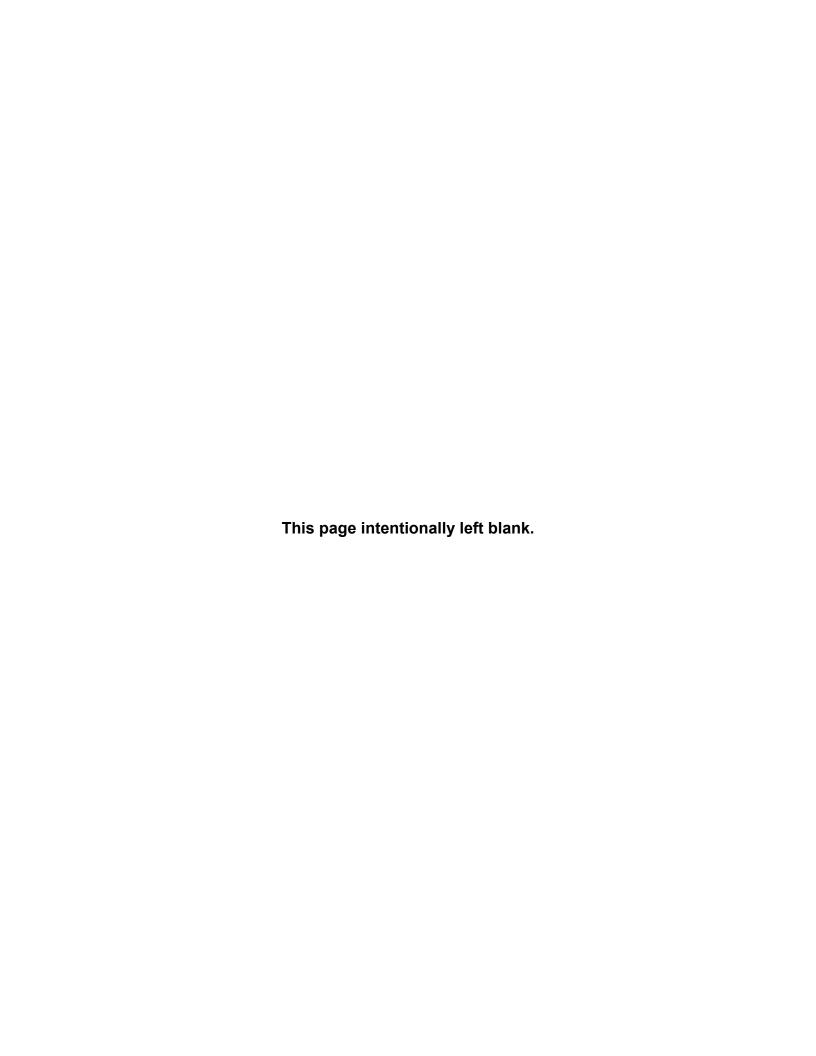




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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Village of New Franklin Summit County 5853 Regay Drive Akron, Ohio 44319

To the Village Council:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Village of New Franklin, Summit County, Ohio, (the Village) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Village's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 1, the Village prepares its financial statements on the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances and reserves for encumbrances of the Village as of December 31, 2003 and 2002, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 14, 2004 on our consideration of the Village's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

Village of New Franklin Summit County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

Butty Montgomery

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, Village Council and other officials authorized to receive this report under § 117.26, Ohio Revised Code, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

May 14, 2004

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

	Governmental Fund Types		Totala
	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts: Intergovernmental Receipts Charges for Services Fines, Licenses, and Permits Earnings on Investments	\$2,259 9,694 1,796 84	\$4,551	\$6,810 9,694 1,796 84
Total Cash Receipts	13,833	4,551	18,384
Cash Disbursements: Current: Public Health Services Transportation General Government	6,199	3,395 606	3,395 606 6,199
Total Cash Disbursements	6,199	4,001	10,200
Total Cash Receipts Over Cash Disbursements	7,634	550	8,184
Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements): Advances-In Advances-Out	550	(550)	550 (550)
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	550	(550)	0
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	8,184		8,184
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	35,989		35,989
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$44,173	\$0	\$44,173
Reserves for Encumbrances, December 31	\$650	\$0	\$650

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002

	Governmental Fund Types		Tatala
	General	Special Revenue	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts: Intergovernmental Receipts Charges for Services Fines, Licenses, and Permits Earnings on Investments	\$9,499 1,774 78	\$4,075	\$4,075 9,499 1,774 78
Total Cash Receipts	11,351	4,075	15,426
Cash Disbursements: Current: Public Health Services General Government	5,971	3,945	3,945 5,971
Total Cash Disbursements	5,971	3,945	9,916
Total Cash Receipts Over Cash Disbursements	5,380	130	5,510
Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements): Advances-In Advances-Out	680 (550)	550 (680)	1,230 (1,230)
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	130	(130)	0
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	5,510		5,510
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	30,479		30,479
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$35,989	\$0	\$35,989
Reserves for Encumbrances, December 31	\$1,002	\$1,300	\$2,302

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

The Village of New Franklin, Summit County, (the Village) is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Village is directed by a publicly-elected six-member Council. The Village provides general governmental services. The Village contracts with the Franklin Township to provide security of persons and property, zoning inspections, road maintenance, and emergency medical services.

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

B. Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

C. Fund Accounting

The Village uses fund accounting to segregate cash that is restricted as to its use. The Village classifies its funds into the following types:

1. General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

2. Special Revenue Fund

These funds are used to account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Village had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

Community Development Block Grant – Life Line Project Fund - This fund receives federal Community Development Block Grant monies passed through Summit County to provide emergency call buttons and supportive services to Village seniors with mobility and/or self-care limitations.

Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund -This fund receives permissive motor vehicle license taxes from the state to be used for the maintenance and repair of Village roads.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

D. Budgetary Process

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

1. Appropriations

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

2. 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 also approve estimated resources.

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Village to reserve (encumber) appropriations when commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be reappropriated. The Village did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2003 and 2002 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

E. Property, Plant and Equipment

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH

The Village maintains a cash pool used by all funds. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits. The carrying amount of cash at December 31 was as follows:

	2003	2002
Demand deposits	\$44,173	\$35,989

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2003 and 2002 follows:

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$0	\$14,383	\$14,383
Special Revenue	1,850	4,551	2,701
Total	\$1,850	\$18,934	\$17,084

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

		•	
	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$24,752	\$6,849	\$17,903
Special Revenue	0	4,551	(4,551)
Total	\$24,752	\$11,400	\$13,352

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$10,400	\$12,031	\$1,631
Special Revenue	0	4,625	4,625
Total	\$10,400	\$16,656	\$6,256

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Appropriation	Budgetary	
Authority	Expenditures	Variance
\$21,969	\$7,523	\$14,446
0	5,925	(5,925)
\$21,969	\$13,448	\$8,521
	Authority \$21,969 0	Authority Expenditures \$21,969 \$7,523 0 5,925

Contrary to Ohio law, budgetary expenditures exceeded appropriation authority in Special Revenue Community Development Block Grant Fund. Also contrary to Ohio law, the Village Treasurer did not certify funds prior to the Village incurring the expenditure.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk Pool Membership

The Village belongs to the Public Entities Pool of Ohio ("PEP"), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio local governments. PEP provides property and casualty insurance for its members. PEP is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP). Member governments pay annual contributions to fund PEP. PEP pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

4. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

Casualty Coverage

PEP retains casualty risks up to \$250,000 per claim, including loss adjustment expenses. Claims exceeding \$250,000 are reinsured with APEEP up to \$1,750,000 per claim and \$5,000,000 in the aggregate per year. Governments can elect additional coverage, from \$2,000,000 to \$10,000,000, from the General Reinsurance Corporation.

If losses exhaust PEP's retained earnings, APEEP covers PEP losses up to \$5,000,000 per year, subject to a per-claim limit of \$2,000,000.

Property Coverage

PEP retains property risks, including automobile physical damage, up to \$10,000 on any specific loss with an annual aggregate of \$700,000 for 2001 and \$1,250,000 for 2002. The Travelers Indemnity Company reinsures losses exceeding \$10,000 if the annual aggregate is reached and all specific losses exceeding \$100,000. APEEP's Operating Fund and Guarantee Fund pay for losses and loss adjustment expenses should they exceed operating contributions.

The aforementioned casualty and property reinsurance agreements do not discharge PEP's primary liability for claims payments on covered losses. Claims exceeding coverage limits are the obligation of the respective government.

Financial Position

PEP's financial statements (audited by other accountants) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2002 and 2001 (the latest information available):

Casualty Coverage	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
Assets	\$20,174,977	\$19,358,458
Liabilities	(8,550,749)	(8,827,588)
Retained earnings	<u>\$11,624,228</u>	<u>\$10,530,870</u>
Property Coverage	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
Assets	\$2,565,408	1,890,323
Liabilities	<u>(655,318)</u>	(469,100)
Retained earnings	<u>\$1,910,090</u>	\$1,421,223

5. MERGER

The Village and Franklin Township residents approved the merger of Franklin Township as part of the Village effective January 1, 2005.



INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Village of New Franklin Summit County 5853 Regay Drive Akron, Ohio 44319

To the Village Council:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Village of New Franklin, Summit County, Ohio, (the Village) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002, and have issued our report thereon dated May 14, 2004. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Village's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as items 2003-001 and 2003-002. We also noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Village in a separate letter dated May 14, 2004.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Village's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we noted other matters involving the internal control over financial reporting that do not require inclusion in this report, that we have reported to management of the Village in a separate letter dated May 14, 2004.

111 Second St., NW / Fourth Floor / Canton, OH 44702 Telephone: (330) 438-0617 (800) 443-9272 Fax: (330) 471-0001 www.auditor.state.oh.us Village of New Franklin Summit County Independent Accountants' Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Required by *Government Auditing Standards* Page 2

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management and Village Council, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

Butty Montgomery

May 14, 2004

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002

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

Noncompliance Citations

FINDING NUMBER 2003-001

Proper Certification of Funds

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D) states in part, that no subdivision or taxing unit shall make any contract or order any expenditure of money unless there is attached thereto a certificate of the fiscal officer of the subdivision that the amount required to meet the same has been lawfully appropriated for such purpose and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrances. Every such contract made without such a certificate shall be null and void and no warrant shall be issued in payment of any amount due thereon.

This section also provides two "exceptions" to the above requirements:

- A. Then and Now Certificate If no certificate is furnished as required, upon receipt of the fiscal officer's certificate that both at the time that the contract or order was made and at the time he is completing his certification a sufficient sum was appropriated and free of any previous encumbrances, Council may authorize the issuance of a warrant in payment of the amount due upon such contract or order by resolution within 30 days from the receipt of such certificate, if such expenditure is otherwise valid.
- B. If the amount involved is less than \$1,000 (which was increased to \$3,000 as of April 7, 2003), the fiscal officer may authorize it to be paid without the affirmation of the Council upon completion of the "then and now" certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful.

For 2003 and 2002, seven of the 32 expenditures tested (22%) were not certified by the Treasurer prior to incurring the commitment and the two exceptions noted above were not utilized. The Village should ensure the certification requirements are met and, as appropriate, implement the use of so called Then and Now Certificates and Blanket Certificates as further permitted by Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41.

FINDING NUMBER 2003-002

Expenditures Exceeding Appropriations

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(B) requires that no subdivision or taxing unit is to expend money unless it has been appropriated.

Twenty of the 32 expenditures tested (63%), during 2003 and 2002, had expenditures exceed appropriations at the time of the transaction. Sixteen of the 20 violations occurred in the Community Development Block Grant Fund, which had no approved appropriations during 2003 and 2002. The Treasurer should not approve expenditures which exceed appropriations. The Treasurer should frequently compare actual expenditures plus outstanding encumbrances to appropriations at the fund/account level to avoid overspending.

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002

Finding	Finding	Fully	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid;
Number	Summary	Corrected?	Explain:
2001-30977-001	Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(D)	No	Not Corrected. Comment will be placed in the Schedule of Findings as item 2003-001.



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VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN

SUMMIT 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.

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED JULY 8, 2004