Bank of Utica (BKUT)

Updated August 12th, 2026, by Nikolaos Sismanis

Key Metrics

Current Price:	$690	**5 Year Annual Expected Total Return:**	10.4%	**Market Cap:**	$170 M
Fair Value Price:	$840	**5 Year Growth Estimate:**	4.0%	**Ex-Dividend Date:**	12/31/2026[1]
% Fair Value:	82%	**5 Year Valuation Multiple Estimate:**	4.0%	**Dividend Payment Date:**	01/20/2027
Dividend Yield:	2.8%	**5 Year Price Target**	$1,022	**Years Of Dividend Growth:**	31
Dividend Risk Score:	A	**Sector:**	Financials	**Rating:**	Hold

Overview & Current Events

Bank of Utica is a full-service commercial bank headquartered in Utica, New York, with its shares listed over-the-counter under the tickers BKUT and BKUTK. Founded in 1927, the bank offers a range of financial services, including commercial and consumer lending, residential mortgages, deposit services, and extensive investment activities. What sets Bank of Utica apart is its unusually large securities portfolio, which comprises the majority of its assets and reflects its focus on capital preservation, liquidity, and conservative balance sheet management. It has a market cap of $170 million.

On July 24th, 2026, Bank of Utica had filed its Q2 results for the period ending June 30th, 2026. For the quarter, the bank reported net interest income of $7.3 million, up from $6.7 million in Q1. Net interest margin improved to 2.02%, as the yield on earning assets increased to 4.01%, against a 1.99% funding cost. The bank also realized $24.9 million in securities gains, lifting quarterly net income to $24.0 million. BKUT does not disclose quarterly EPS. Total assets increased to $1.51 billion, including $1.28 billion of investment securities and $153.1 million of net loans. Deposits totaled $1.07 billion. Asset quality remained strong, with noncurrent loans representing 0.59% of total loans and no net charge-offs. Quarterly non-interest expense was $2.5 million, while the efficiency ratio remained exceptionally low at 33.36%. For FY2026, we expect EPS of $140.00.

Growth on a Per-Share Basis

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2031
EPS	---	---	---	$85.00	$97.00	$154.00	$46.00	$75.00	$80.00	$130.00	***$140.00***	***$170.33***
DPS	$13.25	$14.05	$14.70	$15.25	$16.00	$17.00	$17.75	$18.25	$18.75	19.25	***$19.50***	***$23.72***
Shares[2]	---	---	---	---	250.0	250.0	250.0	250.0	250.0	250.0	***250.0***	***250.0***

Bank of Utica's EPS in recent years has been highly influenced by the performance of its large securities portfolio rather than by its core lending and deposit operations. EPS rose from $85 in 2019 to $97 in 2020, driven by stable net interest income and solid gains on investment securities. The bank's conservative cost base and steady deposit growth also supported earnings in that period.

2021 was the standout year, with EPS rising to $154, mainly due to over $26 million in unrealized securities gains. This level was not sustainable because it reflected market-driven portfolio gains rather than core operating growth. In 2022, EPS fell sharply to $46, due to a tougher bond and equity market environment with lower unrealized gains on securities and rising funding costs. EPS rebounded to $75 in 2023, rose to $80 in 2024, and then increased sharply to $130 in 2025. The improvement in 2024 and 2025 reflected stronger earnings support from interest and dividend income, though this continued to be partly offset by higher interest expense as deposit costs remained elevated in a higher-rate environment. In 2025, results were also helped by a much larger contribution from net gains on investment securities, which became a far more significant driver of earnings than they had been in 2023 or 2024.

It's important to note that Bank of Utica's annual reports provide no meaningful management commentary or discussion of its results or any strategic initiatives. The lack of narrative context makes it difficult to assess the drivers of earnings

[1] Estimated dates based on past dividend dates.
[2] Share count is in millions.
Disclosure: This analyst has no position in the security discussed in this research report, and no plans to initiate one in the next 72 hours.

beyond what can be inferred from the financial statements. As a result, while EPS figures have been strong in absolute terms, they are heavily shaped by non-core, market-driven securities valuation swings rather than the consistent growth of the underlying banking franchise.

Regardless, we have embedded a 4% annual growth rate in EPS and the dividend moving forward, which we believe the bank can sustain. The fact that the bank has increased its dividend for 31 consecutive years, with the five- and 10-year average dividend growth rate standing at 2.8% and 4.2%, is a decent indicator for this forecast given the lack of data.

Valuation Analysis

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Now	2031
Avg. P/E	---	---	---	6.9	6.0	3.8	10.1	6.3	6.1	4.0	***4.9***	***6.0***
Avg. Yld.	2.8%	2.4%	2.5%	2.6%	2.7%	2.9%	3.8%	3.9%	3.8%	3.7%	***2.8%***	***2.3%***

Bank of Utica's consistently low P/E ratios reflect its OTC listing, limited liquidity, lack of management commentary, and general obscurity. These factors, rather than weak fundamentals, keep the stock's valuation multiples depressed despite what seems to be solid reported earnings. Still, we believe BKUT is too cheap today and maintain our fair multiple at 6x.

Safety, Quality, Competitive Advantage, & Recession Resiliency

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2031
Payout	---	---	---	18%	16%	11%	39%	24%	23%	15%	***14%***	***14%***

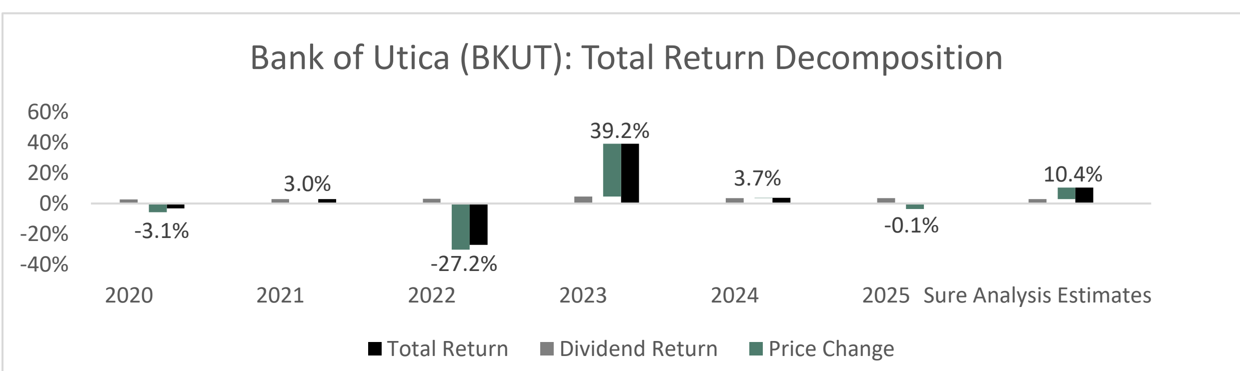
Bank of Utica offers little transparency or visibility, with no meaningful management commentary, strategic disclosures, or investor communication, which limits insight into its true safety, quality, or competitive positioning. The stock is also highly illiquid making it difficult for investors to enter or exit positions efficiently. There is no competitive advantage we can think of, and with limited data on operations beyond the balance sheet, it's challenging to assess how the bank differentiates itself beyond its securities portfolio.

That said, one major positive is Bank of Utica's remarkable 31-year track record of uninterrupted dividend growth. This consistent payout history, sustained through multiple economic cycles and downturns, demonstrates a level of financial strength, prudence, and resilience that few banks of any size can match. While much about the bank remains opaque, this dividend record speaks to its ability to navigate recessions and preserve shareholder value over the long term.

Final Thoughts & Recommendation

Bank of Utica is a conservatively run institution with a remarkable dividend growth record, but its lack of transparency, low liquidity, and reliance on securities gains make it difficult to assess or value with confidence. We forecast annualized returns of 10.4% over the medium term, powered by our growth estimates, the starting yield and potential valuation tailwinds. Shares earn a hold rating, but we warn against the disclosure challenges involved.

Total Return Breakdown by Year



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Income Statement Metrics

Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Revenue			35	40	57	23	33	34	46
SG&A Exp.			3	3	3	3	3	3	-
D&A Exp.			2	2	2	1	1	1	1
Net Profit			21	24	39	12	19	20	20
Net Margin			60.9%	61.0%	67.3%	49.7%	57.9%	58.7%	43.5%
Income Tax			5	6	9	2	5	5	5

Balance Sheet Metrics

Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total Assets			1,144	1,345	1,525	1,421	1,295	1,389	1,390
Cash & Equivalents			18	27	43	45	48	54	54
Total Liabilities			903	1,084	1,230	1,118	979	1,058	1,058
Accounts Payable			1	1	1	1	1	2	-
Shareholder's Equity			241	262	296	303	316	331	331

Profitability & Per Share Metrics

Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Return on Assets									1.5%
Return on Equity									6.2%
ROIC									6.2%
Shares Out.									0.25
Revenue/Share									182.34
FCF/Share									

Note: All figures in millions of U.S. Dollars unless per share or indicated otherwise.