

Form 5500

Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan

OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089

2022

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).

Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.

Part I Annual Report Identification Information

For calendar plan year 2022 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2022 and ending 08/01/2022

- A This return/report is for: a multiemployer plan, a multiple-employer plan, a single-employer plan, a DFE (specify)
B This return/report is: the first return/report, the final return/report, an amended return/report, a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)
C If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here
D Check box if filing under: Form 5558, automatic extension, the DFVC program, special extension (enter description)
E If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here

Part II Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information

1a Name of plan: EMPIRE RESORTS, INC. 401(K) PLAN
1b Three-digit plan number (PN): 001
1c Effective date of plan: 08/01/2006
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan): EMPIRE RESORTS, INC.
2b Employer Identification Number (EIN): 13-3714474
2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number: 845-807-1660
2d Business code (see instructions): 713200

Caution: A penalty for the late or incomplete filing of this return/report will be assessed unless reasonable cause is established.

Under penalties of perjury and other penalties set forth in the instructions, I declare that I have examined this return/report, including accompanying schedules, statements and attachments, as well as the electronic version of this return/report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

Table with 4 columns: SIGN HERE, Signature, Date, and Name. Rows for plan administrator, employer/plan sponsor, and DFE.

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 5500.

Form 5500 (2022) v. 220413

3a Plan administrator's name and address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor	3b Administrator's EIN 3c Administrator's telephone number
4 If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report: a Sponsor's name c Plan Name	4b EIN 4d PN
5 Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	5 1822
6 Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines 6a(1) , 6a(2) , 6b , 6c , and 6d).	
6a(1) Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year	6a(1) 1201
6a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year	6a(2) 0
b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits	6b 0
c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits.....	6c 0
d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c	6d 0
e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits.	6e 0
f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e	6f 0
g Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item).....	6g 0
h Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....	6h 0
7 Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item)	7
8a If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions: 2A 2E 3D 2G 2J 2K 2F 2T	
b If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:	
9a Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply) (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust (4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor	9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply) (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust (4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor
10 Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)	
a Pension Schedules (1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> R (Retirement Plan Information) (2) <input type="checkbox"/> MB (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary (3) <input type="checkbox"/> SB (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary	b General Schedules (1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> H (Financial Information) (2) <input type="checkbox"/> I (Financial Information – Small Plan) (3) <input type="checkbox"/> A (Insurance Information) (4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C (Service Provider Information) (5) <input type="checkbox"/> D (DFE/Participating Plan Information) (6) <input type="checkbox"/> G (Financial Transaction Schedules)

Part III Form M-1 Compliance Information (to be completed by welfare benefit plans)

11a If the plan provides welfare benefits, was the plan subject to the Form M-1 filing requirements during the plan year? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) Yes No

If "Yes" is checked, complete lines 11b and 11c.

11b Is the plan currently in compliance with the Form M-1 filing requirements? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) Yes No

11c Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 2022 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2022 Form M-1 annual report, enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the most recent Form M-1 that was required to be filed under the Form M-1 filing requirements. (Failure to enter a valid Receipt Confirmation Code will subject the Form 5500 filing to rejection as incomplete.)

Receipt Confirmation Code _____

SCHEDULE C (Form 5500) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	Service Provider Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small> 2022 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2022 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2022 and ending 08/01/2022

A Name of plan <u>EMPIRE RESORTS, INC. 401(K) PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>001</u>
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>EMPIRE RESORTS, INC.</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>13-3714474</u>	

Part I Service Provider Information (see instructions)

You must complete this Part, in accordance with the instructions, to report the information required for **each person** who received, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of monetary value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or the person's position with the plan during the plan year. If a person received **only** eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures, you are required to answer line 1 but are not required to include that person when completing the remainder of this Part.

1 Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation

a Check "Yes" or "No" to indicate whether you are excluding a person from the remainder of this Part because they received only eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures (see instructions for definitions and conditions)..... Yes No

b If you answered line 1a "Yes," enter the name and EIN or address of each person providing the required disclosures for the service providers who received only eligible indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed (see instructions).

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation
THE VANGUARD GROUP, INC

23-1945930

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

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2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation. Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

THE VANGUARD GROUP, INC.

23-1945930

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
64 99 37 50	NONE	70722	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	0	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3. If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

4 Provide, to the extent possible, the following information for each service provider who failed or refused to provide the information necessary to complete this Schedule.

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

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Part III Termination Information on Accountants and Enrolled Actuaries (see instructions)
(complete as many entries as needed)

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	Financial Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2022 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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For calendar plan year 2022 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2022 and ending 08/01/2022	
A Name of plan EMPIRE RESORTS, INC. 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 EMPIRE RESORTS, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 13-3714474

Part I	Asset and Liability Statement
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1 Current value of plan assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the plan year. Combine the value of plan assets held in more than one trust. Report the value of the plan's interest in a commingled fund containing the assets of more than one plan on a line-by-line basis unless the value is reportable on lines 1c(9) through 1c(14). Do not enter the value of that portion of an insurance contract which guarantees, during this plan year, to pay a specific dollar benefit at a future date. **Round off amounts to the nearest dollar.** MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 1b(1), 1b(2), 1c(8), 1g, 1h, and 1i. CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 1d and 1e. See instructions.

Assets	(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
a Total noninterest-bearing cash.....	1a	
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):		
(1) Employer contributions.....	1b(1) 5486	0
(2) Participant contributions.....	1b(2)	
(3) Other.....	1b(3)	
c General investments:		
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit).....	1c(1) 205299	0
(2) U.S. Government securities.....	1c(2)	
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):		
(A) Preferred.....	1c(3)(A)	
(B) All other.....	1c(3)(B)	
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):		
(A) Preferred.....	1c(4)(A)	
(B) Common.....	1c(4)(B)	
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests.....	1c(5)	
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property).....	1c(6)	
(7) Loans (other than to participants).....	1c(7)	
(8) Participant loans.....	1c(8) 293775	0
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts.....	1c(9)	
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts.....	1c(10)	
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts.....	1c(11)	
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities.....	1c(12)	
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds).....	1c(13) 17175062	0
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts).....	1c(14)	
(15) Other.....	1c(15)	

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities.....	1d(1)		
(2) Employer real property.....	1d(2)		
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation.....	1e		
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e).....	1f	17679622	0
Liabilities			
g Benefit claims payable.....	1g		
h Operating payables.....	1h		
i Acquisition indebtedness.....	1i		
j Other liabilities.....	1j		
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j).....	1k	0	0
Net Assets			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f).....	1l	17679622	0

Part II Income and Expense Statement

2 Plan income, expenses, and changes in net assets for the year. Include all income and expenses of the plan, including any trust(s) or separately maintained fund(s) and any payments/receipts to/from insurance carriers. Round off amounts to the nearest dollar. MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 2a, 2b(1)(E), 2e, 2f, and 2g.

Income		(a) Amount	(b) Total
a Contributions:			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers.....	2a(1)(A)	921045	
(B) Participants.....	2a(1)(B)	1849632	
(C) Others (including rollovers).....	2a(1)(C)	163379	
(2) Noncash contributions.....	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A), (B), (C), and line 2a(2).....	2a(3)		2934056
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit).....	2b(1)(A)	553	
(B) U.S. Government securities.....	2b(1)(B)		
(C) Corporate debt instruments.....	2b(1)(C)		
(D) Loans (other than to participants).....	2b(1)(D)	0	
(E) Participant loans.....	2b(1)(E)	4546	
(F) Other.....	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F).....	2b(1)(G)		5099
(2) Dividends:			
(A) Preferred stock.....	2b(2)(A)		
(B) Common stock.....	2b(2)(B)		
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds).....	2b(2)(C)	25535	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A), (B), and (C).....	2b(2)(D)		25535
(3) Rents.....	2b(3)		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets:			
(A) Aggregate proceeds.....	2b(4)(A)		
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions).....	2b(4)(B)		
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result.....	2b(4)(C)		
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets:			
(A) Real estate.....	2b(5)(A)		
(B) Other.....	2b(5)(B)		
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B).....	2b(5)(C)		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts	2b(6)		
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts	2b(7)		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts	2b(8)		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities.....	2b(9)		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)		-2249629
c Other income	2c		
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		715061
Expenses			
e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	1252942	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits	2e(2)		
(3) Other	2e(3)		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3).....	2e(4)		1252942
f Corrective distributions (see instructions).....	2f		
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		
h Interest expense.....	2h		
i Administrative expenses: (1) Professional fees	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees.....	2i(2)	70723	
(3) Investment advisory and management fees	2i(3)		
(4) Other	2i(4)		
(5) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (4).....	2i(5)		70723
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		1323665
Net Income and Reconciliation			
k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d.....	2k		-608604
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		
(2) From this plan.....	2l(2)		17071018

Part III Accountant's Opinion

3 Complete lines 3a through 3c if the opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is attached to this Form 5500. Complete line 3d if an opinion is not attached.

a The attached opinion of an independent qualified public accountant for this plan is (see instructions):

- (1) Unmodified (2) Qualified (3) Disclaimer (4) Adverse

b Check the appropriate box(es) to indicate whether the IQPA performed an ERISA section 103(a)(3)(C) audit. Check both boxes (1) and (2) if the audit was performed pursuant to both 29 CFR 2520.103-8 and 29 CFR 2520.103-12(d). Check box (3) if pursuant to neither.

- (1) DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 (2) DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d) (3) neither DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 nor DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d).

c Enter the name and EIN of the accountant (or accounting firm) below:

(1) Name: ERNST & YOUNG LLP

(2) EIN: 34-6565596

d The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** because:

- (1) This form is filed for a CCT, PSA, or MTIA. (2) It will be attached to the next Form 5500 pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.104-50.

Part IV Compliance Questions

4 CCTs and PSAs do not complete Part IV. MTIAs, 103-12 IEs, and GIAs do not complete lines 4a, 4e, 4f, 4g, 4h, 4k, 4m, 4n, or 5. 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 4j and 4l. MTIAs also do not complete line 4l.

During the plan year:

a Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.)

	Yes	No	Amount
4a		X	

		Yes	No	Amount
b Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.)	4b		X	
c Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)	4c		X	
d Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.)	4d		X	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	4e	X		1000000
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?	4f		X	
g Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?	4g		X	
h Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?	4h		X	
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	4i		X	
j Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.)	4j		X	
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?	4k	X		
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?	4l		X	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)	4m		X	
n If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.	4n			

5a Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted during the plan year or any prior plan year? Yes No
 If "Yes," enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year 0.

5b If, during this plan year, any assets or liabilities were transferred from this plan to another plan(s), identify the plan(s) to which assets or liabilities were transferred. (See instructions.)

5b(1) Name of plan(s)	5b(2) EIN(s)	5b(3) PN(s)
GENTING USA 401(K) PLAN	27-2869474	001

5c Was the plan a defined benefit plan covered under the PBGC insurance program at any time during this plan year? (See ERISA section 4021 and instructions.) Yes No Not determined
 If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year _____.

SCHEDULE R (Form 5500) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	Retirement Plan Information This schedule is required to be filed under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small> 2022 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2022 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2022 and ending 08/01/2022

A Name of plan <u>EMPIRE RESORTS, INC. 401(K) PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>001</u>
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>EMPIRE RESORTS, INC.</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>13-3714474</u>	

Part I	Distributions
---------------	----------------------

All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.

1 Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....

1	0
---	---

2 Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits):
EIN(s): 45-0404698

Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.

3 Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year.....

3	
---	--

Part II	Funding Information (If the plan is not subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA section 302, skip this Part.)
----------------	---

4 Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)? Yes No N/A
If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.

5 If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. **Date:** Month _____ Day _____ Year _____
If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.

6 a Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived).....	6a	
b Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year.....	6b	
c Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount).....	6c	

If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.

7 Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline? Yes No N/A

8 If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change? Yes No N/A

Part III	Amendments
-----------------	-------------------

9 If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box..... Increase Decrease Both No

Part IV	ESOPs (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.
----------------	---

10 Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan?..... Yes No

11 a Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock?..... Yes No

b If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.)..... Yes No

12 Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market?..... Yes No

Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

13 Enter the following information for each employer that (1) contributed more than 5% of total contributions to the plan during the plan year or (2) was one of the top-ten highest contributors (measured in dollars). See instructions. *Complete as many entries as needed to report all applicable employers.*

a Name of contributing employer _____

b EIN _____

c Dollar amount contributed by employer _____

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: Hourly Weekly Unit of production Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer _____

b EIN _____

c Dollar amount contributed by employer _____

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: Hourly Weekly Unit of production Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer _____

b EIN _____

c Dollar amount contributed by employer _____

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: Hourly Weekly Unit of production Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer _____

b EIN _____

c Dollar amount contributed by employer _____

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: Hourly Weekly Unit of production Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer _____

b EIN _____

c Dollar amount contributed by employer _____

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: Hourly Weekly Unit of production Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer _____

b EIN _____

c Dollar amount contributed by employer _____

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: Hourly Weekly Unit of production Other (specify): _____

14 Enter the number of deferred vested and retired participants (inactive participants), as of the beginning of the plan year, whose contributing employer is no longer making contributions to the plan for:

a The current plan year. Check the box to indicate the counting method used to determine the number of inactive participants: <input type="checkbox"/> last contributing employer <input type="checkbox"/> alternative <input type="checkbox"/> reasonable approximation (see instructions for required attachment).....	14a	
b The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year. <input type="checkbox"/> Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment)	14b	
c The second preceding plan year. <input type="checkbox"/> Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment).....	14c	

15 Enter the ratio of the number of participants under the plan on whose behalf no employer had an obligation to make an employer contribution during the current plan year to:

a The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year.....	15a	
b The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year.....	15b	

16 Information with respect to any employers who withdrew from the plan during the preceding plan year:

a Enter the number of employers who withdrew during the preceding plan year	16a	
b If line 16a is greater than 0, enter the aggregate amount of withdrawal liability assessed or estimated to be assessed against such withdrawn employers.....	16b	

17 If assets and liabilities from another plan have been transferred to or merged with this plan during the plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment

Part VI Additional Information for Single-Employer and Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

18 If any liabilities to participants or their beneficiaries under the plan as of the end of the plan year consist (in whole or in part) of liabilities to such participants and beneficiaries under two or more pension plans as of immediately before such plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment

19 If the total number of participants is 1,000 or more, complete lines (a) through (c)

a Enter the percentage of plan assets held as:
 Stock: _____% Investment-Grade Debt: _____% High-Yield Debt: _____% Real Estate: _____% Other: _____%

b Provide the average duration of the combined investment-grade and high-yield debt:
 0-3 years 3-6 years 6-9 years 9-12 years 12-15 years 15-18 years 18-21 years 21 years or more

c What duration measure was used to calculate line 19(b)?
 Effective duration Macaulay duration Modified duration Other (specify): _____

20 PBGC missed contribution reporting requirements. If this is a multiemployer plan or a single-employer plan that is not covered by PBGC, skip line 20.

a Is the amount of unpaid minimum required contributions for all years from Schedule SB (Form 5500) line 40 greater than zero? Yes No

b If line 20a is "Yes," has PBGC been notified as required by ERISA sections 4043(c)(5) and/or 303(k)(4)? Check the applicable box:

Yes.

No. Reporting was waived under 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) because contributions equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution were made by the 30th day after the due date.

No. The 30-day period referenced in 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) has not yet ended, and the sponsor intends to make a contribution equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution by the 30th day after the due date.

No. Other. Provide explanation _____



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Empire Resorts, Inc. 401(k) Plan
August 1, 2022 and December 31, 2021, and
for the Period from January 1, 2022 to August 1, 2022
With Report of Independent Auditors

Empire Resorts, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Financial Statements

August 1, 2022 and December 31, 2021, and
for the Period from January 1, 2022 to August 1, 2022

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Report of Independent Auditors

To Plan Participants and the Administrative Committee of
Empire Resorts, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit

We have performed audits of the financial statements of Empire Resorts, Inc. 401(k) Plan (the Plan), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) (ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit). The financial statements comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of August 1, 2022 and December 31, 2021, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the period from January 1, 2022 to August 1, 2022, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the “financial statements”).

Management, having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audits of the financial statements performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor’s Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audits need not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the Plan (investment information) by a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised, and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, provided that the statements or information regarding assets so held are prepared and certified to by the bank or similar institution or insurance carrier in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the Department of Labor’s Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA (qualified institution).

Management has obtained certifications from a qualified institution as of August 1, 2022 and December 31, 2021, and for the period from January 1, 2022 to August 1, 2022, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 3 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

Opinion

In our opinion, based on our audits and on the procedures performed as described in the Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section

- The amounts and disclosures in the accompanying financial statements, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

- The information in the accompanying financial statements related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. Management's election of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit does not affect management's responsibility for the financial statements.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

Management is also responsible for maintaining a current plan instrument, including all plan amendments, administering the Plan, and determining that the Plan's transactions that are presented and disclosed in the financial statements are in conformity with the Plan's provisions, including maintaining sufficient records with respect to each of the participants, to determine the benefits due or which may become due to such participants.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of

internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our audits did not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certification, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Accordingly, the objective of an ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit is not to express an opinion about whether the financial statements as a whole are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

Ernst + Young LLP

June 14, 2023

Empire Resorts, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits

	<u>August 1, 2022</u>	<u>December 31, 2021</u>
Assets		
Investments, at fair value:		
Mutual funds	\$ —	\$ 17,175,062
Cash equivalent	—	205,299
Total investments, at fair value	—	17,380,361
Receivables:		
Employer contributions	—	5,486
Notes receivable from participants	—	293,775
Total assets	—	17,679,622
Net assets available for benefits	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 17,679,622</u>

See accompanying notes.

Empire Resorts, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

For the Period from January 1, 2022 to August 1, 2022

Additions

Additions to net assets attributed to:

Investment loss:

Dividends and interest	\$ 26,088
Net realized and unrealized depreciation in fair value of investments	(2,249,629)

Total investment loss	(2,223,541)
-----------------------	-------------

Interest income on notes receivable from participants	4,546
---	-------

Contributions:

Participant contributions	1,849,632
Participant rollovers	163,379
Company contributions	921,045

Total contributions	2,934,056
---------------------	-----------

Total additions	715,061
-----------------	---------

Deductions

Deductions from net assets attributed to:

Benefits paid to participants	1,252,942
Administrative fees	70,723

Total deductions	1,323,665
------------------	-----------

Net decrease	(608,604)
--------------	-----------

Transfer to the Genting USA 401(k) Plan	17,071,018
---	------------

Net assets available for benefits:

Beginning of period	17,679,622
---------------------	------------

End of period	\$ —
---------------	------

See accompanying notes.

Empire Resorts, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

August 1, 2022

1. Description of Plan

The following description of the Empire Resorts, Inc. 401(k) Plan (the “Plan”) provides general information. Participants should refer to the plan agreement for a more complete description of the Plan’s provisions.

General

The Plan was established effective August 1, 2006. The Plan is a defined contribution plan covering all eligible employees of Empire Resorts, Inc. and subsidiaries (collectively, the “Company”) whose employment is not governed by a collective bargaining agreement under which retirement benefits were the subject of good-faith bargaining. In addition, the Plan covers members of the New York Hotel and Motel Trades Council (“HERE Union”). Effective June 1, 2018, the Company amended the Plan to cover members of the Laborers’ International Union of North America Local No. 17. While there is no service time requirement, employees must be 18 years of age or older to enroll in the Plan and can do so on the 1st of the following month to their hire date. Effective August 1, 2022, the Plan was merged into the Genting USA 401(k) Plan (Genting Plan) and net assets of \$17,071,018 were transferred to the Genting Plan. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (“ERISA”).

Ascensus Trust Company serves as the trustee (the “Trustee”), and Ascensus, LLC (“Ascensus”) serves as agent for Ascensus Trust Company and record-keeper of the Plan.

Contributions

Each year, participants may contribute pre-tax and Roth deferrals up to a dollar limit as defined by the Internal Revenue Code (the “Code”). Participants who have attained age 50 before the end of the year are eligible to make catch-up contributions. Participants may also contribute amounts representing distributions from other qualified plans.

The Company provides discretionary matching contributions for eligible participating employees. For the pay period ending prior to July 11, 2021, the Company contributed for eligible union employees, other than salaried employees, at the following rates; a 100% matching contribution for participant contributions of up to 3.00% of compensation; a matching contribution of 3.00% of compensation for participant contributions of 3.00% to 3.99%; a matching contribution of 3.50% of compensation for contributions of 4.00% to 4.99%; and a matching contribution of 4.00% of compensation for participant contributions of 5.00% or more. The Company contributed for all other eligible hourly employees a 50% matching contribution for participant contributions of up to 4.00% of compensation. To be considered an eligible participating union and hourly

Empire Resorts, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

employee, the employee must be employed for a minimum of one year and be employed at the end of the calendar year. The last day requirement may be waived due to a participant's death, disability or has reached a normal retirement age. Matching contributions for union and hourly employees were deferred until after the end of the calendar year, to be contributed in a lump sum payment pursuant to the aforementioned eligibility requirements.

Effective with the payroll ending July 11, 2021, the Company reinstated the matching contributions for all eligible union, hourly and salaried employees to receive a 100% matching contribution for participant contributions of up to 3.00% of eligible compensation and a 50% matching contribution for participant contributions of 3.01% to 5.00% or more of eligible compensation. The Company further implemented these matching contributions on a bi-weekly basis (on a weekly basis starting early July 2022), matching each payroll period, rather than making a lump-sum contribution subsequent to year end. Employees no longer have to be employed on the last day of the year and do not need to maintain employment for one year to obtain their matching contributions.

In addition, discretionary profit-sharing contributions may be made at the discretion of the Company. The Plan requires an employee to be actively employed on the last day of the plan year and attain 1,000 hours of credited service during a plan year to be eligible to receive an allocation of the Company's profit-sharing contributions. The Company made no profit-sharing contributions for the period ended August 1, 2022.

Investments

Participants direct the investment of their accounts into various investment options offered by the Plan and can change their investment options on a daily basis.

The Pension Protection Act created the Qualified Default Investment Alternative ("QDIA"). The QDIA provides employers a safe harbor from fiduciary risk when selecting an investment for a participant or beneficiary who fails to elect his or her own investment. The Vanguard Institutional Target Retirement Fund serves as the Plan's QDIA.

Empire Resorts, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Participant Accounts

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contributions and the Company's contributions and allocations of the Plan's earnings and is charged with an allocation of administrative expenses. Allocations are based on participant account balances or the earnings or losses of elected investment options, as defined. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account.

Participant Loans

Participants may borrow from their accounts a minimum of \$1,000 and a maximum of the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of their vested interest in the Plan. Only one loan is allowed outstanding at any time. The loans are secured by the balance in the participant's account and bear interest at a prime rate plus 1%. Principal and interest are paid through payroll deductions.

Vesting and Forfeitures

Participants are fully vested in their contributions plus actual earnings thereon. Vesting in the Company's matching contributions plus actual earnings, is as follows:

<u>Matching Contributions Vesting</u>	<u>Percentage Vested</u>
Years of service:	
Less than 1	0%
1 year or more	100%

Vesting in the Company's discretionary profit-sharing contributions plus actual earnings thereon is based on years of continuous service. Prior to December 1, 2020, a participant is 100% vested after four years of credited service, as follows:

<u>Profit-Sharing Contributions Vesting</u>	<u>Percentage Vested</u>
Years of service:	
Less than 1	0%
1 but less than 2	25%
2 but less than 3	50%
3 but less than 4	75%
4 or more	100%

Empire Resorts, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Effective December 1, 2020, a participant is fully vested in any profit-sharing contributions made to the Plan.

Forfeitures of terminated participants' non-vested accounts are used to reduce the Company's matching contributions.

Payment of Benefits

Participants will receive the full amount of their vested account balances in the event of normal retirement, death, or disability. Hardship withdrawals and in-service withdrawals are permitted by the Plan. Distributions will be made in lump-sum or in partial payments.

Plan Expenses

The Company pays substantially all administrative costs incurred by the Plan. Expenses paid by the Company are excluded from these financial statements.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP") requires the plan administrator to make estimates that affect certain reported amounts of net assets available for benefits, reported changes in net assets available for benefits, and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Empire Resorts, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Notes Receivables from Participants

Notes receivable from participants represent participant loans that are recorded at their unpaid principal balance, plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Interest income on notes receivable from participants is recorded when earned. Related fees are recorded as administrative expenses and are expensed when incurred. If a participant ceases to make a loan repayment and the plan administrator deems the participant loan to be a distribution, the participant loan balance is reduced and a deemed distribution is recorded. No allowance for credit losses has been recorded as of August 1, 2022.

Investment Valuation

GAAP defines fair value, provides guidance for measuring fair value, and requires certain disclosures. GAAP discusses valuation techniques, such as the market approach (comparable market prices), the income approach (present value of future income or cash flow), and the cost approach (cost to replace the service capacity of an asset or replacement cost). GAAP provides for a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value into three broad levels. The following is a brief description of those three levels:

- Level 1 – Observable inputs such as quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- Level 2 – Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly. These include quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets and quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active.
- Level 3 – Unobservable inputs that reflect the Company’s own assumptions.

The following is a description of the valuation techniques and inputs used for the investments measured at fair value, including the general classification of such instruments pursuant to the valuation hierarchy:

Mutual Funds and Cash Equivalent

Shares of mutual funds and money market fund are valued at quoted market prices, which represent the net asset value of shares held by the Plan at year-end.

Empire Resorts, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Income (Loss) Recognition

Net appreciation (depreciation) in the fair value of investments includes both realized and unrealized gains and losses, based on the value of assets at the beginning of the year or at the time of purchase during the year. Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Interest income is recognized when earned.

Management Fees

Management fees and operating expenses charged to investments in mutual funds and money market funds are deducted from income earned on a daily basis and are reflected in the net realized and unrealized appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of such investments.

Payment of Benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid.

3. Investments

All investment information disclosed in the accompanying financial statements, including investments held and notes receivable from participants at August 1, 2022 and December 31, 2021, and net realized and unrealized depreciation in fair value of investments, interest income on notes receivable from participants, and interest and dividends from investments for the period from January 1, 2022 to August 1, 2022, was obtained or derived from information supplied to the plan administrator and certified by Ascensus, an agent for the Trustee.

4. Fair Value Measurements

As of August 1, 2022, the Plan has no investments as a result of the merger as discussed in Note 1. The following table summarizes investments held at December 31, 2021:

	Investments at Fair Value			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
December 31, 2021				
Mutual funds	\$ 17,175,062	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 17,175,062
Cash equivalent	205,299	—	—	205,299
Total investments, at fair value	<u>\$ 17,380,361</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 17,380,361</u>

Empire Resorts, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

5. Income Tax Status

The underlying pre-approved plan has received an opinion letter from the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) dated June 30, 2020, stating that the written form of the underlying pre-approved document is qualified under Section 401 of the Code. Any employer adopting this form of the plan will be considered to have a plan qualified under Section 401 of the Code, and, therefore, the related trust is tax-exempt. Once qualified, the Plan is required to operate in conformity with the Code to maintain its qualified status. However, the plan administrator believes that the Plan has been designed to comply with the requirement of the Code and has indicated that it will take the necessary steps, if any, to bring the Plan’s operations into compliance with the Code.

GAAP requires plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. Plan management has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded that there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

6. Plan Termination

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of the Plan’s termination, participants will become 100% vested in their accounts.

7. Risks and Uncertainties

The Plan provides for various investment options in the investment securities. Investment securities, in general, are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, credit, and overall market volatility. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

Empire Resorts, Inc. 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

8. Related Party and Party-in-Interest Transactions

The Plan paid administrative fees of \$70,723 to the record-keeper for the period ended August 1, 2022.

Certain officers and employees of the Company (who may also be participants in the Plan) perform administrative services related to the operation, recordkeeping, and financial reporting of the Plan. The Company pays these individuals' salaries and other administrative expenses. These transactions are not deemed prohibited party-in-interest transactions because they are covered by statutory and administrative exemptions from the Code and ERISA rules on prohibited transactions.

9. Subsequent Events

Management has evaluated subsequent events through June 14, 2023, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.