

REGULAR AUDIT FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 - 2022



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Village Council Village of Hamler PO Box 435 Hamler, OH 43524

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Village of Hamler, Henry County, prepared by Perry & Associates, Certified Public Accountants, A.C., for the audit period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023. 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. The Village of Hamler is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Keith Faber Auditor of State Columbus, Ohio

September 09, 2024



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Village of Hamler Henry County 500 Hubbard Street Hamler, Ohio 43524

To the Village Council:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Unmodified and Adverse Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the Village of Hamler, Henry County, Ohio (the Village), which comprises the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental and proprietary fund type as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Unmodified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental and proprietary fund type as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, in accordance with the financial reporting provisions which Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C) permit, described in Note 2.

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* section of our report, the accompanying financial statements do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Village, as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, or the changes in financial position or, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the years then ended.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Village, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Marietta, OH St. Clairsville, OH Cambridge, OH Wheeling, WV Vienna, WV

Village of Hamler Henry County Independent Auditor's Report Page 2

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

As described in Note 2 of the financial statements, the financial statements are prepared by the Village on the basis of the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C), which is an accounting basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), to satisfy these requirements. The effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 2 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material and pervasive.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C) permit. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Village's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and the financial audit standards in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and Government Auditing Standards, we

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to
 fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures
 include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial
 statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures
 that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the
 effectiveness of the Village's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Village's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Village of Hamler Henry County Independent Auditor's Report Page 3

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 28, 2024, 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 grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Village's 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 Village's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Perry & Associates

Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

Lery Marcutes CABS A. C.

Marietta, Ohio

June 28, 2024

VILLAGE OF REPLACE TEMPLATE COUNTY

COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (REGULATORY CASH BASIS) ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

	General		Special Levenue	Combined Total	
Cash Receipts					
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$	8,345	\$ -	\$	8,345
Municipal Income Tax		145,952	-		145,952
Intergovernmental		22,404	60,410		82,814
Charges for Services		303	-		303
Fines, Licenses and Permits		3,162	-		3,162
Earnings on Investments		3,711	-		3,711
Miscellaneous		17,214	 		17,214
Total Cash Receipts		201,091	 60,410		261,501
Cash Disbursements					
Current: Security of Persons and Property		19,491			19,491
Public Health Services		765	-		765
Leisure Time Activities		131	_		131
Community Environment		8,521	_		8,521
Basic Utility Services		4,132	_		4,132
Transportation		77,453	16,247		93,700
General Government		75,869	10,247		75,869
Capital Outlay		70,005	18,022		18,022
Debt Service:			10,022		10,022
Principal Retirement		2,640	 		2,640
Total Cash Disbursements		189,002	 34,269		223,271
Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements		12,089	26,141		38,230
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)		(70)			(70)
Other Financing Uses		(73)	 		(73)
Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)		(73)			(73)
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances		12,016	26,141		38,157
Fund Cash Balances, January 1		791,403	 118,039		909,442
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$	803,419	\$ 144,180	\$	947,599

VILLAGE OF REPLACE TEMPLATE COUNTY

COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (REGULATORY CASH BASIS) PROPRIETARY FUND TYPE FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

	Proprietary Fund Type		
	E	nterprise	
Operating Cash Receipts			
Charges for Services	\$	433,393	
Miscellaneous		1,032	
Total Operating Cash Receipts		434,425	
Operating Cash Disbursements			
Personal Services		86,560	
Employee Fringe Benefits		16,479	
Contractual Services		278,978	
Supplies and Materials		43,086	
Other		424	
Total Operating Cash Disbursements		425,527	
Operating Income (Loss)		8,898	
Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)			
Intergovernmental Receipts		804,015	
Other Debt Proceeds		546,853	
Capital Outlay		(1,231,384)	
Principal Retirement		(123,929)	
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges		(34,700)	
Total Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)		(39,145)	
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances		(30,247)	
Fund Cash Balances, January 1		884,966	
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$	854,719	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

Note 1 - Reporting Entity

The Village of Hamler, Henry County, (the Village) as a body politic and corporate established to exercise rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. A publicly-elected six-member Council directs the Village. The Village provides water and sewer utilities, and police services through a police contract with the Village of Deshler. The Village contracts with Marion Township Fire Department on an 80%/20% contract to receive fire protection services. The Village appropriates General Fund money to support a volunteer fire department.

Public Entity Risk Pool

The Village participates in a public entity risk pool. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity. The Village's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Village is financially accountable.

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

The Village'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 fund types which are organized on a fund type basis.

Fund Accounting

The Village 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 Village 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 Village 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 Village had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

Street Construction, Maintenance, and Repair Fund – The street construction maintenance and repair fund accounts for and reports that portion of the State gasoline tax and motor vehicle license registration fees restricted for for construction, maintenance, and repair of streets within the Village.

State Highway Fund – The state highway fund accounts for and reports that portion of the gas tax and motor vehicle tax money for maintaining state highways within the village.

Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund – Permissive tax revenue is used for planning, constructing, improving, maintaining and repairing public streets and highways in the village.

Local Fiscal Recovery Fund – These are funds received as part of the American Rescue Plan to State, Local and Tribal Governments to support their response to and recovery from COVID-19.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 (Continued)

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Fund Accounting (Continued)

Enterprise Funds These funds account for operations that are similar to private business enterprises, where management intends to recover the significant costs of providing certain goods or services through user charges. The Village had the following significant Enterprise Funds:

Water Fund – The water fund accounts for the provision of water treatment and distribution to the residents and commercial users located within the Village.

Sewer Fund – The sewer fund accounts for the provision of sanitary sewer services to the residents and commercial users within the Village.

Enterprise Debt Service Fund - This fund accounts for a utility surcharge to be used to repay loans.

Enterprise Deposit Fund – This fund accounts for utility deposits received and applied or refunded to utility customers.

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (C). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Board recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements 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 the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (C) permit.

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 or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Village Council 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 Village to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over and need not be reappropriated.

A summary of 2023 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 (Continued)

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Deposits and Investments

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

Capital Assets

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

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.

Fund Balance

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

Nonspendable The Village classifies assets as *nonspendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact. For regulatory purposes nonspendable fund balance includes unclaimed monies that are required to be held for five years before they may be utilized by the Village and the nonexpendable portion of the corpus in permanent funds.

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 Council can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Village must adhere to these commitments unless the Council amends 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*. For regulatory purposes, assigned fund balance in the general fund is limited to encumbrances outstanding at year end.

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.

The Village 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.

For regulatory purposes, limited disclosure related to fund balance is included in Note 10.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 (Continued)

Note 3 - Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2023 follows:

2023 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	E	Budgeted		Actual				
Fund Type	Receipts		Receipts		Receipts Receipts		V	ariance
General	\$	193,100	\$	201,091	\$	7,991		
Special Revenue		59,379		60,410		1,031		
Enterprise		1,805,563		1,785,293		(20,270)		
Total	\$	2,058,042	\$	2,046,794	\$	(11,248)		

2023 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type	 Appropriation Budgetary Authority Expenditures		Variance		
General	\$ 275,790	\$	189,219	\$	86,571
Special Revenue	178,228		34,269		143,959
Enterprise	 1,896,816		1,815,757		81,059
Total	\$ 2,350,834	\$	2,039,245	\$	311,589

Note 4 - Deposits

To improve cash management, cash received by the Village is pooled. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits. A summary of the Village's deposit accounts are as follows:

	2023
Demand Deposits	\$ 1,607,682
Certificates of Deposit	194,636
Total Deposits	\$ 1,802,318

The Village does not use a separate payroll clearing account. The expenditures included in the accompanying financial statement reflect net payroll plus all remitted payroll withholdings. At December 31, 2023, the Village is holding \$2,526 in unremitted employee payroll withholdings.

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation; or collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Village.

Note 5 - Taxes

Property Taxes

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Council adopted tax rates. 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 (Continued)

Note 5 - Taxes (Continued)

Property Taxes (Continued)

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

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

Income Taxes

The Village levies a municipal income tax of one percent on substantially all earned income arising from employment, residency, or business activities within the Village as well as certain income of residents earned outside of the Village.

Employers within the Village withhold income tax on employee compensation and remit the tax to the Village either monthly or quarterly, as required. Corporations and other individual taxpayers pay estimated taxes quarterly and file a declaration annually.

Note 6 - Risk Management

The Village belongs to the Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc. (OPRM) (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.

Effective November 1, 2016, the OPRM elected to participate in a property loss corridor deductible. The property corridor includes losses paid between 70% and 75%. In 2018, the casualty loss corridor was eliminated and the property corridor was adjusted to losses paid between 65% and 70%. Effective November 1, 2019, the property loss corridor was adjusted to losses between 60% and 67.5% and has remain unchanged. OPRM had 773 members as of December 31, 2022.

The Pool's audited financial statements conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and equity at December 31, 2022 (latest information available):

Assets \$21,662,291 Liabilities (18,158,351) Members' Equity \$3,503,940

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 (Continued)

Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

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

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10%, of their gross salaries and the Village contributed an amount equaling 14%, of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2023.

Social Security

Other Village employees contributed to social Security. This plan provides retirement benefits, including survivor and disability benefits to participants.

Employees contributed 6.2 percent of their gross salaries. The Village contributed an amount equal to 6.2 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2023.

Note 8 - Postemployment Benefits

OPERS offers cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans. OPERS offers a health reimbursement arrangement (HRA) allowance to benefit recipients meeting certain age and service credit requirements. The HRA is an account funded by OPERS that provides tax-free reimbursement for qualified medical expenses such as monthly post-tax insurance premiums, deductibles, co-insurance, and co-pays incurred by eligible benefit recipients and their dependents. For calendar year 2023, the portion of OPERS employer contributions allocated to health care was 0 percent for members in the traditional pension plan and 2 percent for members in the combined plan. For 2023, the portion of employer contributions OPERS allocated to health care for members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent; however, a portion of the health care rate was funded with reserves.

Note 9 - Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2023 was as follows:

Principal	Interest Rate
\$ 25,842	0.00%
56,237	0.00%
6,600	0.00%
287,083	0.00%
37,091	0.00%
63,559	0.00%
1,141,256	1.02%
191,241	0.50%
1,116,193	1.41%
384,828	1.41%
563,018	0.00%
\$3,872,948	
	\$ 25,842 56,237 6,600 287,083 37,091 63,559 1,141,256 191,241 1,116,193 384,828 563,018

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 (Continued)

Note 9 - Debt (Continued)

The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) Loan CE18P relates to a Fire Hydrant Valve Replacement Project. The OPWC approved \$38,763 in an interest free loan to the Village for this project. The loan will be repaid in semi-annual installments of \$646 over 30 years. Payments are made from the Enterprise Debt Service Fund.

The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) Loan CE25Q relates to the Waterline Replacement Project Phase 1. The loan is an interest free loan. The loan will be repaid in semi-annual installments of \$1,278 over 30 years. Payments are made from the Enterprise Debt Service Fund.

The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) Loan CE28G relates to the Railroad Street drainage improvement project. The OPWC approved \$52,000 in an interest free loan to the Village for this project. The loan will be repaid in semi-annual installments of \$1,320 over 20 years. Payments are made from the General Fund.

The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) Loan CE45U relates to the Water Treatment Plant Replacement project. The OPWC approved \$325,000 in an interest free loan to the Village for this project. The loan will be repaid in semi-annual installments of \$5,417 over 30 years. Payments are made from the Enterprise Debt Service Fund.

The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) Loan #CE24T relates to a Joint Waterline Loop Extension & Meter project. This was a joint project with the Villages of Deshler and Malinta. Phase 1 of the project was completed in 2017 and will be repaid with annual payment to the Village of Deshler of \$1,514. This is 33% of the joint debt for 30 years beginning in 2018 with a maturity of 2048. The loan will be secured by the Village's water and sewer funds. Payments are made from the Enterprise Debt Service Fund.

The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) Loan CT19Y relates to the Sanitary Lagoon Improvements project. The OPWC approved \$131,250 in an interest free loan to the Village for this project. As of the end of December 31, 2023, only \$65,390 has been disbursed. The first portion of the loan initialization began in 2022 in the amount of \$36,637. This portion of the loan will be repaid in semi-annual installments of \$916 over 20 years. Payments are made from the Enterprise Debt Service Fund.

The Ohio Water Development Authority Loan 8186 relates to Water Treatment Plant Improvements. The loan will be repaid in semi-annual installments of \$24,629 over 30 years at a rate of 1.02%.

The Ohio Water Development Authority Loan 8630 relates to the Hubbard Street Watermain and Sanitary Sewer Extension. The loan will be repaid in semi-annual installments of \$5,874 over 20 years at a rate of 0.50%.

The Ohio Water Development Authority Loan 9392 relates to the refinance of the USDA-RD Loan Series 2005A. The loan will be repaid in semi-annual installments of \$29,594 over 23.5 years at a rate of 1.41%.

The Ohio Water Development Authority Loan 9407 relates to the refinance of the USDA-RD Loan Series 2005A. The loan will be repaid in semi-annual installments of \$10,203 over 23.5 years at a rate of 1.41%.

The Ohio Water Development Authority Loan 10058 relates to the Water Tower and Distribution System Improvements. Disbursements are not complete and no amortization schedule is yet available.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 (Continued)

Note 9 - Debt (Continued)

Amortization of the Village's debt, including principal and interest, is scheduled as follows:

Year ending December 31:	OPWC Loans	OWDA Loans
2024	\$ 20,667	\$ 140,601
2025	20,667	140,601
2026	19,347	140,601
2027	18,027	140,601
2028	18,027	140,601
2029-2033	90,137	703,004
2034-2038	90,137	703,004
2039-2043	88,305	667,759
2044-2048	66,092	405,478
2049-2053	16,252	 73,886
Total	\$ 447,658	\$ 3,256,136

Note 10 - Fund Balances

Included in fund balance are amounts the Village cannot spend, including the balance of unclaimed monies which cannot be spent for five years and the unexpendable corpus of the permanent funds. Encumbrances are commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting is utilized to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilitate effective cash planning and control. At year end the balances of these amounts were as follows:

Fund Balances	Ge	neral
Outstanding Encumbrances	\$	144
Total	\$	144_

The fund balance of special revenue funds is either restricted or committed. The fund balance of debt service funds and capital projects fund are restricted committed or assigned. The fund balance of permanent funds that is not part of the nonspendable corpus is either restricted or committed. These restricted, committed and assigned amounts in the special revenue, debt service, capital projects and permanent funds would include the outstanding encumbrances. In the general fund, outstanding encumbrances are considered assigned.

VILLAGE OF REPLACE TEMPLATE COUNTY

COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (REGULATORY CASH BASIS) ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

	(General	Special Revenue	Combined Total	
Cash Receipts Property and Other Local Taxes Municipal Income Tax Intergovernmental Fines, Licenses and Permits Earnings on Investments Miscellaneous	\$	16,068 152,706 27,426 3,325 4,308 604	\$ - - 191,520 - - -	\$	16,068 152,706 218,946 3,325 4,308 604
Total Cash Receipts		204,437	 191,520		395,957
Cash Disbursements Current: Security of Persons and Property Public Health Services Leisure Time Activities Community Environment Basic Utility Services Transportation General Government		24,584 1,714 2,310 3,073 3,892 71,040 88,250	- - - - 99,847 9,511		24,584 1,714 2,310 3,073 103,739 80,551 88,250
Capital Outlay Debt Service: Principal Retirement		- 2,640	54,511		54,511 2,640
Total Cash Disbursements		197,503	163,869		361,372
Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements		6,934	27,651		34,585
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements) Other Financing Uses		(188)	<u> </u>		(188)
Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)		(188)			(188)
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances		6,746	27,651		34,397
Fund Cash Balances, January 1		784,657	 90,388		875,045
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$	791,403	\$ 118,039	\$	909,442

VILLAGE OF REPLACE TEMPLATE COUNTY

COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (REGULATORY CASH BASIS) PROPRIETARY FUND TYPE FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

	Proprietary Fund Type	
Operating Cash Receipts		
Charges for Services	\$	434,522
Miscellaneous		107
Total Operating Cash Receipts		434,629
Operating Cash Disbursements		
Personal Services		82,950
Employee Fringe Benefits		16,012
Contractual Services		319,234
Supplies and Materials		32,901
Other		1,681
Total Operating Cash Disbursements		452,778
Operating Income (Loss)		(18,149)
Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)		
Intergovernmental Receipts		327,219
Other Debt Proceeds		176,760
Capital Outlay		(202,445)
Principal Retirement		(177,790)
Interest and Other Fiscal Charges		(33,510)
Total Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)		90,234
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances		72,085
Fund Cash Balances, January 1 (Restated - See Note 11)		812,881
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$	884,966

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

Note 1 - Reporting Entity

The Village of Hamler, Henry County, (the Village) as a body politic and corporate established to exercise rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. A publicly-elected six-member Council directs the Village. The Village provides water and sewer utilities, and police services through a police contract with the Village of Deshler. The Village contracts with Marion Township Fire Department on an 80%/20% contract to receive fire protection services. The Village appropriates General Fund money to support a volunteer fire department.

Public Entity Risk Pool

The Village participates in a public entity risk pool. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity. The Village's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Village is financially accountable.

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

The Village'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 fund types which are organized on a fund type basis.

Fund Accounting

The Village 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 Village 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 Village 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 Village had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

Street Construction, Maintenance, and Repair Fund – The street construction maintenance and repair fund accounts for and reports that portion of the State gasoline tax and motor vehicle license registration fees restricted for for construction, maintenance, and repair of streets within the Village.

State Highway Fund – The state highway fund accounts for and reports that portion of the gas tax and motor vehicle tax money for maintaining state highways within the village.

Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund – Permissive tax revenue is used for planning, constructing, improving, maintaining and repairing public streets and highways in the village.

Local Fiscal Recovery Fund – These are funds received as part of the American Rescue Plan to State, Local and Tribal Governments to support their response to and recovery from COVID-19.

Coronavirus Relief Fund – These are funds received as part of the American Rescue Plan to State, Local and Tribal Governments to support their response to and recovery from COVID-19.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 (Continued)

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Fund Accounting (Continued)

Enterprise Funds These funds account for operations that are similar to private business enterprises, where management intends to recover the significant costs of providing certain goods or services through user charges. The Village had the following significant Enterprise Funds:

Water Fund – The water fund accounts for the provision of water treatment and distribution to the residents and commercial users located within the Village.

Sewer Fund – The sewer fund accounts for the provision of sanitary sewer services to the residents and commercial users within the Village.

Utility Improvement Fund – The utility improvement fund accounts for loan proceeds from the Ohio Water Development Authority restricted to the utility plant expansion. A utility surcharge recorded in this fund will repay this loan.

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (C). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Board recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements 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 the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (C) permit.

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 or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Village Council 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 Village to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over and need not be reappropriated.

A summary of 2022 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 (Continued)

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Deposits and Investments

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

Capital Assets

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

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.

Fund Balance

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

Nonspendable The Village classifies assets as *nonspendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact. For regulatory purposes nonspendable fund balance includes unclaimed monies that are required to be held for five years before they may be utilized by the Village and the nonexpendable portion of the corpus in permanent funds.

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 Council can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The Village must adhere to these commitments unless the Council amends 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*. For regulatory purposes, assigned fund balance in the general fund is limited to encumbrances outstanding at year end.

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.

The Village 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.

For regulatory purposes, limited disclosure related to fund balance is included in Note 10.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 (Continued)

Note 3 - Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2022 follows:

2022 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

		Budgeted		Actual		
Fund Type	und Type Rec		ı	Receipts	V	ariance
General	\$	157,250	\$	204,437	\$	47,187
Special Revenue		167,865		191,520		23,655
Enterprise		929,373		938,608		9,235
Total	\$	1,254,488	\$	1,334,565	\$	80,077

2022 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type		Appropriation Authority		Budgetary Expenditures		Variance	
General	\$	229,867	\$	197,691	\$	32,176	
Special Revenue		211,984		163,869		48,115	
Enterprise		1,105,469		866,523		238,946	
Total	\$	1,547,320	\$	1,228,083	\$	319,237	

Note 4 - Deposits

To improve cash management, cash received by the Village is pooled. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits. A summary of the Village's deposit accounts are as follows:

	 2022
Demand Deposits	\$ 1,678,771
Certificates of Deposit	 115,637
Total Deposits	\$ 1,794,408

The Village does not use a separate payroll clearing account. The expenditures included in the accompanying financial statement reflect net payroll plus all remitted payroll withholdings. At December 31, 2022, the Village is holding \$0 in unremitted employee payroll withholding.

Deposits: Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation; or collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Village.

Note 5 - Taxes

Property Taxes

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Council adopted tax rates. 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 (Continued)

Note 5 - Taxes (Continued)

Property Taxes (Continued)

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

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

Income Taxes

The Village levies a municipal income tax of one percent on substantially all earned income arising from employment, residency, or business activities within the Village as well as certain income of residents earned outside of the Village.

Employers within the Village withhold income tax on employee compensation and remit the tax to the Village either monthly or quarterly, as required. Corporations and other individual taxpayers pay estimated taxes quarterly and file a declaration annually.

Note 6 - Risk Management

The Village belongs to the Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc. (OPRM) (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.

Effective November 1, 2016, the OPRM elected to participate in a property loss corridor deductible. The property corridor includes losses paid between 70% and 75%. In 2018, the casualty loss corridor was eliminated and the property corridor was adjusted to losses paid between 65% and 70%. Effective November 1, 2019, the property loss corridor was adjusted to losses between 60% and 67.5% and has remain unchanged. OPRM had 773 members as of December 31, 2022.

The Pool's audited financial statements conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and equity at December 31, 2022:

Assets \$21,662,291 Liabilities (18,158,351) Members' Equity \$3,503,940

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 (Continued)

Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

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

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10%, of their gross salaries and the Village contributed an amount equaling 14%, of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2022.

Social Security

Other Village employees contributed to social Security. This plan provides retirement benefits, including survivor and disability benefits to participants.

Employees contributed 6.2 percent of their gross salaries. The Village contributed an amount equal to 6.2 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2022.

Note 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 2022. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the Member Directed Plan was 4.0 percent during calendar year 2022.

Effective January 1, 2022, OPERS discontinued the group plans currently offered to non-Medicare retirees and re-employed retirees. Instead, eligible non-Medicare retirees will select an individual medical plan. OPERS will provide a subsidy or allowance via an HRA allowance to those retirees who meet health care eligibility requirements. Retirees will be able to seek reimbursement for plan premiums and other qualified medical expenses.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 (Continued)

Note 9 - Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2022 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
OPWC CE18P	\$ 27,134	0.00%
OPWC CE25Q	58,793	0.00%
OPWC CE28G	9,240	0.00%
OPWC CE45U	297,917	0.00%
OPWC CE24T	38,605	0.00%
OPWC CT19Y	65,390	0.00%
OWDA 8186	1,178,587	1.02%
OWDA 8630	201,993	0.50%
OWDA 9392	1,159,188	1.41%
OWDA 9407	399,652	1.41%
OWDA 10058	16,165	0.00%
Total	\$3,452,664	

The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) Loan CE18P relates to a Fire Hydrant Valve Replacement Project. The OPWC approved \$38,763 in an interest free loan to the Village for this project. The loan will be repaid in semi-annual installments of \$646 over 30 years. Payments are made from the Enterprise Debt Service Fund.

The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) Loan CE25Q relates to the Waterline Replacement Project Phase 1. The loan is an interest free loan. The loan will be repaid in semi-annual installments of \$1,278 over 30 years. Payments are made from the Enterprise Debt Service Fund.

The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) Loan CE28G relates to the Railroad Street drainage improvement project. The OPWC approved \$52,000 in an interest free loan to the Village for this project. The loan will be repaid in semi-annual installments of \$1,320 over 20 years. Payments are made from the General Fund.

The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) Loan CE45U relates to the Water Treatment Plant Replacement project. The OPWC approved \$325,000 in an interest free loan to the Village for this project. The loan will be repaid in semi-annual installments of \$5,417 over 30 years. Payments are made from the Enterprise Debt Service Fund.

The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) Loan #CE24T relates to a Joint Waterline Loop Extension & Meter project. This was a joint project with the Villages of Deshler and Malinta. Phase 1 of the project was completed in 2017 and will be repaid with annual payment to the Village of Deshler of \$1,514. This is 33% of the joint debt for 30 years beginning in 2018 with a maturity of 2048. The loan will be secured by the Village's water and sewer funds. Payments are made from the Enterprise Debt Service Fund.

The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) Loan CT19Y relates to the Sanitary Lagoon Improvements project. The OPWC approved \$131,250 in an interest free loan to the Village for this project. As of the end of December 31, 2022, only \$65,390 has been disbursed. The first portion of the loan initialization began in 2022 in the amount of \$36,637. This portion of the loan will be repaid in semi-annual installments of \$916 over 20 years. Payments are made from the Enterprise Debt Service Fund.

The Ohio Water Development Authority Loan 8186 relates to Water Treatment Plant Improvements. The loan will be repaid in semi-annual installments of \$24,629 over 30 years at a rate of 1.02%.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 (Continued)

Note 9 - Debt (Continued)

The Ohio Water Development Authority Loan 8630 relates to the Hubbard Street Watermain and Sanitary Sewer Extension. The loan will be repaid in semi-annual installments of \$5,874 over 20 years at a rate of 0.50%.

The Ohio Water Development Authority Loan 9392 relates to the refinance of the USDA-RD Loan Series 2005A. The loan will be repaid in semi-annual installments of \$29,594 over 23.5 years at a rate of 1.41%.

The Ohio Water Development Authority Loan 9407 relates to the refinance of the USDA-RD Loan Series 2005A. The loan will be repaid in semi-annual installments of \$10,203 over 23.5 years at a rate of 1.41%.

The Ohio Water Development Authority Loan 9588 related to the Water Tower Improvements Design. The loan was initialized in 2022 at an interest rate of 1.9%. This loan was repaid in 2022 with grant proceeds from OWDA 10058.

The Ohio Water Development Authority Loan 10058 relates to the Water Tower and Distribution System Improvements. Disbursements are not complete and no amortization schedule is yet available.

Amortization of the Village's debt, including principal and interest, is scheduled as follows:

Year ending		OPWC OWDA		OWDA
December 31:	Loans			Loans
2023	\$	20,667	\$	140,601
2024		20,667		140,601
2025		20,667		140,601
2026		19,347		140,601
2027		18,027		140,601
2028-2032		90,137		703,004
2033-2037		90,137		703,004
2038-2042		90,137		679,508
2043-2047		70,697		485,073
2048-2052		27,840		123,144
Total	\$	468,323	\$	3,396,738

Note 10 - Fund Balances

Included in fund balance are amounts the Village cannot spend, including the balance of unclaimed monies which cannot be spent for five years and the unexpendable corpus of the permanent funds. Encumbrances are commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting is utilized to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilitate effective cash planning and control. At year end the balances of these amounts were zero.

The fund balance of special revenue funds is either restricted or committed. The fund balance of debt service funds and capital projects fund are restricted committed or assigned. The fund balance of permanent funds that is not part of the nonspendable corpus is either restricted or committed. These restricted, committed and assigned amounts in the special revenue, debt service, capital projects and permanent funds would include the outstanding encumbrances. In the general fund, outstanding encumbrances are considered assigned.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 (Continued)

Note 11 - Restatement of Fund Balances

Beginning fund balance at January 1, 2022 was restated for the Village's Enterprise Funds due to the correction of a previous reconciliation error for the Village's Water Bill bank account.

		Enterprise		
Ending Fund Balance, December 31, 2021	\$	850,203		
Restatement Amount		(37,322)		
Beginning Fund Balance, January 1, 2022, Restated	\$	812,881		



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Village of Hamler Henry County 500 Hubbard Street Hamler, Ohio 43524

To the Village Council:

We have audited, in accordance with the 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 (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the cash balances, receipts, and disbursements for each governmental and proprietary fund type as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 and the related notes to the financial statements of the Village of Hamler, Henry County, (the Village) and have issued our report thereon dated June 28, 2024, wherein we noted the Village followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 and Ohio Admin. Code 117-2-03(C) permit.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Village's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Village's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Village's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Village's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. 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 of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We identified a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of audit findings as item 2023-001 that we consider to be a material weakness.

Marietta, OH St. Clairsville, OH Cambridge, OH Wheeling, WV Vienna, WV

Village of Hamler
Henry County
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over
Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters
Required by Government Auditing Standards
Page 2

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Village's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. 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 no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Village's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Village's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Perry and Associates

Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

ery Marcutes CANS A. C.

Marietta. Ohio

June 28, 2024

SCHEDULE OF AUDIT FINDINGS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

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

FINDING NUMBER 2023-001

Material Weakness

Financial Reporting

The Village should have procedures and controls in place to prevent and detect errors in financial reporting.

Receipts and disbursements were not always posted or classified correctly. The following errors were noted:

- A receipt for delinquent water and sewer utility receipts was incorrectly classified as Property and Other Local Taxes in the General Fund instead of Charges for Services in the Water and Sewer Funds in 2023;
- Some gasoline tax, auto license, and permissive MVL receipts were not allocated to the correct funds during 2023 and 2022;
- A receipt for rollback was incorrectly classified as Property and Other Local Taxes instead of Intergovernmental in the General Fund in 2022;
- OWDA loan and grant activity was not recorded as Intergovernmental, Other Debt Proceeds, and Capital Outlay disbursements in the Water Fund in 2023 and 2022;
- OWPC loan and grant activity was not correctly allocated in the Sewer Fund in 2022; and
- Grant receipts were incorrectly classified as Miscellaneous instead of Intergovernmental in the Sewer Fund in 2023 and 2022.

Not posting receipts and disbursements accurately resulted in the financial statements requiring several adjustments and reclassifications. The Village has made the adjustments to their accounting system. The financial statements reflect all adjustments and reclassifications.

To help ensure accuracy and reliability in the financial reporting process, we recommend that management perform a detailed review of its draft financial statements. Such review should include procedures to ensure that all sources of revenues and expenses are properly identified and classified on the financial statements.

We also recommend the Fiscal Officer refer to the Ohio Village Handbook for guidance to determine the proper establishment of receipt and disbursement accounts and posting of receipts and disbursements.

Management's Response – We did not receive a response from officials to this finding.

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2021-001	Financial Reporting	Not Corrected	Repeated as Finding 2023-001
2021-002	Bank Reconciliations	Partially Corrected	Moved to Management Letter
2021-003	ORC 5705.10	Corrected	N/A
2021-004	Budgetary Controls	Partially Corrected	Moved to Management Letter



VILLAGE OF HAMLER

HENRY 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 9/19/2024

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