# AUDIT REPORT

# JANUARY 1, 2018 - DECEMBER 31, 2019

Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc. 1100 Brandywine Blvd. Building G Zanesville, Ohio 43701



88 East Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215 IPAReport@ohioauditor.gov (800) 282-0370

Township Trustees Monroe Township 12345 Ash Road Newcomerstown, Ohio 43832

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditors' Report* of Monroe Township, Guernsey County, prepared by Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2019. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. Monroe Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

athe tolu

Keith Faber Auditor of State Columbus, Ohio

September 3, 2020

This page intentionally left blank.

# MONROE TOWNSHIP GUERNSEY COUNTY JANUARY 1, 2018 - DECEMBER 31, 2019

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents	(i)
Independent Auditors' Report	1-2
Financial Statements	
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances - All Governmental Fund Types For the Year Ended December 31, 2019	3
2019 Notes to the Financial Statements	4
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances - All Governmental Fund Types For the Year Ended December 31, 2018	11
2018 Notes to the Financial Statements	12
Independent Auditors' Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting Based on an Audit of Financial Statement Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards.	18
Schedule of Audit Findings	20
Schedule of Prior Audit Findings	26

This page intentionally left blank.

# WILSON, PHILLIPS & AGIN, CPA'S, INC. 1100 BRANDYWINE BLVD. BUILDING G ZANESVILLE, OHIO 43701

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

Monroe Township Guernsey County 12345 Ash Road Newcomerstown, Ohio 43832

To the Township Trustees:

#### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the cash balances, receipts and disbursements by fund type and related notes of the Monroe Township, Guernsey County, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018.

### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for preparing and fairly presenting these financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit; this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to opine on these financial statements based on our audit. We audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the financial audit standards in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require us to plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit requires obtaining evidence about financial statement amounts and disclosures. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including assessing the risks of material financial statement misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In assessing those risks, we consider internal control relevant to the Township's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not to the extent needed to opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, we express no opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of management's accounting policies and the reasonableness of their significant accounting estimates, as well as our evaluation of the overall financial statement presentation.

We believe the audit evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our audit opinion.

#### Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in Note 2 of the financial statements, the Township prepared these financial statements using the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D), which is an accounting basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, to satisfy these requirements.

Independent Auditors' Report Page Two

Although the effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory accounting basis and GAAP are not reasonably determinable, we presume they are material.

Though the Township does not intend these statements to conform to GAAP, auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America require us to include an adverse opinion on GAAP. However, the adverse opinion does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit. Our opinion on this accounting basis permitted is in the *Opinion on Regulatory Basis* of Accounting paragraph below.

## Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the *Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* paragraph, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of Monroe Township, Guernsey County as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, or changes in financial position thereof for the years then ended.

## **Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash balances, receipts and disbursements by fund type, and related notes of Monroe Township, Guernsey County as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, for the years then ended in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit, described in Note 2.

#### **Emphasis of Matter**

As discussed in Note 11 to the 2019 financial statements, during 2020, the impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Township. We did not modify our opinion regarding this matter.

#### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated July 10, 2020, on our consideration of Monroe Township's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. That report describes the scope of our internal control testing over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and does not opine on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc. Zanesville, Ohio July 10, 2020

## COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

Special Debt Capital (Me	Totals morandum Only) 84,484 900 129,662 10,331
Property and Other Local Taxes   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$   \$	900 129,662 10,331
Licenses, Permits and Fees   900   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   - <td< th=""><th>900 129,662 10,331</th></td<>	900 129,662 10,331
Intergovernmental   17,817   111,845   -   -     Special Assessments   -   -   10,331   -     Miscellaneous   989   2,700   -   -     Total Cash Receipts   71,175   147,560   10,331   -     Cash Disbursements:   -   21,000   -   -     Current:   -   21,000   -   -     Public Safety   -   21,000   -   -     Public Works   4,695   71,639   -   -     Health   64   -   -   -     Debt Service:   -   -   -   -     Principal Retirement   -   -   -   -     Interest and Fiscal Charges   -   -   2,828   -     Total Cash Disbursements   100,864   93,520   10,266   -	129,662 10,331
Special Assessments   -   10,331   -     Miscellaneous   989   2,700   -   -   -     Total Cash Receipts   71,175   147,560   10,331   -     Cash Disbursements:   71,175   147,560   10,331   -     Current:   91,595   881   -   -     General Government   91,595   881   -   -     Public Safety   -   21,000   -   -     Public Works   4,695   71,639   -   -     Health   64   -   -   -     Debt Service:   -   -   -   -     Principal Retirement   -   -   -   -     Interest and Fiscal Charges   -   -   -   2,828   -     Total Cash Disbursements   100,864   93,520   10,266   -	10,331
Miscellaneous     989     2,700     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -     -	
Total Cash Receipts   71,175   147,560   10,331   -     Cash Disbursements:   Current:   6   -   -   -     Qubic Safety   91,595   881   -   -   -     Public Safety   -   21,000   -   -   -     Public Works   4,695   71,639   -   -   -     Health   64   -   -   -   -     Oebt Service:   -   -   -   -   -     Principal Retirement   -   -   -   -   -     Interest and Fiscal Charges   -   -   2,828   -   -     Total Cash Disbursements   100,864   93,520   10,266   -   -	
Cash Disbursements:     Current:   General Government   91,595   881   -   -     Public Safety   -   21,000   -   -     Public Works   4,695   71,639   -   -     Health   64   -   -   -     Capital Outlay   4,510   -   -   -     Debt Service:   -   -   -   -     Principal Retirement   -   -   -   -     Interest and Fiscal Charges   -   -   2,828   -     Total Cash Disbursements   100,864   93,520   10,266   -	3,689
Current:   91,595   881   -   -     General Government   91,595   881   -   -     Public Safety   -   21,000   -   -     Public Works   4,695   71,639   -   -     Health   64   -   -   -     Capital Outlay   4,510   -   -   -     Debt Service:   -   -   -   -     Principal Retirement   -   -   7,438   -     Interest and Fiscal Charges   -   -   2,828   -     Total Cash Disbursements   100,864   93,520   10,266   -	229,066
General Government   91,595   881   -   -     Public Safety   -   21,000   -   -     Public Works   4,695   71,639   -   -     Health   64   -   -   -     Capital Outlay   4,510   -   -   -     Debt Service:   -   -   -   -     Principal Retirement   -   -   -   -     Interest and Fiscal Charges   -   -   2,828   -     Total Cash Disbursements   100,864   93,520   10,266   -	
Public Safety - 21,000 -   Public Works 4,695 71,639 -   Health 64 - -   Capital Outlay 4,510 - -   Debt Service: - - -   Principal Retirement - - -   Interest and Fiscal Charges - - 2,828   Total Cash Disbursements 100,864 93,520 10,266	
Public Works   4,695   71,639   -   -     Health   64   -   -   -     Capital Outlay   4,510   -   -   -     Debt Service:   -   -   -   -     Principal Retirement   -   -   -   -     Interest and Fiscal Charges   -   -   2,828   -     Total Cash Disbursements   100,864   93,520   10,266   -	92,476
Health   64   -   -   -     Capital Outlay   4,510   -   -   -     Debt Service:   -   -   -   -     Principal Retirement   -   -   7,438   -     Interest and Fiscal Charges   -   -   2,828   -     Total Cash Disbursements   100,864   93,520   10,266   -	21,000
Capital Outlay4,510Debt Service:Principal RetirementInterest and Fiscal Charges2,828-100,86493,52010,266	76,334
Debt Service:7,438-Principal Retirement2,828-Interest and Fiscal Charges2,828-Total Cash Disbursements100,86493,52010,266-	64
Principal Retirement - - 7,438 -   Interest and Fiscal Charges - - 2,828 -   Total Cash Disbursements 100,864 93,520 10,266 -	4,510
Interest and Fiscal Charges     -     2,828     -       Total Cash Disbursements     100,864     93,520     10,266     -	
Total Cash Disbursements     100,864     93,520     10,266     -	7,438
	2,828
Net Change in Fund Cash Balance (29,689) 54,040 65 -	204,650
	24,416
Fund Cash Balances, January 1     68,911     88,683     7,549     514	165,657
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	
Restricted - 142,723 7,614 514	150,851
Assigned 13,368	13,368
Unassigned (Deficit) 25,854	15,500
Fund Cash Balances, December 31     \$ 39,222     \$ 142,723     \$ 7,614     \$ 514     \$	25,854

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2019

## 1. REPORTING ENTITY

#### **Description of the Entity**

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Monroe Township, Guernsey County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publically-elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides general government services and road and bridge maintenance and cemetery maintenance. The Township contracts with the Antrim and Liberty Community Fire Departments to provide fire services and ambulance services.

The Township participates in the Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc. (the Plan), a risk sharing pool available to Ohio townships. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

The Township's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Township is financially accountable.

# 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### A. Basis of Presentation

The Township's financial statements consist of a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) for all governmental fund types and a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) for all proprietary and fiduciary fund types which are organized on a fund type basis.

#### **B.** Fund Accounting

The Township uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the Township are presented below:

#### **General Fund**

The General Fund accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund. The general fund balance is available to the Township for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

### **Special Revenue Funds**

These funds account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

**Gasoline Tax Fund** – This fund receives gasoline tax monies to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

**Road and Bridge Fund** – This fund receives property tax monies to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2019

#### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### **Debt Service Funds**

These funds account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for principal and interest. The Township had the following significant Debt Service Fund:

**Debt Service Fund** – The Township collects special assessment revenue to pay for debt incurred by the Township.

#### **Capital Projects Fund**

These funds account for receipts restricted, committed, or assigned for expenditure for capital outlay, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets. The Township had the following significant Capital Projects Fund:

**Public Works Fund** – This fund records Issue I activity passed through the County Engineers office for road projects.

#### C. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

#### **Appropriations**

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function and object level of control and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

#### **Estimated Resources**

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus unencumbered cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must approve estimated resources.

#### Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2019 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

#### **D.** Deposits and Investments

The Township's accounting basis includes investment as assets. This basis does not record disbursement for investment purchases or receipts for investment sales. This basis records gains or losses at the time of sale as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2019

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### E. Capital Assets

The Township records disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant and equipment when paid. The accompanying financial statements do not report these items as assets.

### F. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

### G. Fund Balance

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the Township must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources. The classifications are as follows:

#### Nonspendable

The Township classifies assets as *nonspendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact.

#### Restricted

Fund balance is *restricted* when constraints placed on the use of resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or is imposed by law through constitutional provisions.

#### Committed

Trustees can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Township must adhere to these commitments unless the Trustees amend the resolution. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed to satisfy contractual requirements.

#### Assigned

Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as *restricted* or *committed*. Governmental funds other than the general fund report all fund balances as *assigned* unless they are restricted or committed. In the general fund, *assigned* amounts represent intended uses established by Township Trustees or a Township official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute.

## Unassigned

Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not included in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2019

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

The Township applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

# 3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

		Budgeted		Actual					
Fund Type		Receipts		Receipts		Receipts	Variance		
General	\$	52,285	\$	71,175	\$	18,890			
Special Revenue		118,746		147,560		28,814			
Debt Service		10,331		10,331		-			
Total	\$	181,362	\$	229,066	\$	47,704			

Budgetary activity for the years ended December 31, 2019 follows:

20	)19 Budgeted vs	. Actual Budge	tary Basi	s Expenditures		
	Ар	propriation		Budgetary		
Fund Type	I	Authority Expenditures				Variance
General	\$	9,847	\$	114,232	\$	(104,385)
Special Revenue		13,150		108,997		(95,847)
Debt Service		-		10,266		(10,266)
Total	\$	22,997	\$	233,495	\$	(210,498)

Contrary to ORC 5705.38 (A), the Township passed permanent appropriations but did not file them with the County Auditor.

Contrary to ORC Section 5705.41(B), expenditures exceeded appropriations for all funds.

Contrary to ORC 5705.41(D), the Township made expenditures prior to certification.

# 4. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH

The Township maintains a deposit pool all funds use. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of deposits at December 31 was as follows:

	2019
Demand deposits	\$ 190,073
Total Deposits	\$ 190,073

**Deposits**: Deposits are either insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation or collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2019

## 5. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by Township Trustees. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include homestead and rollback amounts the State pays as intergovernmental receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the Township.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the Township.

## 6. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Government belongs to the Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc. (OPRM) – formerly known as the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan, (the "Plan"), a non-assessable, unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services to Ohio governments ("Members"). The Plan is legally separate from its member governments.

Pursuant to Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the plan provides property, liability, errors and omissions, law enforcement, automobile, excess liability, crime, surety and bond, inland marine and other coverages to its members sold through fourteen appointed independent agents in the State of Ohio.

OPRM coverage programs are developed specific to each member's risk management needs and the related premiums for coverage are determined through the application of uniform underwriting criteria addressing the member's exposure to loss. Effective November 1, 2017, the OPRM retained 47% of the premium and losses on the first \$250,000 casualty treaty and 30% of the first \$1,000,000 property treaty. The OPRM is also participated in a property primary excess of loss treaty. This treaty reimbursed the OPRM 30% for losses between \$200,000 and \$1,000,000. The reimbursement is based on the amount of loss between \$200,000 and \$1,000,000 casualty treaty. Members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts, which vary from member to member. Effective November 1, 2019, the OPRM's property retention increased from 30% to 33%, while the casualty treaty remains unchanged and still assumes 100% of the first \$250,000 casualty treaty. OPRM had 776 members as of December 31, 2019.

The Pool's audited financial statements conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and equity at December 31, 2019:

	2019
Assets	\$15,920,504
Liabilities	(11,329,011)
Retained Earnings	\$ 4,591,493

You can read the complete audited financial statements for OPRM at the Plan's website, www.ohioplan.org .

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2019

#### 7. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

The Township's full-time employees belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) of Ohio. OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes the plan benefits, which include postretirement healthcare, and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2019, OPERS members contributed 10.0% of their gross wages and the Township contributed an amount equal to 14.0% of participant's gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2019.

## 8. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

OPERS offers cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans, which include multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage, deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement and Medicare Part B premium reimbursements, to qualifying benefit recipients. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the traditional pension plan and combined plan was 0 percent during calendar year 2019. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent during calendar year 2019.

# 9. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2019 was as follows:

	Princi	pal	Interest rate
UDSA- Tractor and Mower	\$ 79	,562	3.25%
Total	\$ 79	,562	

The Township entered into a loan agreement in 2018 with USDA to fund the purchase of tractor and mower. It will be repaid from the Debt Service Fund over 10 years with an annual payment of \$10,266.

Amortization of the above debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

Year Ended	Tractor/
December 31	 Mower
2020	\$ 10,266
2021	10,266
2022	10,266
2023	10,266
2024	10,266
2025-2029	41,064
Total	\$ 92,394

#### **10. PUBLIC ENTITY RISK POOL**

The Township belongs to the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan (the Plan) an unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management plan. Member governments pay annual premiums to fund the Plan. The Plan pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims exceeding the member's deductible.

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2019

# **11. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

The United State and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Township. The impact on the Township's future operating costs, revenues, and any recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

## COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018

	Governmental Fund Types									
	(	General		Special Revenue		Debt Service		apital ojects	Totals (Memorandum Only)	
Cash Receipts:										
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$	47,140	\$	29,673	\$	-	\$	-	\$	76,813
Intergovernmental		16,266		128,659		-		-		144,925
Special Assessments		-		-		20,628		-		20,628
Miscellaneous		1,680		600		-		-		2,280
Total Cash Receipts		65,086		158,932		20,628		-		244,646
Cash Disbursements:										
Current:										
General Government		78,360		782		-		-		79,142
Public Safety		-		19,000		-		-		19,000
Public Works		4,275		208,123		-		806		213,204
Health		6,163		-		-		-		6,163
Debt Service:										
Principal Retirement		-		-		13,471		-		13,471
Interest and Fiscal Charges		-		-		258		-		258
Total Cash Disbursements		88,798		227,905		13,729		806		331,238
Excess of Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements		(23,712)		(68,973)		6,899		(806)		(86,592)
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)										
Sale of Bonds		-		87,000		-		-		87,000
Other Financing Sources		10,000		-		-		-		10,000
Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)		10,000		87,000		-		-		97,000
Net Change in Fund Cash Balance		(13,712)		18,027		6,899		(806)		10,408
Fund Cash Balances, January 1		82,623		70,656		650		1,320		155,249
Fund Cash Balances, December 31										
Restricted		-		88,683		7,549		514		96,746
Assigned		9,847		-		-		-		9,847
Unassigned (Deficit)		59,064		-		-		-		59,064
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$	68,911	\$	88,683	\$	7,549	\$	514	\$	165,657
,		· · · · ·								

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2018

## 1. REPORTING ENTITY

#### **Description of the Entity**

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Monroe Township, Guernsey County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publically-elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides general government services and road and bridge maintenance and cemetery maintenance. The Township contracts with the Antrim and Liberty Community Fire Departments to provide fire services and ambulance services.

The Township participates in the Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc. (the Plan), a risk sharing pool available to Ohio townships. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

The Township's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Township is financially accountable.

# 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### A. Basis of Presentation

The Township's financial statements consist of a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) for all governmental fund types and a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) for all proprietary and fiduciary fund types which are organized on a fund type basis.

#### **B.** Fund Accounting

The Township uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the Township are presented below:

#### **General Fund**

The General Fund accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund. The general fund balance is available to the Township for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

### **Special Revenue Funds**

These funds account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

**Gasoline Tax Fund** – This fund receives gasoline tax monies to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

**Road and Bridge Fund** – This fund receives property tax monies to pay for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Township roads.

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2018

#### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### **Debt Service Funds**

These funds account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for principal and interest. The Township had the following significant Debt Service Fund:

**Debt Service Fund** – The Township collects special assessment revenue to pay for debt incurred by the Township.

#### **Capital Projects Fund**

These funds account for receipts restricted, committed, or assigned for expenditure for capital outlay, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets. The Township had the following significant Capital Projects Fund:

**Public Works Fund** – This fund records Issue I activity passed through the County Engineers office for road projects.

#### C. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

### Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function and object level of control and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

## Estimated Resources

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus unencumbered cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must approve estimated resources.

#### Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2018 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

#### **D.** Deposits and Investments

The Township's accounting basis includes investment as assets. This basis does not record disbursement for investment purchases or receipts for investment sales. This basis records gains or losses at the time of sale as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2018

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### E. Capital Assets

The Township records disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant and equipment when paid. The accompanying financial statements do not report these items as assets.

# F. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

### G. Fund Balance

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the Township must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources. The classifications are as follows:

#### Nonspendable

The Township classifies assets as *nonspendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact.

#### Restricted

Fund balance is *restricted* when constraints placed on the use of resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or is imposed by law through constitutional provisions.

#### Committed

Trustees can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Township must adhere to these commitments unless the Trustees amend the resolution. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed to satisfy contractual requirements.

#### Assigned

Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as *restricted* or *committed*. Governmental funds other than the general fund report all fund balances as *assigned* unless they are restricted or committed. In the general fund, *assigned* amounts represent intended uses established by Township Trustees or a Township official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute.

## Unassigned

Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not included in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2018

## 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

The Township applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

# 3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

	2018 H	Budgeted vs. A	ctual Rece	ipts			
		Budgeted		Actual			
Fund Type		Receipts		Receipts	Variance		
General	\$	44,487	\$	75,086	\$	30,599	
Special Revenue		232,930		245,932		13,002	
Debt Service		24,060		20,628		(3,432)	
Total	\$	301,477	\$	341,646	\$	40,169	

Budgetary activity for the years ended December 31, 2018 follows:

	Ар	propriation		Budgetary	
Fund Type	I	Authority	E	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$	8,040	\$	98,645	\$ (90,605)
Special Revenue		10,585		241,055	(230,470)
Debt Service		-		13,729	(13,729)
Capital Projects		-		806	(806)
Total	\$	18,625	\$	354,235	\$ (335,610)

Contrary to ORC 5705.38 (A), the Township passed permanent appropriations but did not file them with the County Auditor.

Contrary to ORC Section 5705.41(B), expenditures exceeded appropriations for all funds.

Contrary to ORC 5705.41(D), the Township made expenditures prior to certification.

# 4. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH

The Township maintains a deposit pool all funds use. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of deposits at December 31 was as follows:

	 2018	
Demand deposits	\$ 165,657	_
Total Deposits	\$ 165,657	

**Deposits**: Deposits are either insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation or collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2018

## 5. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by Township Trustees. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include homestead and rollback amounts the State pays as intergovernmental receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the Township.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the Township.

## 6. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Government belongs to the Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc. (OPRM) – formerly known as the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan, (the "Plan"), a non-assessable, unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services to Ohio governments ("Members"). The Plan is legally separate from its member governments.

Pursuant to Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the plan provides property, liability, errors and omissions, law enforcement, automobile, excess liability, crime, surety and bond, inland marine and other coverages to its members sold through fourteen appointed independent agents in the State of Ohio.

OPRM coverage programs are developed specific to each member's risk management needs and the related premiums for coverage are determined through the application of uniform underwriting criteria addressing the member's exposure to loss. Effective November 1, 2016, the OPRM retained 50% of the premium and losses on the first \$250,000 casualty treaty and 30% of the first \$1,000,000 property treaty. Effective November 1, 2017, the OPRM retained 47% of the premium and losses on the first \$250,000 casualty treaty. Effective November 1, 2018, the OPRM the property retention remained unchanged, however, the Plan assumed 100% of the first \$250,000 casualty treaty. Members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts, which vary from member to member. OPRM had 774 members as of December 31, 2018.

The Pool's audited financial statements conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and equity at December 31, 2018:

	2018
Assets	\$15,065,412
Liabilities	(10,734,623)
Retained Earnings	\$ 4,330,789

You can read the complete audited financial statements for OPRM at the Plan's website, www.ohioplan.org.

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2018

#### 7. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

The Township's full-time employees belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) of Ohio. OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes the plan benefits, which include postretirement healthcare, and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2018, OPERS members contributed 10.0% of their gross wages and the Township contributed an amount equal to 14.0% of participant's gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2018.

## 8. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

OPERS offers cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans, which include multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage, deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement and Medicare Part B premium reimbursements, to qualifying benefit recipients. OPERS contributes 2 percent of the employer contribution to fund these benefits.

#### 9. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2018 was as follows:

	I	Principal	Interest rate
UDSA- Tractor and Mower	\$	87,000	3.25%
Total	\$	87,000	

The Township entered into a loan agreement in 2018 with USDA to fund the purchase of tractor and mower. It will be repaid from the Debt Service Fund over 10 years with an annual payment of \$10,266.

Amortization of the above debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

Year Ended	Tractor/		
December 31	Mower		
2019	\$ 10,266		
2020	10,266		
2021	10,266		
2022	10,266		
2023	10,266		
2024-2028	51,330		
Total	\$ 102,660		

#### **10. PUBLIC ENTITY RISK POOL**

The Township belongs to the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan (the Plan) an unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management plan. Member governments pay annual premiums to fund the Plan. The Plan pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims exceeding the member's deductible.

# WILSON, PHILLIPS & AGIN, CPA'S, INC. 1100 BRANDYWINE BLVD. BUILDING G ZANESVILLE, OHIO 43701

# INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS.

Monroe Township Guernsey County 12345 Ash Road Newcomerstown, Ohio 43832

To the Township Trustees:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards general accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of Monroe Township, Guernsey County as of and for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated July 10, 2020, wherein we noted the Township followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit.

## Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered Monroe Township's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures appropriate in the circumstances to the extent necessary to support our opinions on the financial statements, but not to the extent necessary to opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, we have not opined on it.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, when performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and timely correct misstatements. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of internal control deficiencies resulting in a reasonable possibility that internal control will not prevent or detect and timely correct a material misstatement of the Township's financial statements. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Therefore, unidentified material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings that we consider material weaknesses. We consider Findings 2019-001, 2019-002, 2019-003, 2019-004, 2019-006 and 2019-007 to be material weaknesses.

Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by Government Auditing Standards Page Two

# **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Monroe Township's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the determination of financial statement amounts. However, opining on compliance was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed five instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2019-001, 2019-002, 2019-003, 2019-004, and 2019-005.

# Purpose of this Report

This report only describes the scope of our internal control and compliance testing and our testing results, and does not opine on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Township's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc. Zanesville, Ohio July 10, 2020

## SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018

### FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS

#### FINDING NUMBER 2019-001

#### Noncompliance/ Material Weakness

Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.38(A) states on or about the first day of each fiscal year, the taxing authority of each subdivision or other taxing unit shall pass an appropriation measure, and thereafter during the year it may pass any supplemental appropriation measure as it finds necessary, based on the revised tax budget or the official certificate of estimated resources or amendments of the certificate.

If it desires to postpone the passage of the annual appropriation measure until an amended certificate is received based on the actual balances, it may pass a temporary appropriation measure for meeting the ordinary expenses of the taxing unit until no later than the first day of April of the current year, and the appropriations made in the temporary measure shall be chargeable to the appropriations in the annual appropriation measure for that fiscal year when passed.

Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.38 (C) states, in part, appropriation measures shall be classified so as to set forth separately the amounts appropriated for each office, department, and division, and within each, the amount appropriated for personal services.

The Township passed an annual appropriation measure for 2019 and 2018 but did not file the measure with the County Auditor.

We recommend the Township pass the appropriation resolutions on or about the first day of each year and document such approval in the minutes. The Fiscal Officer should then file the approved appropriation resolutions with the Guernsey County Auditor. Otherwise, the Township should not expend any money until appropriations are passed.

Client's Response: We did not receive a response from the client.

# FINDING NUMBER 2019-002

#### Noncompliance/ Material Weakness

Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(B) prohibits a subdivision or taxing unit from making any expenditures of money unless it has been appropriated.

The Township did not file permanent appropriations for 2019 and 2018. Therefore, expenditures for all funds exceeded appropriations.

We recommend the Trustees and the Fiscal Officer not make any expenditures until appropriations are adopted. Once appropriations are adopted, the Trustees and the Fiscal Officer should compare expenditures to appropriations on a monthly basis. If appropriations in addition to those already adopted will be needed, the Trustees should take the necessary steps to adopt additional appropriations, if possible, to prevent expenditures from exceeding appropriations or reduce spending. The Fiscal Officer should deny requests for payment when appropriations are not available.

## SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018

## FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS

#### FINDING NUMBER 2019-003

#### Noncompliance/ Material Weakness

Ohio Revised Code Section 505.24(D) provides that when township trustees' compensation consists of an annual salary to be paid in equal monthly payments, each trustee shall certify the percentage of time spent working on matters to be paid from the township general fund and from other township funds in such proportion as the kinds of services performed.

During 2019 and 2018, Trustees' were paid 90% from the Gasoline Tax Fund and 10% from the General Fund and did not prepare payroll certifications to certify their time. Salaries of \$25,272 for 2019, and \$25,272 for 2018 should have been taken out of the General Fund. Therefore, \$50,544 of salaries posted to the Gasoline Fund should not have been posted there based on certifications. The Township made the adjustment to the financial statement and accounting records.

We recommend that certifications be used every month by each Trustee to properly account for salaries and the correct posting of such salaries. We also recommend that certifications should match what was actually paid.

Client's Response: We did not receive a response from the client.

#### FINDING NUMBER 2019-004

#### Noncompliance/Material Weakness

Ohio Admin. Code Section 117-2-02 (A) states that all local public offices shall maintain an accounting system and accounting records sufficient to enable the public office to identify, assemble, analyze, classify, record and report its transaction, maintain accountability for the related assets (and liabilities, if generally accepted accounting principles apply), document compliance with finance-related legal and contractual requirements and prepare financial statements required by Ohio Admin. Code Section 117-2-03.

As a result of audit procedures, errors were noted that required reclassification and adjustment to the financial statements as follows which were agreed to by the Township and made to the financial statements and accounting records:

The following is related to 2019:

- Real Estate Tax revenue was recorded at net instead of gross which required an increase in Real Estate Taxes of \$1,683, \$265, and \$616 along with a corresponding increase to general government disbursements for the General Fund, Road and Bridge Fund and Fire Special Levy Fund, respectively.
- Intergovernmental Revenue was recorded in the amounts of \$2,661, \$463, and \$233 in the General Fund, Road and Bridge Fund and Fire Special Levy Fund, respectively due to not recording a rollback received from the Auditor of State that was direct deposited.
- Property and Other Local Taxes Receipts of \$3,355 in the General Fund were adjusted to Intergovernmental in the amounts of \$2,659, \$463, and \$233 for the General Fund, Road and Bridge Fund, and Fire Special Levy Fund, respectively.

# SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018

## FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS

## FINDING NUMBER 2019-004 (Continued)

- Licenses, Permits and Fees Receipts were reclassified to Intergovernmental in the amount of \$2,084 for the General Fund.
- Miscellaneous Receipts were reclassified to Special Assessments in the amount of \$10,331 for the Debt Service Fund.
- Principal Retirement was reclassified to Interest and Fiscal Charges in the amount of \$2,828 for the Debt Service Fund.
- Unassigned Fund Balance was reclassified to Assigned Fund Balance in the amount of \$13,368 for the General Fund for outstanding encumbrances.
- Committed Fund Balance was reclassified to Restricted Fund Balance in the amount of \$54,212 for the Gasoline Tax Fund.
- Assigned Fund Balance was reclassified to Restricted Fund Balance in the amount of \$3,520 for the Cemetery Fund.

The following is related to 2018:

- Real Estate Tax revenue was recorded at net instead of gross which required an increase in Real Estate Taxes of \$2,032, \$245, and \$537 along with a corresponding increase to general government disbursements for the General Fund, Road and Bridge Fund and Fire Special Levy Fund, respectively.
- Property and Other Local Taxes Receipts of \$4,032, \$620, and \$1,551 in the General Fund, Road and Bridge Fund and Fire Special Levy Fund were adjusted to Intergovernmental in the amounts of \$4,919, \$855, and \$429 for the General Fund, Road and Bridge Fund, and Fire Special Levy Fund, respectively.
- Intergovernmental Receipts were reclassified to Sale of Bonds in the amount of \$87,000 for the Road and Bridge Fund.
- Miscellaneous Receipts were reclassified to Special Assessments in the amount of \$20,628 for the Debt Service Fund.
- Principal Retirement was reclassified to Interest and Fiscal Charges in the amount of \$258 for the Debt Service Fund
- Unassigned Fund Balance was reclassified to Assigned Fund Balance in the amount of \$9,847 for the General Fund for outstanding encumbrances.
- Committed Fund Balance was reclassified to Restricted Fund Balance in the amount of \$30,892 for the Gasoline Tax Fund.
- Assigned Fund Balance was reclassified to Restricted Fund Balance in the amount of \$2,020 for the Cemetery Fund.

Sound financial reporting is the responsibility of the Township and is essential to help ensure the information provided to the readers of financial statements is complete and accurate. To help ensure the Township's financial statements and notes to the financial statements are complete and accurate, the Township should adopt policies and procedures to identify and correct errors and omissions.

## SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018

### FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS

#### FINDING NUMBER 2019-005

#### **Noncompliance – Certification of Funds**

Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(D) prohibits a subdivision or taxing authority from making any contract or ordering any expenditure of money unless a certificate signed by the fiscal officer is attached thereto. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required to meet any such contract or expenditure has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury, or is in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance.

There are several exceptions to the standard requirement stated above that a fiscal officer's certificate must be obtained prior to a subdivision or taxing authority entering into a contract or order involving the expenditure of money. The main exceptions are: "then and now" certificates, blanket certificates and super blanket certificates, which are provided for in Sections 5705.41(D)(1) and 5705.41(D)(3), respectively, of the Ohio Revised Code.

- If the fiscal officer can certify that both at the time that the contract or order was made ("then") and at the time that the fiscal officer is completing the certification ("now"), that sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any previous encumbrance, the Township can authorize the drawing of a warrant for the payment of the amount due. The Township has 30 days from the receipt of the "then and now" certificate to approve payment by ordinance or resolution. Amounts less than \$3,000 may be paid by the fiscal officer without a resolution or ordinance upon completion of the "then and now" certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful. This does not eliminate any otherwise applicable requirement for approval of the expenditures by the Township.
- Blanket Certificates. Fiscal officers may prepare "blanket" certificates if the Township has approved their use and established maximum amounts.
- Super Blanket Certificates. The Township may also make expenditures and contracts for any amount from a specific line item appropriation account in a specified fund upon certification of the fiscal officer for most professional services, fuel, oil, food items, and any other specific recurring and reasonable predictable operation expense. This certification is not to extend beyond the current year. More than one so-called "super blanket" certificate may be outstanding at a particular time for any line item appropriation.

The Township did not certify the availability of funds prior to the purchase commitment for 19% of expenditures tested. For these items the Township also did not prepare blanket certificates, super blankets certificates or then and now certificates in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code. Failure to properly certify the availability of funds can result in overspending funds and negative cash fund balances.

We recommend the Township certify purchases to which Section 5705.41(D) applies. The most convenient certification method is to use purchase orders that include the certification language 5705.41(D) requires to authorize disbursements. The Fiscal Officer should sign the certification at the time the Township incurs a commitment and only when the requirements of 5705.41(D) are satisfied. The Fiscal Officer should post approved purchase commitments to the proper code, to reduce available appropriations.

# SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018

### FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS

#### FINDING NUMBER 2019-006

#### **Material Weakness – Bank Reconciliations**

In order to ensure the completeness over the Township's financial statements and reports, bank reconciliations should be performed on a monthly basis. The monthly bank reconciliation process should include the investigation and resolution of any variances between amounts reported by the bank and amounts posted to the Township's accounting system.

The Township's bank reconciliations during the audit period contained significant reconciling factors labeled as "other adjusting factors" in 2019 and 2018. The Fiscal Officer failed to follow up on these variances each month and, therefore, differences between the Township's bank balance and book balance accumulated. Through additional audit procedures, we noted these variances were a result of transactions processed by the bank which were not properly posted to the Township's accounting system. In addition, we noted outstanding checks were included on the Township's outstanding check listing which were dated as far back as 2011.

The failure to investigate and identify variances and old reconciling items as part of the monthly reconciliation process could result in errors and/or irregularities occurring and remaining undetected. This also results in monthly financial reports being misleading due to these reports, including the incorrect balances for each fund. During the current audit period, this resulted in significant audit adjustments being made to the Township's financial statements and also resulted in time spent by auditors in identifying and investigating these variances.

We recommend the Fiscal Officer perform bank reconciliations on a monthly basis. In order for the reconciliation process to be effective, variances should be promptly investigated and corrected as part of the reconciliation process. In addition, we recommend the Board of Trustees review the Township's bank reconciliations each month to monitor for unusual items and to ensure variances are corrected on a timely basis.

## SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018

### FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS

#### FINDING NUMBER 2019-007

# **Material Weakness**

The Township should have internal controls in place to reasonably assure that budgetary accounts are integrated into the financial accounting system. This means designing an accounting system to provide ongoing and timely information on unrealized budgetary receipts and disbursements.

The Township does enter budgetary data for estimated receipts and expenditures. However, the amounts entered do not agree with the Official Certificate of Estimated Resources or approved appropriations. This can lead to decisions being made on faulty budgetary data and can lead to overspending and creating a negative fund balance if not monitored.

We recommend that the Township post the approved appropriations and official certificate of estimated resources to the UAN system around the first of each year. Then any amendments to those official documents be posted to the system upon approval. This will lead to correct budgetary information and Township decisions can be made on accurate data.

# SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; Explain:
2017-001	Material Weakness Noncompliance ORC OAC 117-2-02(A) Reclassifications	No	Not Corrected: Cited in current report as finding 2019-004
2017-002	Noncompliance ORC 5705.41(D) expenditures made prior to certification	No	Not Corrected: Cited in current report as finding 2019-005



# **MONROE TOWNSHIP**

# **GUERNSEY COUNTY**

# AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report, which is required to be filed pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in the Office of the Ohio Auditor of State in Columbus, Ohio.



Certified for Release 9/15/2020

88 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215 Phone: 614-466-4514 or 800-282-0370