire	(54,836)		
Cash provided by acquisition of Empire	15,769	—	—
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(39,067)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Financing activities:			
Purchase of treasury stock	(3,877)	(2,656)	(22,585)
Cash dividends paid	(24,813)	(24,149)	(22,927)
Stock options exercised	—	3	6
Net cash used in financing activities	<u>(28,690)</u>	<u>(26,802)</u>	<u>(45,506)</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	13,632	10,050	(5,847)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	14,401	4,351	10,198
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	<u>\$ 28,033</u>	<u>\$ 14,401</u>	<u>\$ 4,351</u>

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Stockholders and Board of Directors
Flushing Financial Corporation
Uniondale, New York

Opinion on the Consolidated Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated statements of financial condition of Flushing Financial Corporation and Subsidiaries (the “Company”) as of December 31, 2020 and 2019, the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, changes in stockholders’ equity, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2020, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the “consolidated financial statements”). In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company at December 31, 2020 and 2019, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2020, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (“PCAOB”), the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2020, based on criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (“COSO”) and our report dated March 16, 2021 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

Basis for Opinion

These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company’s consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Critical Audit Matter

The critical audit matters communicated below are matters arising from the current period audit of the consolidated financial statements that were communicated or required to be communicated to the audit committee and that: (1) relate to accounts or disclosures that are material to the consolidated financial statements and (2) involved our especially challenging, subjective, or complex judgments. The communication of critical audit matters does not alter in any way our opinion on the consolidated financial statements, taken as a whole, and we are not, by communicating the critical audit matters below, providing separate opinions on the critical audit matters or on the accounts or disclosures to which they relate.

Allowance for Credit losses

As described in Notes 2 and 4 to the Company's consolidated financial statements, the Company had a gross loan portfolio of \$6.7 billion and related allowance for credit losses of \$45.2 million as of December 31, 2020. The allowance for credit losses consists of quantitative and qualitative components. The Company considers historical loss experience, current economic and business conditions, as well as reasonable and supportable forecasts to develop the quantitative component. This quantitative component is then adjusted for qualitative risk factors that involve significant estimates and subjective assumptions that require a high degree of management's judgment.

We identified management's significant judgments used in the determination of the qualitative risk factors and certain assumptions used to develop the quantitative component, including the reasonable and supportable forecast period and reversion to historical loss period assumptions as a critical audit matter. Management's determination of the qualitative loss factors and these assumptions requires significant judgments and estimates. Auditing these complex judgments and assumptions involved especially challenging auditor judgment due to the nature and extent of audit evidence and effort required to address these matters, including the extent of specialized skill and knowledge needed.

The primary procedures we performed to address this critical audit matter included:

- Assessing the design and testing the operating effectiveness of controls over management's review of the qualitative risk factors, as well as assumptions used to develop the quantitative component, including the reasonable and supportable forecast period and reversion to historical loss period.
- Verifying the relevance and reliability of inputs used in determining the qualitative risk factors and critical assumptions through evaluating the sources of data used, considering contradictory evidence, and testing the completeness and accuracy of data used.
- Utilizing the engagement team's specialized skills and knowledge of the banking industry and local and regional economy to perform an independent assessment of the qualitative risk factors using similar and alternative source data, and then comparing the results to management's determination of the qualitative risk factors.
- Utilizing personnel with specialized skill and knowledge in valuation to assist with evaluating the reasonableness of the reasonable and supportable forecast period and reversion to historical loss period assumptions used to develop the quantitative component

Goodwill

At December 31, 2020, the Company has goodwill of \$17.6 million, which is allocated to the Company's single reporting unit. As described in Note 2 to the Company's consolidated financial statements, goodwill is tested for impairment at the reporting unit level annually or when events and circumstances indicate that an impairment may have occurred. During each of the periods ended March 31, 2020, June 30, 2020, and September 30, 2020, the market volatility resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in a decline in the Company's stock price and market capitalization. The Company determined that such decrease was a triggering event requiring interim goodwill impairment quantitative analysis. At December 31, 2020, the Company performed its annual goodwill impairment test. The Company determined that the Company's goodwill was not impaired as of March 31, June 30, September 30 or December 31, 2020. The quantitative impairment tests were performed by utilizing a discounted cash flow valuation methodology based on projections of the Company's financial performance.

We identified the estimate of the fair value of the Company's reporting unit as part of the interim and annual impairment assessments as a critical audit matter. The principal considerations for our determination are: (i) the fair value estimate was sensitive to changes in the significant assumptions, including those used to develop the projected cash flows, the discount rate and the terminal growth rate and (ii) the audit effort involved the use of professionals with specialized skill and knowledge. The significant assumptions which reflect expectations about future economic conditions were

especially challenging to audit and required subjective auditor judgment due to the inherent uncertainties related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The primary procedures we performed to address this critical audit matter included:

- Assessing the design and testing the operating effectiveness of controls over the Company's estimate of the fair value of its reporting unit, including controls over management's review of the significant assumptions described above.
- Evaluating the reasonableness of the significant assumptions used in the projected cash flows by comparing them to historical results and market data, while considering the effect of COVID-19.
- Utilizing personnel with specialized knowledge and skill in (i) assessing the appropriateness of the valuation method and implied control premium and (ii) evaluating the reasonableness of the discount rate and terminal growth rate.

Acquisition of Empire Bancorp, Inc.

As described in Note 3 to the Company's consolidated financial statements, the Company completed its acquisition of Empire Bancorp, Inc. for a total purchase consideration of \$87.5 million, with total assets acquired of \$982.7 million, liabilities assumed of \$896.7 million and resulting goodwill of \$1.5 million on October 30, 2020. Determination of the acquisition date fair values of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed requires the Company to make significant estimates and assumptions. The fair value determination of a loan portfolio requires greater levels of estimates and assumptions than the remainder of purchased assets or assumed liabilities. In determining the fair values of loans, the Company must determine projected credit losses and discount rates, among other assumptions.

We identified the determination of the projected credit loss and discount rate assumptions in the valuation of acquired loans as a critical audit matter, as changes in these assumptions could have a significant impact on the fair values of the loans acquired. Auditing these significant assumptions involved especially challenging and subjective auditor judgement due to the nature and extent of audit effort required to address these matters, including specialized skill and knowledge needed.

The primary procedures we performed to address this critical audit matter included:

- Assessing the design and testing the operating effectiveness of controls over the business combination, specifically management's review of the key assumptions used in the valuation of acquired loans.
- Testing the completeness and accuracy of the loan level data utilized in the valuation of the acquisition date fair value by confirming such data with the borrower on a sample basis.
- Utilizing personnel with specialized skill and knowledge in valuation to assist with (i) assessing the appropriateness of the valuation methodology and (ii) testing and evaluating the reasonableness of projected credit loss and discount rate assumptions used in the valuation of the acquired loans. This includes utilizing information obtained from market participants and recent market activity on other recent acquisitions to test the Company's assumptions and identify potential sources of contrary information.

/S/ BDO USA, LLP

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2015.

New York, New York
March 16, 2021

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Board of Directors and Stockholders
Flushing Financial Corporation
Uniondale, New York

Opinion on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

We have audited Flushing Financial Corporation and Subsidiaries' (the "Company's") internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2020, based on criteria established in *Internal Control-Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (the "COSO criteria"). In our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2020, based on the COSO criteria.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) ("PCAOB"), the consolidated statements of financial condition of the Company as of December 31, 2020 and 2019, the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, changes in stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2020, and the related notes and our report dated March 16, 2021 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

Basis for Opinion

The Company's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Item 9A, Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit of internal control over financial reporting in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audit also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Definition and Limitations of Internal Control over Financial Reporting

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

/S/ BDO USA, LLP

New York, New York
March 16, 2021

Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure.

None.

Item 9A. Controls and Procedures.

Disclosure Controls and Procedures

The Company carried out, under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's management, including its Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, an evaluation of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) as of the end of the period covered by this Annual Report. Based upon that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that, as of December 31, 2020, the design and operation of these disclosure controls and procedures were effective. During the period covered by this Annual Report, there have been no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, and for performing an assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2020. Internal control over financial reporting is defined in Rule 13a-15(f) or 15d-15(f) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as a process designed by, or under the supervision of, the Company's principal executive and principal financial officers and effected by the Company's Board of Directors, management and other personnel, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the Company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the Company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the Company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of the Company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

Management performed an assessment of the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2020 based upon criteria in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (2013 Framework) ("COSO"). Based on this assessment, management concluded that the Company's internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2020 based on those criteria issued by COSO.

BDO USA, LLP, the Company's independent registered public accounting firm that audited the Company's consolidated financial statements included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, has issued a report on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2020, as stated in its report.

Item 9B. Other Information.

None.

PART III

Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance.

Other than the disclosures below, information regarding the directors and executive officers of the Company appears in the Company's Proxy Statement for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held May 18, 2021 ("Proxy Statement") under the captions "Board Nominees," "Continuing Directors," "Executive Officers Who Are Not Directors" and "Meeting and Committees of the Board of Directors – Audit Committee" and is incorporated herein by this reference. Information regarding Section 16(a) beneficial ownership appears in the Company's Proxy Statement under the caption "Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance" and is incorporated herein by this reference.

Code of Ethics. The Company has adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to all of its directors, officers and employees. This code is publicly available on the Company's website at: https://s26.q4cdn.com/191821158/files/doc_downloads/governance/Code-of-Business-Conduct-Ethics.pdf

Any substantive amendments to the code and any grant of a waiver from a provision of the code requiring disclosure under applicable SEC or NASDAQ rules will be disclosed in a report on Form 8-K.

Audit Committee Financial Expert. The Board of Directors of the Company has determined that Louis C. Grassi, the Chairman of the Audit Committee, is an "audit committee financial expert" as defined under Item 401(h) of Regulation S-K, and that he is independent as defined under applicable NASDAQ listing standards. Mr. Grassi is a certified public accountant and a certified fraud examiner.

Item 11. Executive Compensation.

Information regarding executive compensation appears in the Proxy Statement under the caption "Executive Compensation" and is incorporated herein by this reference.

Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters.

Information regarding security ownership of certain beneficial owners appears in the Proxy Statement under the caption "Stock Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners" and is incorporated herein by this reference.

Information regarding security ownership of management appears in the Proxy Statement under the caption "Stock Ownership of Management" and is incorporated herein by this reference.

Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence.

Information regarding certain relationships and related transactions and directors independence appears in the Proxy Statement under the captions "Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation" and "Related Party Transactions" and is incorporated herein by this reference.

Item 14. Principal Accounting Fees and Services.

Information regarding fees paid to the Company's independent auditor appears in the Proxy Statement under the caption "Schedule of Fees to Independent Auditors" and is hereby incorporated by this reference.

PART IV

Item 15. Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules.

(a) 1. Financial Statements

The following financial statements are included in Item 8 of this Annual Report and are incorporated herein by this reference:

- Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition at December 31, 2020 and 2019
- Consolidated Statements of Income for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2020
- Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2020
- Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2020
- Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2020
- Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
- Reports of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

2. Financial Statement Schedules

Financial Statement Schedules have been omitted because they are not applicable or the required information is shown in the Consolidated Financial Statements or Notes thereto included in Item 8 of this Annual Report and are incorporated herein by this reference.

3. Exhibits Required by Securities and Exchange Commission Regulation S-K

<u>Exhibit Number</u>	<u>Description</u>
2.1	Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of October 24, 2019, by and among Flushing Financial Corporation, Empire Bancorp, Inc. and Lighthouse Acquisition Co., Inc. † (18)
2.2	Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement and Plan of Merger by and among Empire Bancorp, Inc., Lighthouse Acquisition Co., Inc. and Flushing Financial Corporation, dated as of December 6, 2019 (19)
2.3	Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement and Plan of Merger by and among Empire Bancorp, Inc., Lighthouse Acquisition Co., Inc. and Flushing Financial Corporation, dated as of August 14, 2020 (20)
3.1 P	Certificate of Incorporation of Flushing Financial Corporation (1)
3.2	Certificate of Amendment to Certificate of Incorporation of Flushing Financial Corporation (5)
3.3	Certificate of Amendment to Certificate of Incorporation of Flushing Financial Corporation (11)
3.4	Amended and Restated By-Laws of Flushing Financial Corporation (13)
4.1	Subordinated Indenture, dated as of December 12, 2016, by and between the Company and Wilmington Trust, National Association, as Trustee. (8)
4.2	First Supplemental Indenture, dated as of December 12, 2016, by and between the Company and Wilmington Trust, National Association, as Trustee, including the form of the Notes attached as Exhibit A thereto. (8)
4.3	Description of Securities (20)
10.1*	Form of Amended and Restated Employment Agreement between Flushing Bank and Certain Officers (12)
10.2*	Form of Amended and Restated Employment Agreement between Flushing Financial Corporation and Certain Officers (12)
10.3*	Amended and Restated Employment Agreement between Flushing Financial Corporation and John R. Buran (12)
10.4*	Amended and Restated Employment Agreement between Flushing Bank and John R. Buran (12)
10.5*	Amended and Restated Employment Agreement between Flushing Financial Corporation and Maria A. Grasso (12)
10.6*	Amended and Restated Employment Agreement between Flushing Bank and Maria A. Grasso (12)
10.7*	Employment Agreement between Flushing Financial Corporation and Susan K. Cullen (16)
10.8*	Flushing Bank Specified Officer Change in Control Severance Policy (as Amended Effective January 1, 2016) (15)
10.9*	Employee Severance Compensation Plan for Vice Presidents and Assistant Vice Presidents of Flushing Bank (Effective as of January 1, 2016) (15)
10.10*	Amended and Restated Outside Director Retirement Plan (7)
10.11*	Amended and Restated Flushing Bank Outside Director Deferred Compensation Plan (4)
10.12*	Amended and Restated Flushing Bank Supplemental Savings Incentive Plan (14)
10.13*	Form of Indemnity Agreement among Flushing Bank, Flushing Financial Corporation, and each Director (2)
10.14*	Form of Indemnity Agreement among Flushing Bank, Flushing Financial Corporation, and Certain Officers (2)
10.15* P	Employee Benefit Trust Agreement (1)
10.16*	Amendment to the Employee Benefit Trust Agreement (3)
10.17* P	Guarantee by Flushing Financial Corporation (1)
10.18*	Form of Outside Director Restricted Stock Award Letter (6)
10.19*	Form of Outside Director Restricted Stock Unit Award Letter (15)
10.20*	Form of Employee Restricted Stock Award Letter (6)
10.21*	Form of Employee Restricted Stock Unit Grant Letter Agreement (15)
10.22*	Amended and Restated Flushing Financial Corporation 2005 Omnibus Incentive Plan (9)
10.23*	Amendment to Flushing Financial Corporation 2005 Omnibus Incentive Plan (10)
10.24*	Annual Incentive Plan for Executives and Senior Officers (11)
10.25	Lease agreement between Flushing Bank and Rexcorp Plaza SPE LLC (13)

10.26*	Flushing Financial Corporation 2014 Omnibus Incentive Plan (16)
10.27*	Form of Employee Performance Restricted Stock Unit Award Letter (17)
10.28*	Form of Director Restricted Stock Unit Award Letter With One Year Vesting (17)
10.29*	Flushing Bank Supplemental Savings Incentive Plan, Amended and Restated as of November 1, 2018 (17)
10.30	Employment Agreement between Flushing Financial Corporation and Thomas M. Buonaiuto (18)
10.31	Consulting Agreement between Flushing Bank and Douglas C. Manditch (18)
21.1	Subsidiaries information incorporated herein by reference to Part I – Subsidiary Activities
23.1	Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm (filed herewith)
31.1	Certification pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 by the Chief Executive Officer (filed herewith)
31.2	Certification pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 by the Chief Financial Officer (filed herewith)
32.1	Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C, Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 by the Chief Executive Officer (furnished herewith)
32.2	Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C, Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 by the Chief Financial Officer (furnished herewith)
101.INS	Inline XBRL Instance Document (filed herewith)
101.SCH	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document (filed herewith)
101.CAL	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document (filed herewith)
101.DEF	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document (filed herewith)
101.LAB	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document (filed herewith)
101.PRE	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document (filed herewith)
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File – The cover page interactive data file does not appear in the Interactive Data File because its XBRL tags are embedded within the Inline XBRL document

* Indicates compensatory plan or arrangement.

† Schedules have been omitted pursuant to Item 601(b)(2) of Regulation S-K. Flushing Financial hereby undertakes to furnish supplemental copies of any of the omitted schedules upon request by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

- (1) Incorporated by reference to Exhibits filed with the Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed September 1, 1995, Registration No. 33-96488. (P: Indicates a filing submitted in paper)
- (2) Incorporated by reference to Exhibits filed with Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 1996.
- (3) Incorporated by reference to Exhibits filed with Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1997.
- (4) Incorporated by reference to Exhibits filed with Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2000.
- (5) Incorporated by reference to Exhibits filed with Form S-8 filed May 31, 2002.
- (6) Incorporated by reference to Exhibits filed with Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2004.
- (7) Incorporated by reference to Exhibits filed with Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2006.
- (8) Incorporated by reference to Exhibits filed with Form 8-K filed December 12, 2016.
- (9) Incorporated by reference to Appendices filed with Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed April 7, 2011.
- (10) Incorporated by reference to Exhibits filed with Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2011.
- (11) Incorporated by reference to Exhibits filed with Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011.
- (12) Incorporated by reference to Exhibits filed with Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2013.
- (13) Incorporated by reference to Exhibits filed with Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2014.
- (14) Incorporated by reference to Exhibits filed with Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014.
- (15) Incorporated by reference to Exhibits filed with Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015.
- (16) Incorporated by reference to Exhibits filed with Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2016.
- (17) Incorporated by reference to Exhibits filed with Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018.
- (18) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit filed with Form 8-K filed October 28, 2019.
- (19) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit filed with Form 8-K filed December 6, 2019.
- (20) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit filed with Form 10-K filed December 31, 2019.
- (21) Incorporated by reference to Exhibit filed with Form 8-K filed August 17, 2020.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Company has duly caused this report, to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in New York, New York, on March 16, 2021.

FLUSHING FINANCIAL CORPORATION

By /S/JOHN R. BURAN

John R. Buran
President and CEO

POWER OF ATTORNEY

We, the undersigned directors and officers of Flushing Financial Corporation (the "Company") hereby severally constitute and appoint John R. Buran and Susan K. Cullen as our true and lawful attorneys and agents, each acting alone and with full power of substitution and re-substitution, to do any and all things in our names in the capacities indicated below which said John R. Buran or Susan K. Cullen may deem necessary or advisable to enable the Company to comply with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and any rules, regulations and requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission, in connection with the report on Form 10-K, or amendment thereto, including specifically, but not limited to, power and authority to sign for us in our names in the capacities indicated below the report on Form 10-K, or amendment thereto; and we hereby approve, ratify and confirm all that said John R. Buran or Susan K. Cullen shall do or cause to be done by virtue thereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report on Form 10-K, has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
<u>/S/JOHN R. BURAN</u> John R. Buran	Director, President (Principal Executive Officer)	March 16, 2021
<u>/S/ALFRED A. DELLIBOVI</u> Alfred A. DelliBovi	Director, Chairman	March 16, 2021
<u>/S/SUSAN K. CULLEN</u> Susan K. Cullen	Treasurer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)	March 16, 2021
<u>/S/ JAMES D. BENNETT</u> James D. Bennett	Director	March 16, 2021
<u>/S/STEVEN J. D'IORIO</u> Steven J. D'Iorio	Director	March 16, 2021
<u>/S/LOUIS C. GRASSI</u> Louis C. Grassi	Director	March 16, 2021
<u>/S/SAM S. HAN</u> Sam S. Han	Director	March 16, 2021
<u>/S/JOHN J. MCCABE</u> John J. McCabe	Director	March 16, 2021
<u>/S/DONNA M. O'BRIEN</u> Donna M. O'Brien	Director	March 16, 2021

<u>/S/MICHAEL J. RUSSO</u> Michael J. Russo	Director	March 16, 2021
<u>/S/MICHAEL A. AZARIAN</u> Michael A. Azarian	Director	March 16, 2021
<u>/S/CAREN C. YOH</u> Caren C. Yoh	Director	March 16, 2021
<u>/S/DOUGLAS C. MANDITCH</u> Douglas C. Manditch	Director	March 16, 2021

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Corporate Information

Executive and Senior Management

John R. Buran

President,
Chief Executive Officer

Michael Bingold

Senior Executive Vice President,
Chief Retail & Client
Development Officer

Allen M. Brewer

Senior Executive Vice President,
Chief Information Officer

Thomas M. Buonaiuto

Senior Executive Vice President,
Chief of Staff & Deposit Channel
Executive

Susan K. Cullen

Senior Executive Vice President,
Treasurer & Chief Financial Officer

Maria A. Grasso

Senior Executive Vice President,
Chief Operating Officer &
Corporate Secretary

Francis W. Korzekwinski

Senior Executive Vice President,
Chief of Real Estate Lending

Barbara A. Beckmann

Executive Vice President,
Director of Operations

Astrid Burrowes

Executive Vice President,
Chief Accounting Officer

Ruth E. Filiberto

Executive Vice President,
Director of Human Resources

Vincent E. Giovenco*

Executive Vice President,
Director of Commercial
Real Estate Lending

Ronald M. Hartmann**

Executive Vice President,
Director of Commercial
Real Estate Lending

James P. Jacovatos

Executive Vice President,
Real Estate Credit Center Manager

Jeoung Yun Jin

Executive Vice President,
Director of Residential &
Mixed-Use Lending

Theresa Kelly

Executive Vice President,
Director of Business Banking

Gary P. Liotta

Executive Vice President,
Chief Risk Officer

Rosina Manzi

Executive Vice President,
Chief Audit Officer

Patricia Mezeul

Executive Vice President,
Director of Government Banking

Frank Akalski**

Senior Vice President,
Chief Investment Officer

William M. Gianakos

Senior Vice President,
Director of Retail Banking

Douglas Liang***

Senior Vice President,
Chief Investment Officer

Yan Nuriyev

Senior Vice President,
Chief Technology Officer

Albert H. Savastano

Senior Vice President,
Director of Investor Relations

Patricia Tiffany

Senior Vice President,
Director of Marketing

Richard White

Senior Vice President,
Chief Information Security Officer

*Effective April 2020

**Retired

***Effective July 2020

Board of Directors

Alfred A. DelliBovi

Chairman of the Board
Retired President & CEO of the
Federal Home Loan Bank of New York

John R. Buran

President & Chief Executive Officer

Michael A. Azarian

Retired Managing Director
Citigroup

James D. Bennett

Attorney in Nassau County, New York

Steven J. D'Iorio

Executive Managing Director
Cushman & Wakefield

Louis C. Grassi

Managing Partner & Chief Executive
Officer of Grassi & Co.

Sam S. Han

Founder & President
The Korean Channel, Inc.

Douglas C. Manditch

Former Chairman and Chief Executive
Officer of Empire Bancorp, Inc.

John J. McCabe

Retired Chief Equity Strategist
Shay Assets Management

Donna M. O'Brien

President
Strategic Visions in Healthcare, LLC

Michael J. Russo

Consulting Engineer, CEO
Fresh Meadow Mechanical Corp. and
President & Director of Operations for
Northeastern Aviation Corp.

Caren C. Yoh

President, CPA
Accounting Firm

Shareholder Information

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of Shareholders of
Flushing Financial Corporation will be
held at 1:00 p.m., May 18, 2021. The
meeting will be hosted virtually at
[www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/
FFIC2021](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/FFIC2021)

On April 8, 2021, a Notice of Internet
Availability was mailed to shareholders
containing instructions on how to access
our proxy materials.

Stock Listing

NASDAQ Global Select MarketSM
Symbol: FFIC

Transfer Agent and Registrar

Computershare Trust Company NA
P.O. Box 30170
College Station, TX 77842-3170
800-426-5523
www.Computershare.com

Shareholder Relations

Susan K. Cullen
718-961-5400

Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

BDO USA, LLP
100 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10017
212-885-8000

Legal Counsel

Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP
One Battery Park Plaza
New York, NY 10004
212-837-6000

QUEENS



ASTORIA
31-16 30th Avenue

BAYSIDE
61-14 Springfield Boulevard
213-03 Northern Boulevard

FLUSHING
147-42 Northern Boulevard
164-20 Northern Boulevard
44-43 Kissena Boulevard
136-41 Roosevelt Avenue

FOREST HILLS
107-11 Continental Avenue

JAMAICA
89-12 Sutphin Boulevard

MANHATTAN



CHINATOWN
183 Canal Street

PARK AVENUE
99 Park Avenue

PARK AVENUE SOUTH
225 Park Avenue South

BROOKLYN



AVENUE J
1402 Avenue J

BAY RIDGE
7102 Third Avenue

BOROUGH PARK
4616 13th Avenue

MONTAGUE
186 Montague Street

WILLIAMSBURG
217 Havemeyer Street

LONG ISLAND



GARDEN CITY
1122 Franklin Avenue

HICKSVILLE
268 North Broadway

ISLANDIA
1707 Veterans Memorial Highway

MINEOLA
170 Old Country Road

NEW HYDE PARK
661 Hillside Avenue

PORT JEFFERSON STATION
4747 Nesconset Highway

SHIRLEY
1044 William Floyd Parkway

UNIONDALE
260E RXR Plaza



Flushing Bank
220 RXR Plaza, Uniondale, NY 11556
718-961-5400

FlushingBank.com