BANKWELL FINANCIAL GROUP REPORTS RECORD NET INCOME FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER AND FULL YEAR 2021; INCREASES DIVIDEND BY 11%; PROVIDES GUIDANCE FOR 2022

New Canaan, CT – January 26, 2022 – Bankwell Financial Group, Inc. (NASDAQ: BWFG) reported record GAAP net income for the fourth quarter and year ended 2021. For the fourth quarter of 2021 net income totaled \$7.8 million, or \$0.99 per share, versus \$0.3 million, or \$0.04 per share, for the same period in 2020. For the year ended 2021 net income totaled \$26.6 million, or \$3.36 per share, versus \$5.9 million, or \$0.75 per share, for the same period in 2020.

The Company's Board of Directors declared a \$0.20 per share cash dividend, payable February 24, 2022 to shareholders of record on February 14, 2022, representing an 11% increase when compared to the prior quarter's dividend.

We recommend reading this earnings release in conjunction with the Fourth Quarter 2021 Investor Presentation, located at http://investor.mybankwell.com/Presentations and included as an exhibit to our January 26, 2022 Current Report on Form 8-K.

Notes Bankwell Financial Group President and CEO, Christopher R. Gruseke:

"We are proud to announce record performance for the fourth quarter and full year of 2021. In addition to generating a Return on Average Equity of 14% for the year, the Company made significant strides in all aspects of its business. While originating approximately \$800 million in loans, we also continued to diversify our asset base. Core deposits grew by 31.7%, year over year, and non-interest bearing deposits increased by 47.6% over the same period.

"I offer my heartfelt gratitude and sincere congratulations to every member of our team. Their hard work and commitment, during a time of historic disruption, has made these impressive achievements possible.

"We enter the year ahead with confidence and momentum and look forward to another outstanding year. Loan and deposit pipelines remain strong. Inclusive of four expected rate hikes by the Federal Reserve, we expect net interest income to grow by 12-14% in 2022."

Fourth Quarter 2021 Highlights:

- Return on average assets was 1.32% and return on average equity was 15.44% for the quarter ended December 31, 2021.
- The net interest margin improved to 3.43% for the quarter ended December 31, 2021 and 3.17% for the year ended December 31, 2021.
- Total gross loans were \$1.9 billion, growing \$303.9 million excluding Paycheck Protection Program ("PPP") loans, or 19.1%, compared to December 31, 2020. On a quarterly basis, loans grew \$71.7 million, or 3.9% compared to September 30, 2021.
- Gains from loan sales totaled \$0.4 million and \$2.7 million for the quarter and year ended December 31, 2021, respectively.
- Total deposits were \$2.1 billion compared to \$1.8 billion at December 31, 2020.
- Noninterest bearing deposits increased by \$128.7 million, or 47.6% compared to December 31, 2020.
- The percentage of noninterest bearing deposits to total deposits increased to 18.8% compared to 14.8% at December 31, 2020.
- The cost of interest bearing deposits decreased approximately 35 basis points to 0.54% for the quarter ended December 31, 2021 when compared to the quarter ended December 31, 2020.
- Investment securities totaled \$108.4 million and represent 4.4% of total assets.
- Tangible book value per share rose to \$26.19 compared to \$22.43 at December 31, 2020.
- Shares issued and outstanding were 7,803,166, reflecting repurchases of 59,338 shares of common stock at a weighted average price of \$31.29 during the quarter ended December 31, 2021.

• The Company issued a 3.25% fixed-to-floating rate subordinated note due 2031 in the principal amount of \$35.0 million. Part of the proceeds were used to repay \$15.5 million of previously issued subordinated notes.

Earnings and Performance

Revenues (net interest income plus noninterest income) for the quarter ended December 31, 2021 were \$19.8 million, versus \$14.9 million for the quarter ended December 31, 2020. Revenues for the year ended December 31, 2021 were \$73.5 million, versus \$57.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2020. The increase was primarily attributable to lower interest expense on deposits, an increase in interest and fees on loans due to loan growth and from the resumption of loan sales.

Net income for the quarter ended December 31, 2021 was \$7.8 million, versus \$0.3 million for the quarter ended December 31, 2020. Net income for the year ended December 31, 2021 was \$26.6 million, versus \$5.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2020. The increase in net income was primarily impacted by the aforementioned increases in revenues, a decrease in noninterest expense, and a decrease in the provision for loan losses resulting from lower loan loss reserves in 2021 when compared to 2020, which saw a large increase in reserves due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Basic and diluted earnings per share were \$1.00 and \$0.99, respectively, for the quarter ended December 31, 2021 compared to basic and diluted earnings per share of \$0.04 each for the quarter ended December 31, 2020. Basic and diluted earnings per share were \$3.38 and \$3.36, respectively, for the year ended December 31, 2021 compared to basic and diluted earnings per share of \$0.75 each for the year ended December 31, 2020.

The net interest margin (fully taxable equivalent basis) for the quarters ended December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2020 was 3.43% and 2.66%, respectively. The net interest margin (fully taxable equivalent basis) for the years ended December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2020 was 3.17% and 2.77%, respectively. The increase in the net interest margin was due to lower interest expense from a decrease in rates on interest bearing deposits and a greater proportion of noninterest bearing deposits.

Financial Condition

Assets totaled \$2.46 billion at December 31, 2021, compared to assets of \$2.25 billion at December 31, 2020. The increase in assets was primarily due to loan growth, partially offset by a decrease in excess liquidity. Gross loans totaled \$1.9 billion at December 31, 2021, an increase of \$269.3 million compared to December 31, 2020. Excluding PPP loans, gross loans increased by \$303.9 million at December 31, 2021 when compared to December 31, 2020. Deposits totaled \$2.1 billion at December 31, 2021, compared to deposits of \$1.8 billion at December 31, 2020.

Capital

Shareholders' equity totaled \$202.0 million as of December 31, 2021, an increase of \$25.4 million compared to December 31, 2020, primarily a result of (i) net income of \$26.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2021 and (ii) a \$7.0 million favorable impact to accumulated other comprehensive income driven by fair value marks related to hedge positions involving interest rate swaps. The Company's interest rate swaps are used to hedge interest rate risk. The Company's current interest rate swap positions will cause a decrease to other comprehensive income in a falling interest rate environment and an increase in a rising interest rate environment. The increase in Shareholders' equity was partially offset by dividends paid of \$5.0 million and common stock repurchases of \$5.1 million.

About Bankwell Financial Group

Bankwell is a commercial bank that serves the banking needs of residents and businesses throughout Fairfield and New Haven Counties, Connecticut. For more information about this press release, interested parties may contact Christopher R. Gruseke, President and Chief Executive Officer or Penko Ivanov, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Bankwell Financial Group at (203) 652-0166.

For more information, visit www.mybankwell.com.

This press release may contain certain forward-looking statements about the Company. Forward-looking statements include statements regarding anticipated future events and can be identified by the fact that they do not relate strictly to historical or current facts. They often include words such as "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "estimate," and "intend" or future or conditional verbs such as "will," "would," "should," "could," or "may." Forward-looking statements, by their nature, are subject to risks and uncertainties. Certain factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from expected results include, but are not limited to, increased competitive pressures, changes in the interest rate environment, general economic conditions or conditions within the securities markets, uncertain impacts of, or additional changes in, monetary, fiscal or tax policy to address the impact of COVID-19, prolonged measures to contain the spread of COVID-19 or premature easing of such containment measures, either of which could further exacerbate the effects on the Company's business and results of operations, and legislative and regulatory changes that could adversely affect the business in which the Company and its subsidiaries are engaged.

Non-GAAP Financial Measures

In addition to evaluating the Company's financial performance in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"), management may evaluate certain non-GAAP financial measures, such as the efficiency ratio. A computation and reconciliation of certain non-GAAP financial measures used for these purposes is contained in the accompanying Reconciliation of GAAP to Non-GAAP Measures tables. We believe that providing certain non-GAAP financial measures provides investors with information useful in understanding our financial performance, our performance trends and financial position. For example, the Company believes that the efficiency ratio is useful in the assessment of financial performance, including noninterest expense control. The Company believes that tangible common equity, tangible book value per share, and return on average tangible common equity are useful to evaluate the relative strength of the Company's performance and capital position. We utilize these measures for internal planning and forecasting purposes. These non-GAAP financial measures should not be considered a substitute for GAAP basis measures and results, and we strongly encourage investors to review our consolidated financial statements in their entirety and not to rely on any single financial measure.

BANKWELL FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (unaudited) (Dollars in thousands)

	December 31, 2021		eptember 30, 2021	June 30, 2021	March 31, 2021	December 31, 2020	
ASSETS							
Cash and due from banks	\$ 291,598	\$	169,417	\$ 297,851	\$ 351,194	\$	405,340
Federal funds sold	53,084		8,097	4,036	10,811		4,258
Cash and cash equivalents	344,682		177,514	301,887	362,005		409,598
Investment securities							
Marketable equity securities, at fair value	2,168		2,185	2,192	2,178		2,207
Available for sale investment securities, at fair value	90,198		87,565	90,983	83,218		88,605
Held to maturity investment securities, at amortized cost	16,043		16,107	16,166	16,225		16,078
Total investment securities	108,409		105,857	109,341	101,621		106,890
Loans receivable (net of allowance for loan losses of \$16,902, \$16,803, \$16,672, \$20,545, and \$21,009 at December 31, 2021, September 30, 2021, June 30, 2021, March 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020, respectively)	1,875,167		1,805,217	1,719,274	1,650,127		1,601,672
Accrued interest receivable	7,512		6,911	6,661	7,306		6,579
Federal Home Loan Bank stock, at cost	2,814		3,632	3,844	6,446		7,860
Premises and equipment, net	25,588		35,118	33,916	33,386		21,762
Bank-owned life insurance	49,174		48,903	48,632	42,881		42,651
Goodwill	2,589		2,589	2,589	2,589		2,589
Other intangible assets	_		48	58	67		76
Deferred income taxes, net	7,621		7,718	8,208	8,908		11,300
Other assets	32,708		33,181	35,415	29,131		42,770
Total assets	\$ 2,456,264	\$	2,226,688	\$ 2,269,825	\$ 2,244,467	\$	2,253,747
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY							
Liabilities							
Deposits							
Noninterest bearing deposits	\$ 398,956	\$	338,705	\$ 328,473	\$ 280,947	\$	270,235
Interest bearing deposits	1,725,042		1,544,118	1,610,829	1,578,861		1,557,081
Total deposits	2,123,998		1,882,823	1,939,302	1,859,808		1,827,316
Advances from the Federal Home Loan Bank	50,000		80,000	75,000	125,000		175,000
Subordinated debentures	34,441		15,374	15,366	25,271		25,258
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	45,838		52,314	49,362	46,445		49,571
Total liabilities	2,254,277		2,030,511	2,079,030	2,056,524		2,077,145
Shareholders' equity							
Common stock, no par value	118,148		119,588	120,451	120,398		121,338
Retained earnings	92,400		85,992	80,543	75,418		70,839
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(8,561))	(9,403)	(10,199)	(7,873)		(15,575)
Total shareholders' equity	201,987		196,177	190,795	187,943		176,602
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$ 2,456,264	\$	2,226,688	\$ 2,269,825	\$ 2,244,467	\$	2,253,747

BANKWELL FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (unaudited) (Dollars in thousands, except share data)

To a constant of the dead of the constant of t	December 31, 2021	Sep	4120		Y 20								
T. 4 4 4			tember 30, 2021		June 30, 2021	N	March 31, 2021	December 31, 2020				December 3 2020	
Interest and dividend income													
Interest and fees on loans	\$ 21,081	\$	19,795	\$	19,266	\$	17,900	\$	18,194	\$	78,042	\$	73,665
Interest and dividends on securities	722		731		736		769		835		2,958		3,237
Interest on cash and cash equivalents	90		88		90		108		117		376		585
Total interest and dividend income	21,893		20,614		20,092		18,777		19,146		81,376		77,487
Interest expense													
Interest expense on deposits	2,198		2,387		2,744		3,114		3,557		10,443		18,180
Interest expense on borrowings	767		503		769		1,008		1,285		3,047		4,472
Total interest expense	2,965		2,890		3,513		4,122		4,842		13,490		22,652
Net interest income	18,928		17,724		16,579		14,655		14,304		67,886		54,835
Provision (credit) for loan losses	125		134		(20)		(296)		709		(57)		7,605
Net interest income after provision (credit) for loan losses	18,803		17,590		16,599		14,951		13,595		67,943		47,230
Noninterest income				_		_		_		_		_	
Gains and fees from sales of loans	441		924		814		513		16		2,692		43
Bank owned life insurance	270		271		251		231		241		1,023		967
Service charges and fees	257		199		217		199		210		872		788
Gain on sale of other real estate owned, net	231		199				199				- 0/2		19
Other	(143)		43		158		1,013		154		1,070		1,067
Total noninterest income	825		1,437		1,440		1,956		621		5,657		2,884
Noninterest expense			· ·		<u> </u>		· ·				· ·		·
Salaries and employee benefits	4,806		4,782		3,960		4,769		5,453		18,317		21,355
Occupancy and equipment	2,411		2,615		3,250		2,406		4,516		10,682		10,926
Professional services	628		498		547		587		591		2,260		2,110
Data processing	432		632		833		512		1,658		2,409		3,216
Director fees	335		324		327		317		331		1,303		1,214
FDIC insurance	231		298		300		403		262		1,232		791
Marketing	87		186		140		(9)		118		404		630
Other	749		1,035		695		653		774		3,132		2,571
Total noninterest expense	9,679		10,370		10,052		9,638	_	13,703		39,739		42,813
Income before income tax expense	9,949		8,657		7,987		7,269		513		33,861		7,301
Income tax expense	2,135		1,802		1,759		1,579		177		7,275		1,397
Net income	\$ 7,814	\$	6,855	\$	6,228	\$	5,690	\$	336	\$	26,586	\$	5,904
Earnings Per Common Share:													
Basic	\$ 1.00	\$	0.88	\$	0.79	\$	0.72	\$	0.04	\$	3.38	\$	0.75
Diluted	\$ 0.99		0.87	\$		\$	0.71	\$	0.04	\$	3.36		0.75
Weighted Average Common Shares Outstanding:													
Basic	7,660,307		7,677,822		7,722,481		7,758,540		7,726,926		7,706,407		7,728,328
Diluted	7,726,420		7,738,758		7,768,026		7,800,777		7,728,206		7,761,811		7,748,453
Dividends per common share	\$ 0.18	\$	0.18	\$	0.14	\$	0.14	\$	0.14	\$	0.64	\$	0.56

BANKWELL FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS (unaudited)

		For the Ye	ear Ended				
	December 31, 2021	September 30, 2021	June 30, 2021	March 31, 2021	December 31, 2020	December 31, 2021	December 31, 2020
Performance ratios:							
Return on average assets ⁽¹⁾	1.32 %	1.22 %	1.11 %	1.02 %	0.06 %	1.17 %	0.28 %
Return on average stockholders' equity ⁽¹⁾	15.44 %	14.09 %	13.06 %	12.67 %	0.75 %	13.86 %	3.35 %
Return on average tangible common equity ⁽¹⁾	15.65 %	14.29 %	13.25 %	12.86 %	0.76 %	14.05 %	3.40 %
Net interest margin	3.43 %	3.39 %	3.12 %	2.74 %	2.66 %	3.17 %	2.77 %
Efficiency ratio ⁽²⁾	48.8 %	54.1 %	55.7 %	58.0 %	91.2 %	53.9 %	73.9 %
Net loan charge-offs as a % of average loans	— %	— %	0.23 %	0.01 %	— %	0.23 %	0.01 %
Dividend payout ratio ⁽³⁾	18.18 %	20.69 %	17.72 %	19.72 %	350.00 %	19.05 %	74.67 %

- (1) 2020 performance ratios were negatively impacted by COVID-19 pandemic related loan loss reserves and \$3.9 million in one-time charges related to office consolidation, contract termination and employee severance costs recognized in the fourth quarter of 2020.
- (2) Efficiency ratio is defined as noninterest expense, less other real estate owned expenses and amortization of intangible assets, divided by our operating revenue, which is equal to net interest income plus noninterest income excluding gains and losses on sales of securities and gains and losses on other real estate owned. In our judgment, the adjustments made to operating revenue allow investors and analysts to better assess our operating expenses in relation to our core operating revenue by removing the volatility that is associated with certain one-time items and other discrete items that are unrelated to our core business.
- (3) The dividend payout ratio is calculated by dividing dividends per share by earnings per share.

	_		As of		
	December 31, 2021	September 30, 2021	June 30, 2021	March 31, 2021	December 31, 2020
Capital ratios:					
Total Common Equity Tier 1 Capital to Risk-Weighted Assets ⁽¹⁾	11.18 %	10.59 %	10.95 %	11.02 %	11.06 %
Total Capital to Risk-Weighted Assets ⁽¹⁾	12.00 %	11.44 %	11.84 %	12.17 %	12.28 %
Tier I Capital to Risk-Weighted Assets ⁽¹⁾	11.18 %	10.59 %	10.95 %	11.02 %	11.06 %
Tier I Capital to Average Assets ⁽¹⁾	9.94 %	9.61 %	9.19 %	8.82 %	8.44 %
Tangible common equity to tangible assets	8.13 %	8.70 %	8.30 %	8.27 %	7.73 %
Tangible book value per common share ⁽²⁾	\$ 26.19	\$ 25.25	\$ 24.40	\$ 23.99	\$ 22.43

- (1) Represents Bank ratios. Current period capital ratios are preliminary subject to finalization of the FDIC Call Report.
- (2) Excludes unvested restricted shares of 190,359, 178,797, 184,548, 186,485, and 163,369 as of December 31, 2021, September 30, 2021, June 30, 2021, March 31, 2021, and December 31, 2020, respectively.

BANKWELL FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. ASSET QUALITY (unaudited)

(Dollars in thousands)

		For the Quarter Ended								
	Dec	ember 31, 2021		September 30, 2021		June 30, 2021	March 31, 2021	I	December 31, 2020	
Allowance for loan losses:										
Balance at beginning of period	\$	16,803	\$	16,672	\$	20,545	\$ 21,009	\$	20,372	
Charge-offs:										
Commercial real estate		_		_		(3,814)	(163)		_	
Commercial business		(26)		_		(51)	_		(75)	
Consumer		(5)		(15)		(4)	(14)		(11)	
Total charge-offs		(31)		(15)		(3,869)	(177)		(86)	
Recoveries:										
Commercial business		2		11		16	_		14	
Consumer		3		1		_	9		_	
Total recoveries		5		12		16	9		14	
Net loan charge-offs		(26)		(3)		(3,853)	(168)		(72)	
Provision (credit) for loan losses		125		134		(20)	(296)		709	
Balance at end of period	\$	16,902	\$	16,803	\$	16,672	\$ 20,545	\$	21,009	

	As of									
	De	cember 31, 2021	S	eptember 30, 2021		June 30, 2021		March 31, 2021	D	ecember 31, 2020
Asset quality:										
Nonaccrual loans										
Residential real estate	\$	2,380	\$	1,849	\$	1,160	\$	1,289	\$	1,492
Commercial real estate		3,482		16,314		15,392		19,277		21,093
Commercial business		1,728		1,754		1,780		1,803		1,834
Construction		8,997		8,997		8,997		8,997		8,997
Total nonaccrual loans		16,587		28,914		27,329		31,366		33,416
Other real estate owned										
Total nonperforming assets	\$	16,587	\$	28,914	\$	27,329	\$	31,366	\$	33,416
Nonperforming loans as a % of total loans		0.88 %		1.58 %		1.57 %		1.87 %		2.06 %
Nonperforming assets as a % of total assets		0.68 %		1.30 %		1.20 %		1.40 %		1.48 %
Allowance for loan losses as a % of total loans		0.89 %		0.92 %		0.96 %		1.23 %		1.29 %
Allowance for loan losses as a % of nonperforming loans		101.90 %		58.11 %		61.00 %		65.50 %		62.87 %

Total nonaccrual loans declined \$16.8 million to \$16.6 million as of December 31, 2021 when compared to December 31, 2020, primarily a result of \$11.0 million of previously reported nonaccrual loans becoming performing loans during the fourth quarter of 2021. Nonperforming assets as a percentage of total assets was 0.68% at December 31, 2021, down from 1.48% at December 31, 2020. The allowance for loan losses at December 31, 2021 was \$16.9 million, representing 0.89% of total loans.

BANKWELL FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. LOAN & DEPOSIT PORTFOLIO (unaudited)

(Dollars in thousands)

Period End Loan Composition	De	ecember 31, 2021	Se	eptember 30, 2021	D	ecember 31, 2020	Current QTD % Change	YTD % Change
Residential Real Estate	\$	79,987	\$	90,110	\$	113,557	(11.2)%	(29.6)%
Commercial Real Estate ⁽¹⁾		1,356,709		1,337,896		1,148,383	1.4	18.1
Construction		98,341		94,665		87,007	3.9	13.0
Total Real Estate Loans		1,535,037		1,522,671		1,348,947	0.8	13.8
Commercial Business ⁽²⁾		350,975		292,825		276,601	19.9	26.9
Consumer		8,869		9,050		79	(2.0)	N/M ⁽³⁾
Total Loans	\$	1,894,881	\$	1,824,546	\$	1,625,627	3.9 %	16.6 %

(1) Includes owner occupied commercial real estate.

(3) Metric not meaningful.

Gross loans totaled \$1.9 billion at December 31, 2021, an increase of \$269.3 million compared to December 31, 2020. Excluding PPP loans, gross loans increased by \$303.9 million, or 19.1%, at December 31, 2021 when compared to December 31, 2020.

Period End Deposit Composition	De	December 31, 2021		September 30, 2021		ecember 31, 2020	Current QTD % Change	YTD % Change
Noninterest bearing demand	\$	398,956	\$	338,705	\$	270,235	17.8 %	47.6 %
NOW		119,479		103,180		101,737	15.8	17.4
Money Market		954,674		835,210		669,364	14.3	42.6
Savings		193,631		188,581		158,750	2.7	22.0
Time		457,258		417,147		627,230	9.6	(27.1)
Total Deposits	\$	2,123,998	\$	1,882,823	\$	1,827,316	12.8 %	16.2 %

Total deposits were \$2.1 billion at December 31, 2021, compared to \$1.8 billion at December 31, 2020, an increase of \$296.7 million, or 16.2%. Noninterest bearing deposits grew by \$128.7 million, or 47.6%, as of December 31, 2021, compared to December 31, 2020.

⁽²⁾ Includes \$0.2 million, \$1.6 million, and \$34.8 million of PPP loans at December 31, 2021, September 30, 2021 and December 31, 2020, respectively.

BANKWELL FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. NONINTEREST INCOME (unaudited) (Dollars in thousands)

	 Fo	or the	Quarter End	ed			
Noninterest income	nber 31, 021	Sep	otember 30, 2021	D	ecember 31, 2020	Dec 21 vs. Sep 21 % Change	Dec 21 vs. Dec 20 % Change
Gains and fees from sales of loans	\$ 441	\$	924	\$	16	(52.3)%	2,656.3 %
Bank owned life insurance	270		271		241	(0.4)	12.0
Service charges and fees	257		199		210	29.1	22.4
Other	 (143)		43		154	(432.6)	(192.9)
Total noninterest income	\$ 825	\$	1,437	\$	621	(42.6)%	32.9 %

Noninterest income	Decem	ber 31, 2021	Decemb	er 31, 2020	% Change
Gains and fees from sales of loans	\$	2,692	\$	43	6,160.5 %
Bank owned life insurance		1,023		967	5.8
Service charges and fees		872		788	10.7
Gain on sale of other real estate owned, net				19	(100.0)
Other		1,070		1,067	0.3
Total noninterest income	\$	5,657	\$	2,884	96.2 %

Noninterest income increased by \$0.2 million to \$0.8 million for the quarter ended December 31, 2021 compared to the quarter ended December 31, 2020. Noninterest income increased by \$2.8 million to \$5.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2021 compared to the year ended December 31, 2020.

The increase in noninterest income was driven by resumed loan sales, totaling \$0.4 million and \$2.7 million for the quarter and year ended December 31, 2021, respectively. The increase for the year was also impacted by a one-time federal payroll tax credit for COVID-19 of \$0.9 million, partially offset by a \$0.2 million loss on the sale of the Company's former headquarters building. In addition, in 2020 the Company recognized a \$0.4 million benefit of non-recurring interest rate swap fees.

BANKWELL FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. NONINTEREST EXPENSE (unaudited) (Dollars in thousands)

	F	or the Quarter End	ed		
Noninterest expense	December 31, 2021	September 30, 2021			Dec 21 vs. Dec 20 % Change
Salaries and employee benefits	\$ 4,806	\$ 4,782	\$ 5,453	0.5 %	(11.9)%
Occupancy and equipment	2,411	2,615	4,516	(7.8)	(46.6)
Professional services	628	498	591	26.1	6.3
Data processing	432	632	1,658	(31.6)	(73.9)
Director fees	335	324	331	3.4	1.2
FDIC insurance	231	298	262	(22.5)	(11.8)
Marketing	87	186	118	(53.2)	(26.3)
Other	749	1,035	774	(27.6)	(3.2)
Total noninterest expense	\$ 9,679	\$ 10,370	\$ 13,703	(6.7)%	(29.4)%

		For the Y		
Noninterest expense	Decem	ber 31, 2021	December 31, 2020	% Change
Salaries and employee benefits	\$	18,317	\$ 21,355	(14.2)%
Occupancy and equipment		10,682	10,926	(2.2)
Data processing		2,409	3,216	(25.1)
Professional services		2,260	2,110	7.1
Director fees		1,303	1,214	7.3
FDIC insurance		1,232	791	55.8
Marketing		404	630	(35.9)
Other		3,132	2,571	21.8
Total noninterest expense	\$	39,739	\$ 42,813	(7.2)%

Noninterest expense decreased by \$4.0 million to \$9.7 million for the quarter ended December 31, 2021 compared to the quarter ended December 31, 2020. The decrease in noninterest expense was primarily driven by a decrease in salaries and employee benefits expense, occupancy and equipment expense and data processing expense.

Noninterest expense decreased by \$3.1 million to \$39.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2021 compared to the year ended December 31, 2020. The decrease in noninterest expense was primarily driven by a decrease in salaries and employee benefits expense and data processing expense.

Salaries and employee benefits expense totaled \$4.8 million for the quarter ended December 31, 2021, a decrease of \$0.6 million when compared to the same period in 2020. Salaries and employee benefits expense totaled \$18.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2021, a decrease of \$3.0 million when compared to the same period in 2020. The decrease in salaries and employee benefits expense was primarily driven by a decrease in full time equivalent employees as a direct result of the Voluntary Early Retirement Incentive Plan offered to eligible employees and other employee actions taken during the fourth quarter of 2020. Average full time equivalent employees totaled 126 for the year ended December 31, 2021 compared to 146 for the same period in 2020. In addition, salaries and employee benefits expense also benefited by one-time deferrals of \$0.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2021 related to costs associated with the implementation of a new online banking and other systems. Salaries and employee benefits were also favorably impacted as higher loan originations enabled the Bank to defer a greater amount of expenses.

Occupancy and equipment expense totaled \$2.4 million for the quarter ended December 31, 2021, a decrease of \$2.1 million when compared to the same period in 2020. The decrease in occupancy and equipment expense was primarily due to costs associated with office and branch consolidation, recognized during the fourth quarter of 2020.

Data processing expense totaled \$0.4 million for the quarter ended December 31, 2021, a decrease of \$1.2 million when compared to the same period in 2020. Data processing expense totaled \$2.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2021, a decrease of \$0.8 million when compared to the same period in 2020. The decrease in data processing expense was primarily driven by a \$1.1 million one-time charge related to early termination fees payable to a legacy technology vendor recognized during the fourth quarter of 2020.

BANKWELL FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. RECONCILIATION OF GAAP TO NON-GAAP MEASURES (unaudited) (Dollars in thousands, except share data)

	As of													
Computation of Tangible Common Equity to Tangible Assets		December 31, 2021	S	eptember 30, 2021	June 30, 2021			March 31, 2021	Г	December 31, 2020				
Total Equity	\$	201,987	\$	196,177	\$	190,795	\$	187,943	\$	176,602				
Less:														
Goodwill		2,589		2,589		2,589		2,589		2,589				
Other intangibles		_		48		58		67		76				
Tangible Common Equity	\$	199,398	\$	193,540	\$	188,148	\$	185,287	\$	173,937				
Total Assets	\$	2,456,264	\$	2,226,688	\$	2,269,825	\$	2,244,467	\$	2,253,747				
Less:														
Goodwill		2,589		2,589		2,589		2,589		2,589				
Other intangibles		_		48		58		67		76				
Tangible Assets	\$	2,453,675	\$	2,224,051	\$	2,267,178	\$	2,241,811	\$	2,251,082				
Tangible Common Equity to Tangible Assets		8.13 %	8.70 %			8.30 %	•	8.27 %		7.73 %				
						As of								

	As of													
Computation of Tangible Book Value per Common Share		ecember 31, 2021	S	September 30, 2021		June 30, 2021		March 31, 2021		December 31, 2020				
Total shareholders' equity	\$	201,987	\$	196,177	\$	190,795	\$	187,943	\$	176,602				
Less:														
Preferred stock		_		_		_				_				
Common shareholders' equity	\$	201,987	\$	196,177	\$	190,795	\$	187,943	\$	176,602				
Less:														
Goodwill		2,589		2,589		2,589		2,589		2,589				
Other intangibles		_		48		58		67		76				
Tangible common shareholders' equity	\$	199,398	\$	193,540	\$	188,148	\$	185,287	\$	173,937				
Common shares		7,803,166		7,842,824		7,895,101		7,908,630		7,919,278				
Less:														
Shares of unvested restricted stock		190,359		178,797		184,548		186,485		163,369				
Common shares less unvested restricted stock		7,612,807		7,664,027		7,710,553		7,722,145		7,755,909				
Book value per share	\$	26.53	\$	25.60	\$	24.74	\$	24.34	\$	22.77				
Less:														
Effects of intangible assets	\$	0.34	\$	0.34	\$	0.34	\$	0.34	\$	0.34				
Tangible Book Value per Common Share	\$	26.19	\$	25.25	\$	24.40	\$	23.99	\$	22.43				

BANKWELL FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. RECONCILIATION OF GAAP TO NON-GAAP MEASURES (unaudited) - Continued (Dollars in thousands)

	For the Quarter Ended												For the Year Ended					
Computation of Efficiency Ratio	Dec	cember 31, 2021	Sej	otember 30, 2021		June 30, 2021]	March 31, 2021	De	December 31, 2020		December 31, 2021		ecember 31, 2020				
Noninterest expense	\$	9,679	\$	10,370	\$	10,052	\$	9,638	\$	13,703	\$	39,739	\$	42,813				
Less:																		
Amortization of intangible assets		48		9		9		9		84		76		138				
Other real estate owned expenses		_		_		_		_		_		_		6				
Adjusted noninterest expense	\$	9,631	\$	10,361	\$	10,043	\$	9,629	\$	13,619	\$	39,663	\$	42,669				
Net interest income	\$	18,928	\$	17,724	\$	16,579	\$	14,655	\$	14,304	\$	67,886	\$	54,835				
Noninterest income		825		1,437		1,440		1,956		621		5,657		2,884				
Less:																		
Net gain on sale of available for sale securities		_		_		_		_		_		_		_				
Gain on sale of other real estate owned, net		_		_		_		_		_		_		19				
Operating revenue	\$	19,753	\$	19,161	\$	18,019	\$	16,611	\$	14,925	\$	73,543	\$	57,700				
Efficiency ratio		48.8 %		54.1 %		55.7 %	•	58.0 %)	91.2 %		53.9 %		73.9 %				

				F	or the	e Quarter En	ded					For the Y	ear E	nded
Computation of Return on Average Tangible Common Equity	De	ecember 31, 2021	September 30, 2021			June 30, 2021		March 31, 2021		December 31, 2020		December 31, 2021		ecember 31, 2020
Net Income Attributable to Common Shareholders	\$	7,814	\$	6,855	\$	6,228	\$	5,690	\$	336	\$	26,586	\$	5,904
Total average shareholders' equity	\$	200,752	\$	192,993	\$	191,224	\$	182,058	\$	178,439	\$	191,808	\$	176,489
Less:														
Average Goodwill		2,589		2,589		2,589		2,589		2,589		2,589		2,589
Average Other intangibles		45		54		64		73		153		59		180
Average tangible common equity	\$	198,118	\$	190,350	\$	188,571	\$	179,396	\$	175,697	\$	189,160	\$	173,720
Annualized Return on Average Tangible Common Equity		15.65 %		14.29 %		13.25 %	ó	12.86 %	, 0	0.76 %		14.05 %		3.40 %

BANKWELL FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. NET INTEREST MARGIN ANALYSIS ON A FULLY TAX EQUIVALENT BASIS - QTD (unaudited) (Dollars in thousands)

	For the Quarter Ended								
	D	ecei	mber 31, 2021)			
	Average Balance		Interest	Yield/ Rate ⁽⁴⁾		Average Balance		Interest	Yield/ Rate ⁽⁴⁾
Assets:									
Cash and Fed funds sold	\$ 233,196	\$	90	0.15 %	\$	424,327	\$	117	0.11 %
Securities ⁽¹⁾	104,797		756	2.89		105,422		814	3.09
Loans:									
Commercial real estate	1,337,147		15,104	4.42		1,096,912		12,753	4.55
Residential real estate	83,763		694	3.31		115,104		1,009	3.51
Construction	95,611		972	3.98		93,909		910	3.79
Commercial business	347,394		4,222	4.75		311,995		3,520	4.41
Consumer	8,904		89	3.97		96		2	7.41
Total loans	1,872,819		21,081	4.40		1,618,016		18,194	4.40
Federal Home Loan Bank stock	2,814		16	2.28		7,859		74	3.75
Total earning assets	2,213,626	\$	21,943	3.88 %		2,155,624	\$	19,199	3.48 %
Other assets	130,512					123,435			
Total assets	\$ 2,344,138				\$	2,279,059	1		
Liabilities and shareholders' equity:									
Interest bearing liabilities:									
NOW	\$ 114,158	\$	51	0.18 %	\$	93,126	\$	42	0.18 %
Money market	874,352		1,097	0.50		644,685		858	0.53
Savings	190,118		100	0.21		168,307		164	0.39
Time	 438,627		950	0.86		686,827		2,493	1.44
Total interest bearing deposits	1,617,255		2,198	0.54		1,592,945		3,557	0.89
Borrowed Money	89,726		767	3.35		200,250		1,285	2.51
Total interest bearing liabilities	1,706,981	\$	2,965	0.69 %		1,793,195	\$	4,842	1.07 %
Noninterest bearing deposits	383,557					255,843			
Other liabilities	52,848					51,582			
Total liabilities	2,143,386					2,100,620			
Shareholders' equity	200,752					178,439			
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$ 2,344,138				\$	2,279,059			
Net interest income ⁽²⁾		\$	18,978				\$	14,357	
Interest rate spread				3.19 %					2.41 %
Net interest margin ⁽³⁾				3.43 %					2.66 %

⁽¹⁾ Average balances and yields for securities are based on amortized cost.

The adjustment for securities and loans taxable equivalency amounted to \$50 thousand and \$53 thousand for the quarters ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, respectively.

⁽³⁾ Annualized net interest income as a percentage of earning assets.

⁽⁴⁾ Yields are calculated using the contractual day count convention for each respective product type.

BANKWELL FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. NET INTEREST MARGIN ANALYSIS ON A FULLY TAX EQUIVALENT BASIS - YTD (unaudited) (Dollars in thousands)

	For the Year Ended										
	 D	ece	mber 31, 2021			D	ece	ember 31, 2020	per 31, 2020		
	Average Balance		Interest	Yield/ Rate ⁽³⁾		Average Balance		Interest	Yield/ Rate ⁽³⁾		
Assets:											
Cash and Fed funds sold	\$ 294,471	\$	376	0.13 %	\$	261,689	\$	585	0.22 %		
Securities ⁽¹⁾	103,592		3,071	2.96		98,938		3,103	3.14		
Loans:											
Commercial real estate	1,225,770		55,995	4.51		1,095,367		51,218	4.60		
Residential real estate	99,101		3,363	3.39		129,585		4,645	3.58		
Construction	97,163		3,780	3.84		97,230		4,262	4.31		
Commercial business	313,422		14,589	4.59		295,662		13,530	4.50		
Consumer	7,929		315	3.97		121		10	8.00		
Total loans	1,743,385		78,042	4.42		1,617,965		73,665	4.48		
Federal Home Loan Bank stock	4,156		88	2.12		7,625		346	4.53		
Total earning assets	2,145,604	\$	81,577	3.75 %		1,986,217	\$	77,699	3.85 %		
Other assets	120,955					125,261					
Total assets	\$ 2,266,559				\$	2,111,478					
		•									
Liabilities and shareholders' equity:											
Interest bearing liabilities:											
NOW	\$ 111,515	\$	198	0.18 %	\$	80,805	\$	141	0.17 %		
Money market	804,679		4,042	0.50		516,527		4,071	0.79		
Savings	175,629		413	0.23		169,763		1,368	0.81		
Time	 508,651		5,790	1.14		712,461		12,600	1.77		
Total interest bearing deposits	1,600,474		10,443	0.65		1,479,556		18,180	1.23		
Borrowed Money	 103,919		3,047	2.89		190,463		4,472	2.31		
Total interest bearing liabilities	1,704,393	\$	13,490	0.79 %		1,670,019	\$	22,652	1.36 %		
Noninterest bearing deposits	323,648					215,073					
Other liabilities	46,710					49,897					
Total liabilities	 2,074,751					1,934,989					
Shareholders' equity	191,808	_				176,489					
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$ 2,266,559				\$	2,111,478					
Net interest income ⁽²⁾		\$	68,087				\$	55,047			
Interest rate spread				2.96 %					2.49 %		
Net interest margin				3.17 %					2.77 %		

⁽¹⁾ Average balances and yields for securities are based on amortized cost.

The adjustment for securities and loans taxable equivalency amounted to \$201 thousand and \$212 thousand for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, respectively.

⁽³⁾ Yields are calculated using the contractual day count convention for each respective product type.