



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



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One Government Center, Suite 1420
Toledo, Ohio 43604-2246
(419) 245-2811 or (800) 443-9276
NorthwestRegion@ohioauditor.gov

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Salem Township
Ottawa County
11650 West Portage River South Road
P.O. Box 417
Oak Harbor, Ohio 43449-0417

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by the Board of Trustees and the management of Salem Township, Ottawa County, Ohio (the Township) on the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the Township's cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 and certain compliance requirements related to those transactions and balances, included in the information provided to us by the management of the Township. The Township is responsible for the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances included in the information provided to us by the Township. The sufficiency of the procedures is solely the responsibility of the parties specified in this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

This report only describes exceptions exceeding \$10.

Cash and Investments

1. We recalculated the December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2018 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We agreed the January 1, 2018 beginning fund balances recorded in the Fund Ledger Report to the December 31, 2017 balances in the prior year documentation in the prior year Agreed-Upon Procedures working papers. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the January 1, 2019 beginning fund balances recorded in the Fund Ledger Report to the December 31, 2018 balances in the Fund Ledger Report. We found no exceptions.
3. We agreed the totals per the bank reconciliations to the total of the December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2018 fund cash balances reported in the Fund Status Report and the financial statements filed by the Township in the Hinkle System. The amounts agreed.
4. We confirmed the December 31, 2019 bank account balances for the Township through the Ohio Pooled Collateral System. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the confirmed balances to the amounts appearing in the December 31, 2019 bank reconciliation without exception.

5. We selected five reconciling debits (such as outstanding checks) from the December 31, 2019 bank reconciliation:
 - a. We traced each debit to the subsequent January bank statement. We found no exceptions.
 - b. We traced the amounts and dates to the Check Register Report, to determine the debits were dated prior to December 31. There were no exceptions.
6. We inspected investments held at December 31, 2019 and December 31, 2018 to determine that they:
 - a. Were of a type authorized by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 135.13, 135.14 or 135.144. We found no exceptions.
 - b. Mature within the prescribed time limits noted in Ohio Rev. Code Section 135.13 or 135.14. We noted no exceptions.

Property Taxes and Intergovernmental Cash Receipts

1. We selected a total of five receipts from the *Statement of Semiannual Apportionment of Taxes*, State Distribution Transaction Lists (DTL), and the Ottawa County Auditor Local Government Confirmation for 2019 and a total of five from 2018:
 - a. We compared the amount from the above named reports to the amount recorded in the Receipt Detail Report. The amounts agreed.
 - b. We inspected the Receipt Detail Report to determine these receipts were allocated to the proper funds as required by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.05-.06 and 5705.10. We found no exceptions.
 - c. We inspected the Receipt Detail Report to determine whether the receipt was recorded in the proper year. The receipt was recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.
2. We inspected the Receipt Detail Report to determine whether it included two real estate tax receipts for 2019 and 2018. The Receipt Detail Report included the proper number of tax receipts for each year.

Over-The-Counter Cash Receipts

We selected ten over-the-counter cash receipts from the year ended December 31, 2019 and ten over-the-counter cash receipts from the year ended December 31, 2018 recorded in the duplicate cash receipts book and:

- a. Agreed the receipt amount to the amount recorded in the Receipt Detail Report. The amounts agreed.
- b. Confirmed the amounts charged complied with rates in force during the period. We found no exceptions.

- c. Inspected the Receipt Detail Report to determine the receipt was posted to the proper funds, and was recorded in the proper year. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.10(F) requires revenue received from the sale of a permanent improvement to be paid into the sinking fund, the bond retirement fund, or a special fund for the construction or acquisition of permanent improvements. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.01(E) defines "permanent improvement" or "improvement" to mean "any property, asset, or improvement with an estimated life or usefulness of five years or more, including land and interests therein, and reconstructions, enlargements, and extensions thereof having an estimated life or usefulness of five years or more." We found two receipts in the amounts of \$16,300 and \$610 for the sale of permanent improvements recorded in the Road and Bridge Fund that should have been recorded in a capital projects fund. The Township purchased other permanent improvements from the sale of the permanent improvements, which also should have been recorded in a capital projects fund. Because the Township purchased other permanent improvements with these receipts, there is no effect on ending fund balances. However, because we did not inspect all receipts, our report provides no assurance regarding whether or not other similar errors occurred. The Township should implement controls to help ensure receipts are recorded in the proper funds.

Debt

1. The prior agreed-upon procedures documentation disclosed no debt outstanding as of December 31, 2017.
2. We inquired of management, and inspected the Receipt Detail Report and Payment Register Detail Report for evidence of debt issued during 2019 or 2018 or debt payment activity during 2019 or 2018. There were no new debt issuances, nor any debt payment activity during 2019 or 2018.

Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. We selected one payroll check for five employees from 2019 and one payroll check for five employees from 2018 from the Wages and Overtime Detail Report and:
 - a. We compared the hours and pay rate, or salary recorded in the Wages and Overtime Detail Report to supporting documentation (timecard, legislatively or statutorily-approved rate or salary). We found no exceptions.
 - b. We inspected the fund and account codes to which the check was posted to determine the posting was reasonable based on the employee's duties as documented in the employee's personnel files. We also confirmed the payment was posted to the proper year. We found no exceptions.
2. We inspected the last remittance of tax and retirement withholdings for the year ended December 31, 2019 to confirm remittances were timely paid, and if the amounts paid agreed to the amounts withheld, plus the employer's share where applicable, during the final withholding period of 2019. We observed the following:

Withholding (plus employer share, where applicable)	Date Due	Date Paid	Amount Due	Amount Paid
Federal income taxes and Medicare	January 31, 2020	December 31, 2019	\$3,392	\$3,392
State income taxes	January 15, 2020	December 31, 2019	534	534
Local income tax	January 30, 2020	December 31, 2019	97	97
OPERS retirement	January 30, 2020	December 31, 2019	4,116	4,116

3. We compared total gross pay for the Fiscal Officer and each Board member for 2019 and 2018 to the compensation permitted by Ohio Rev. Code Sections 507.09 and 505.24, respectively. We found no exceptions.
4. We inquired of management and inspected the Payment Register Detail Report for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 to determine if Township employees and/or Trustees were reimbursed for out-of-pocket insurance premiums. No such reimbursements occurred.

Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements

We selected ten disbursements from the Payment Register Detail Report for the year ended December 31, 2019 and ten from the year ended December 31, 2018 and determined whether:

- a. The disbursements were for a proper public purpose. We found no exceptions.
- b. The check number, date, payee name and amount recorded on the returned, canceled check agreed to the check number, date, payee name and amount recorded in the Payment Register Detail Report and to the names and amounts on the supporting invoices. We found no exceptions.
- c. The payment was posted to a fund consistent with the restricted purpose for which the fund's cash can be used. We found no exceptions.
- d. The Fiscal Officer certified disbursements requiring certification or issued a *Then and Now Certificate*, as required by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D). We found three instances where the certification date was after the vendor invoice date, and there was also no evidence that a *Then and Now Certificate* was issued. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D) requires certifying at the time of a commitment, which should be on or before the invoice date, unless a *Then and Now Certificate* is used. Because we did not inspect all disbursements requiring certification, our report provides no assurance whether or not additional similar errors occurred.

Compliance – Budgetary

1. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(B) prohibits expenditures (disbursements plus certified commitments) from exceeding appropriations. We compared total expenditures to total approved appropriations (Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.38 and 5705.40) plus any carryover appropriations for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 for the General, Motor Vehicle License Tax, and Gasoline Tax funds. There were no funds for which expenditures exceeded appropriations.
2. We inspected the 2019 and 2018 Revenue Status Reports and Appropriation Status Reports for evidence of interfund transfers which Ohio Rev. Code Sections 5705.14 - .16 restrict. We found no evidence of transfers these Sections prohibit, or for which Section 5705.16 would require approval by the Tax Commissioner.

3. We inspected the Cash Summary by Fund Report for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 for negative cash fund balances. Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.10(I) provides that money paid into a fund must be used for the purposes for which such fund is established. As a result, a negative fund cash balance indicates that money from one fund was used to cover the expenses of another. We noted no funds having a negative cash fund balance.

Sunshine Law Compliance

1. We obtained and inspected the Township's Public Records Policy to determine the policy did not limit the number of responses that may be made to a particular person, limit the number of responses during a specified period of time, or establish a fixed period of time before it will respond unless that period is less than eight hours. We found no exceptions.
2. We inquired with Township management and determined that the Township did not have any completed public records requests during the engagement period.
3. We inquired with Township management and determined that the Township did not have any denied public records requests during the engagement period.
4. We inquired with Township management and determined that the Township did not have any public records requests with redactions during the engagement period.
5. We inquired with Township management and determined that the Township did not have a records retention policy during the engagement period and therefore could not make it readily available to the public.
6. We inspected written evidence that the Public Records Policy was provided to the records custodian/manager. We found no exceptions.
7. We inspected the Township's policy manual and determined the Public Records Policy was included. We found no exceptions.
8. We inquired whether the Township's poster describing its Public Records Policy was displayed conspicuously in all branches of the Township. We found no exceptions.
9. We inquired with Township's management and determined that the Township did not have any applications for record disposal submitted to the Records Commission during the engagement period.
10. We inspected individual training certificates and determined whether each elected official (or his/her designee) successfully attended a certified three-hour Public Records Training for each term of office. We found no exceptions.
11. We inspected the public notices for the public meetings held during the engagement period and determined the Township notified the general public and news media of when and where meetings during the engagement period are to be held. We found no exceptions.

12. We inspected the minutes of public meetings during the engagement period and determined whether they were:
- a. Prepared - a file is created following the date of the meeting.
 - b. Filed - placed with similar documents in an organized manner.
 - c. Maintained - retained, at a minimum, for the engagement period.
 - d. Open to public inspection - available for public viewing or request.

We found no exceptions.

13. We inspected the minutes from the engagement period and determined the following:
- a. Executive sessions were only held at regular or special meetings.
 - b. The purpose for the meetings and going into an executive session (when applicable) correlated with one of the matters listed in Ohio Rev. Code Section 121.22(G).
 - c. Formal governing board actions were adopted in open meetings.

We found no exceptions.

Other Compliance

1. Ohio Rev. Code Section 117.38 requires townships to file their financial information in the Hinkle System within 60 days after the close of the fiscal year. This statute also permits the Auditor of State to extend the deadline for filing a financial report and establish terms and conditions for any such extension. Auditor of State established policies regarding the filing of complete financial statements, as defined in AOS Bulletin 2015-007 in the Hinkle System. We confirmed the Township filed its complete financial statements, as defined by AOS Bulletin 2015-007 and Auditor of State established policy, within the allotted timeframe for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 in the Hinkle System. There were no exceptions.
2. For all credit card accounts we obtained:
 - a list of authorized users, and
 - a list of all credit card account transactions.
 - a. We selected one credit card transaction from each credit card account for testing. For selected transactions we inspected documentation to determine that each transaction was supported with original invoices and for a proper public purpose. We found no exceptions.

- b. We selected three credit card statements from each credit card account for testing. For selected statements we inspected documentation to determine that:
 - i. No unpaid beginning balance was carried forward to the current billing cycle,
 - ii. Ending statement balance was paid in full, and
 - iii. Statement contained no interest or late fees.

We found no exceptions.

This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants attestation standards and applicable attestation engagement standards included in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. We were not engaged to, and did not conduct an examination or review, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on the Township's receipts, disbursements, balances and compliance with certain laws and regulations. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is to provide assistance in the evaluation of the Township's receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in their cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances and is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State

Columbus, Ohio

April 27, 2020

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



SALEM TOWNSHIP

OTTAWA COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

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

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

**CERTIFIED
MAY 21, 2020**