

**VILLAGE OF UTICA**

**AUDIT REPORT**

**JANUARY 1, 2018 - DECEMBER 31, 2019**

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



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE  
KEITH FABER



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Village Council  
Village of Utica  
PO Box 524  
Utica, OH 43080

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

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keith Faber".

Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

June 26, 2020

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**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY  
JANUARY 1, 2018 - DECEMBER 31, 2019**

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

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

Village of Utica  
Licking County  
39 Spring Street  
Utica, Ohio 43080

To the Village Council:

**Report on the Financial Statements**

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

**Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

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

**Auditor's Responsibility**

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

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

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

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

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

Although the effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting and GAAP are not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material.

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

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

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

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

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

#### **Emphasis of Matter**

As discussed in Note 12 to the 2019 financial statements, during 2020, the impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Village. We did not modify our opinion regarding this matter.

#### **Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards**

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated May 8, 2020, on our consideration of the Village of Utica's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. That report describes the scope of our internal control testing over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and does not opine on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Village's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

***Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc.***  
Zanesville, Ohio  
May 8, 2020

**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

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

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		<b>Totals (Memorandum Only)</b>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
<b>Cash Receipts</b>			
Property Tax and Other Local Taxes	\$ 80,518	\$ 47,773	\$ 128,291
Municipal Income Tax	535,102	81,099	616,201
Intergovernmental Receipts	43,823	139,140	182,963
Charges for Services	19,399	9,025	28,424
Fines, Licenses, and Permits	49,801	1,786	51,587
Earnings on Investments	18,130	-	18,130
Miscellaneous	48,806	2,289	51,095
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>	<u>795,579</u>	<u>281,112</u>	<u>1,076,691</u>
<b>Cash Disbursements</b>			
Current:			
Security of Persons and Property	326,407	-	326,407
Public Health Services	6,344	-	6,344
Leisure Time Activities	8,997	-	8,997
Basic Utility Services	22,748	-	22,748
Transportation	-	217,731	217,731
General Government	526,802	4,104	530,906
Debt Service:			
Principal Retirement	8,819	2,129	10,948
Interest and Fiscal Charges	595	76	671
Capital Outlay	2,235	5,098	7,333
<b>Total Cash Disbursements</b>	<u>902,947</u>	<u>229,138</u>	<u>1,132,085</u>
<b>Net Change in Fund Cash Balance</b>	<u>(107,368)</u>	<u>51,974</u>	<u>(55,394)</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, January 1, 2019,</b>	<u>549,462</u>	<u>198,138</u>	<u>747,600</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31, 2019</b>			
Restricted	-	250,112	250,112
Unassigned (Deficit)	442,094	-	442,094
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31, 2019</b>	<u>\$ 442,094</u>	<u>\$ 250,112</u>	<u>\$ 692,206</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

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

	<u>Proprietary</u>	<u>Fiduciary</u>	<b>Totals (Memorandum Only)</b>
	<u>Enterprise</u>	<u>Agency</u>	
<b>Operating Cash Receipts:</b>			
Charges for Services	\$ 598,060	\$ -	\$ 598,060
<b>Total Operating Cash Receipts</b>	<u>598,060</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>598,060</u>
<b>Operating Cash Disbursements:</b>			
Personal Services	212,999	-	212,999
Fringe Benefits	73,670	-	73,670
Contractual Services	9,835	-	9,835
Supplies and Materials	147,939	-	147,939
Other	137,478	-	137,478
<b>Total Operating Cash Disbursements</b>	<u>581,921</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>581,921</u>
Operating Income/(Loss)	<u>16,139</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,139</u>
<b>Non-Operating Cash Receipts:</b>			
Fines and Fees Collected	-	59,833	59,833
<b>Total Non-Operating Cash Receipts</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,833</u>	<u>59,833</u>
<b>Non-Operating Cash Disbursements:</b>			
Fines and Fees Disbursed	-	59,833	59,833
Capital Outlay	4,434	-	4,434
Debt Service-Principal	48,073	-	48,073
Interest and Fiscal Charges	153	-	153
<b>Total Non-Operating Cash Disbursements</b>	<u>52,660</u>	<u>59,833</u>	<u>112,493</u>
<b>Net Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements</b>	(36,521)	-	(36,521)
<b>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</b>	<u>1,234,197</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,234,197</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	<u>\$ 1,197,676</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,197,676</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2019**

**1. REPORTING ENTITY**

**Description of the Entity**

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of the Village of Utica, Licking County, (the Village) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly-elected six-member Council directs the Village. The Village provides general government, including water and sewer utilities, street maintenance, park operations, police services and fire protection.

The Village participates in a public entity risk pool. Notes 7 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.

**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 balance (regulatory cash basis) for all governmental fund types, and a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balance (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:

**Governmental Funds**

**General Fund**

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

**Special Revenue Funds**

These funds are used to account for proceeds from specific sources that are restricted or committed to expenditures for specific purposes other than debt service or capital projects. The Village had the following significant Special Revenue Fund:

**Street Construction, Maintenance and Repair Fund** - This fund receives gasoline tax and motor vehicle license tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Village streets.

**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2019**

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

**Enterprise Funds**

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

**Water Fund** – This fund receives charges for services from residents to cover the cost of providing this utility.

**Sewer Fund** – This fund receives charges for services from residents to cover the cost of providing this utility.

**Fiduciary Funds**

Agency funds are purely custodial in nature and are used to hold resources for individuals, organizations or other governments. The Village disburses these funds as directed by the individual, organization or other government. The Village had the following significant Fiduciary Fund:

**Mayors Court Fund** - This fund receives fines and fees levied for traffic violations as prescribed by Village Ordinance. The funds are distributed to various agencies as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code.

***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 117-2-03(D). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Village 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 117-2-03(D) permit.

***Budgetary Process***

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund (except certain Agency Funds) 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. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Appropriations lapse at year end.

**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2019**

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

**Estimated Resources**

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus 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 commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over and need not be reappropriated in the subsequent year. The Village did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2019 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

***Deposits and Investments***

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

***Property, Plant, and Equipment***

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

***Accumulated Leave***

In certain circumstances, such as 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.

**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* via formal action (resolution). The Village must adhere to these commitments unless 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.

**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2019**

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

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

**Unassigned** – Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not contained 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 (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 classification could be used.

**3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY**

Budgetary activity for the year ended December 31, 2019 is as follows:

<b>2019 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts</b>			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 852,462	\$ 795,579	\$ (56,883)
Special Revenue	295,405	281,112	(14,293)
Enterprise	590,398	598,060	7,662
Total	\$ 1,738,265	\$ 1,674,751	\$ (63,514)

<b>2019 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures</b>			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 1,401,925	\$ 902,947	\$ 498,978
Special Revenue	493,545	229,138	264,407
Enterprise	1,824,592	634,581	1,190,011
Total	\$ 3,720,062	\$ 1,766,666	\$ 1,953,396

Contrary to ORC 5705.41(D), the Village made expenditures without prior certification.

**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2019**

**4. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS**

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

	<u>2019</u>
Demand Deposits	\$ 1,575,671
Certificates of Deposit	<u>314,211</u>
Total Deposits	<u>\$ 1,889,882</u>

**Deposits:** Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation; or collateralized by the financial institutions public entity deposit pool.

**5. PROPERTY TAX**

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Council adopted 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 make semiannual payment, the first half is due by December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

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

**6. LOCAL INCOME TAX**

The Village levies a municipal income tax of 1.75 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.

**7. RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Village belongs to the Ohio Municipal Joint Self-Insurance Pool, (the "Pool"), an unincorporated non-profit association available to municipal corporations and their instrumentalities. The Pool is a separate legal entity per Section 2744 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Pool provides property and casualty insurance for its members. The Pool pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting for covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

The Pool cedes portions of its gross contribution written to a reinsurer under excess reinsurance agreements in order to limit its losses. Treaty basis excess-of-loss contracts in force protect the Pool against losses over the retention level; at March 31, 2019, retention levels are \$50,000 and \$100,000 for property and casualty coverages, respectively.

The Pool remains liable to the extent the reinsuring companies are unable to meet their contractual obligations under reinsurance agreements.

**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2019**

**7. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)**

The Pool's financial statements (audited by other auditors) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and accumulated surplus at March 31, 2019.

Assets	\$ 1,582,183
Liabilities	<u>(1,087,219)</u>
Retained Earnings	<u>\$ 494,964</u>

**8. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN**

*Ohio Public Employees Retirement System*

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

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

*Ohio Police and Fire Retirement*

The Village's full-time police officers belong to the Police and Fire Pension Fund (OP&F). OP&F 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. OP&F participants, in 2019, contributed 12.25% of their wages. The Village contributed to OP&F an amount equal to 19.50% of full-time police officer's wages. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2019.

*Social Security*

Several 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, 2019.

**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2019**

**9. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS**

Both OPERS and OP&F offers cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans, which include multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage, deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement and Medicare Part B premium reimbursements, to qualifying benefit recipients. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the traditional pension plan and combined plan was 0 percent during calendar year 2019. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent during calendar year 2019, OP&F contributes 0.5 percent to fund these benefits.

Beginning January 1, 2019, OP&F changed its retiree health care model to a stipend-based health care model. A stipend funded by OP&F was placed in individual Health Reimbursement Accounts that retirees use to be reimbursed for health care expenses.

**10. DEBT**

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2019 was as follows:

	2019 Principal	%
Ohio Public Works Commission CQ36S	\$ 8,229	0.00
Ohio Public Works Commission CQ13H	28,200	0.00
Ohio Public Works Commission CT71N	502,255	0.00
Ohio Public Works Commission CQ19R	15,850	0.00
Police Cruiser Bonds	9,110	3.52
Total	\$ 563,644	

The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) loan CQ36S relates to the sanitary sewer improvements Phase 1 project. The loan will be repaid in semiannual installments of \$294, over 30 years. The loan is collateralized by water/sewer receipts. The Village has agreed to set utility rates sufficient to cover OPWC debt service requirements. This will be paid through the Enterprise Sewer Debt Service Fund.

The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) loan CQ13H relates to the influent pump. The loan will be repaid in semiannual installments of \$2,350, over 20 years. The loan is collateralized by water/sewer receipts. The Village has agreed to set utility rates sufficient to cover OPWC debt service requirements. This will be paid through the Enterprise Sewer Debt Service Fund.

The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) loan CT71N relates to the wastewater treatment facility improvements project. The loan will be repaid in semiannual installments of \$17,938 over 20 years. The loan is collateralized by water/sewer receipts. The Village has agreed to set utility rates sufficient to cover OPWC debt service requirements. This will be paid through the Enterprise Sewer Debt Service Fund.

The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) loan CQ19R relates to the improvements of Church, Maple, and Jefferson streets. The loan will be repaid in semiannual installments of \$2,881 over 10 years. The beginning loan balance was restated as of January 1, 2016 from \$25,932 to \$27,374.

In February 2017, the Village issued bonds in the amount of \$35,165 for the purchase of police cruiser to be used by the police department. This will be repaid over four years with interest calculated annually at 3.52%. The police cruiser collateralizes the bonds. This will be repaid by the General Fund.

**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2019**

**10. DEBT (Continued)**

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

Year Ending December 31	OPWC CQ36S	OPWC CQ13H	OPWC CT71N	OPWC CQ19R	Police Cruiser Bonds
2020	\$ 294	\$ 4,700	\$ 35,876	\$ 2,882	\$ 9,414
2021	294	4,700	35,876	2,882	-
2022	294	4,700	35,876	2,882	-
2023	294	4,700	35,876	2,882	-
2024	294	4,700	35,876	2,882	-
2025-2029	1,470	4,700	179,380	1,440	-
2030-2034	1,470	-	143,465	-	-
2035-2039	1,470	-	-	-	-
2040-2044	1,470	-	-	-	-
2045-2049	879	-	-	-	-
	<u>\$ 8,229</u>	<u>\$ 28,200</u>	<u>\$ 502,255</u>	<u>\$ 15,850</u>	<u>\$ 9,414</u>

**11. PUBLIC ENTITY RISK POOL**

The Village belongs to the Ohio Municipal Joint Self-Insurance Pool (the "Pool"), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio local governments. The Pool provides property and casualty coverage for its members. Member governments pay annual contributions to fund the Pool. The Pool pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims exceeding the member's deductible.

**12. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

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

**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

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

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
<b>Cash Receipts</b>			
Property Tax and Other Local Taxes	\$ 76,692	\$ 45,955	\$ 122,647
Municipal Income Tax	605,835	87,074	692,909
Intergovernmental Receipts	38,586	118,107	156,693
Charges for Services	17,596	10,650	28,246
Fines, Licenses, and Permits	48,537	1,787	50,324
Earnings on Investments	12,723	-	12,723
Miscellaneous	57,582	926	58,508
	<u>857,551</u>	<u>264,499</u>	<u>1,122,050</u>
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>			
<b>Cash Disbursements</b>			
Current:			
Security of Persons and Property	287,411	-	287,411
Public Health Services	3,658	-	3,658
Leisure Time Activities	18,486	-	18,486
Community Environment	-	7,859	7,859
Basic Utility Services	22,448	-	22,448
Transportation	-	202,156	202,156
General Government	472,516	21,106	493,622
Debt Service:			
Principal Retirement	8,535	2,055	10,590
Interest and Fiscal Charges	879	149	1,028
Capital Outlay	1,863	35,000	36,863
	<u>815,796</u>	<u>268,325</u>	<u>1,084,121</u>
<b>Total Cash Disbursements</b>			
<b>Net Change in Fund Cash Balance</b>	41,755	(3,826)	37,929
<b>Fund Cash Balances, January 1, 2018, restated</b>	<u>507,707</u>	<u>201,964</u>	<u>709,671</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31, 2018</b>			
Restricted	-	198,138	198,138
Assigned	405,413	-	405,413
Unassigned (Deficit)	144,049	-	144,049
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31, 2018</b>	<u>\$ 549,462</u>	<u>\$ 198,138</u>	<u>\$ 747,600</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

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

	<u>Proprietary</u>	<u>Fiduciary</u>	<u>Totals</u> <u>(Memorandum</u> <u>Only)</u>
	<u>Enterprise</u>	<u>Agency</u>	
<b>Operating Cash Receipts:</b>			
Charges for Services	\$ 561,302	\$ -	\$ 561,302
<b>Total Operating Cash Receipts</b>	<u>561,302</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>561,302</u>
<b>Operating Cash Disbursements:</b>			
Personal Services	192,991	-	192,991
Fringe Benefits	80,325	-	80,325
Contractual Services	9,262	-	9,262
Supplies and Materials	125,041	-	125,041
Other	30,914	-	30,914
<b>Total Operating Cash Disbursements</b>	<u>438,533</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>438,533</u>
Operating Income/(Loss)	<u>122,769</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>122,769</u>
<b>Non-Operating Cash Receipts:</b>			
Fines and Fees Collected	-	58,816	58,816
<b>Total Non-Operating Cash Receipts</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>58,816</u>	<u>58,816</u>
<b>Non-Operating Cash Disbursements:</b>			
Fines and Fees Disbursed	-	58,816	58,816
Capital Outlay	4,454	-	4,454
Debt Service-Principal	47,924	-	47,924
Interest and Fiscal Charges	303	-	303
<b>Total Non-Operating Cash Disbursements</b>	<u>52,681</u>	<u>58,816</u>	<u>111,497</u>
<b>Net Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements</b>	70,088	-	70,088
<b>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</b>	<u>1,164,109</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,164,109</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	<u>\$ 1,234,197</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,234,197</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2018**

**1. REPORTING ENTITY**

**Description of the Entity**

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of the Village of Utica, Licking County, (the Village) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly-elected six-member Council directs the Village. The Village provides general government, including water and sewer utilities, street maintenance, park operations, police services and fire protection.

The Village participates in a public entity risk pool. Notes 7 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.

**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 balance (regulatory cash basis) for all governmental fund types, and a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balance (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:

**Governmental Funds**

**General Fund**

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

**Special Revenue Funds**

These funds are used to account for proceeds from specific sources that are restricted or committed to expenditures for specific purposes other than debt service or capital projects. The Village had the following significant Special Revenue Fund:

**Street Construction, Maintenance and Repair Fund** - This fund receives gasoline tax and motor vehicle license tax money for constructing, maintaining, and repairing Village streets.

**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2018**

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

**Enterprise Funds**

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

**Water Fund** – This fund receives charges for services from residents to cover the cost of providing this utility.

**Sewer Fund** – This fund receives charges for services from residents to cover the cost of providing this utility.

**Fiduciary Funds**

Agency funds are purely custodial in nature and are used to hold resources for individuals, organizations or other governments. The Village disburses these funds as directed by the individual, organization or other government. The Village had the following significant Fiduciary Fund:

**Mayors Court Fund** - This fund receives fines and fees levied for traffic violations as prescribed by Village Ordinance. The funds are distributed to various agencies as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code.

***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 117-2-03(D). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Village 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 117-2-03(D) permit.

***Budgetary Process***

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund (except certain Agency Funds) 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. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Appropriations lapse at year end.

**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2018**

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

**Estimated Resources**

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus 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 commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over and need not be reappropriated in the subsequent year. The Village did not encumber all commitments required by Ohio law.

A summary of 2018 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

***Deposits and Investments***

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

***Property, Plant, and Equipment***

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

***Accumulated Leave***

In certain circumstances, such as 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.

**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* via formal action (resolution). The Village must adhere to these commitments unless 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.

**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2018**

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

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

**Unassigned** – Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not contained 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 (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 classification could be used.

**3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY**

Budgetary activity for the year ended December 31, 2018 is as follows:

<b>2018 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts</b>			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 855,446	\$ 857,551	\$ 2,105
Special Revenue	301,066	264,499	(36,567)
Enterprise	560,100	561,302	1,202
Total	\$ 1,716,612	\$ 1,683,352	\$ (33,260)

<b>2018 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures</b>			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 1,353,152	\$ 1,221,209	\$ 131,943
Special Revenue	503,032	268,325	234,707
Enterprise	1,724,208	491,214	1,232,994
Total	\$ 3,580,392	\$ 1,980,748	\$ 1,599,644

Contrary to ORC 5705.41(D), the Village made expenditures without prior certification.

**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2018**

**4. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS**

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

	<u>2018</u>
Demand Deposits	\$ 1,674,376
Certificates of Deposit	<u>307,421</u>
Total Deposits	<u>\$ 1,981,797</u>

**Deposits:** Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation; or collateralized by the financial institutions public entity deposit pool.

**5. PROPERTY TAX**

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Council adopted 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 make semiannual payment, the first half is due by December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

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

**6. LOCAL INCOME TAX**

The Village levies a municipal income tax of 1.75 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.

**7. RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Village belongs to the Ohio Municipal Joint Self-Insurance Pool, (the "Pool"), an unincorporated non-profit association available to municipal corporations and their instrumentalities. The Pool is a separate legal entity per Section 2744 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Pool provides property and casualty insurance for its members. The Pool pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting for covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

The Pool cedes portions of its gross contribution written to a reinsurer under excess reinsurance agreements in order to limit its losses. Treaty basis excess-of-loss contracts in force protect the Pool against losses over the retention level; at March 31, 2018, retention levels are \$50,000 and \$100,000 for property and casualty coverages, respectively.

The Pool remains liable to the extent the reinsuring companies are unable to meet their contractual obligations under reinsurance agreements.

**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2018**

**7. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)**

The Pool's financial statements (audited by other auditors) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and accumulated surplus at March 31, 2018.

Assets	\$ 1,341,128
Liabilities	<u>(884,941)</u>
Retained Earnings	<u>\$ 456,187</u>

**8. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN**

*Ohio Public Employees Retirement System*

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

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

*Ohio Police and Fire Retirement*

The Village's full-time police officers belong to the Police and Fire Pension Fund (OP&F). OP&F 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. OP&F participants, in 2018, contributed 12.25% of their wages. The Village contributed to OP&F an amount equal to 19.50% of full-time police officer's wages. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2018.

*Social Security*

Several 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, 2018.

**9. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS**

Both OPERS and OP&F offer cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans, which include multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage, deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement and Medicare Part B premium reimbursements, to qualifying benefit recipients. OPERS contributes 2 percent of the employer contribution to fund these benefits and OP&F contributes 0.5 percent to fund these benefits.

**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2018**

**10. DEBT**

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2018 was as follows:

	2018 Principal	%
Ohio Public Works Commission CQ36S	\$ 8,523	0.00
Ohio Public Works Commission CQ13H	32,900	0.00
Ohio Public Works Commission CT71N	538,131	0.00
Ohio Public Works Commission CQ19R	18,731	0.00
Police Cruiser Bonds	17,929	3.52
Dump Truck Bonds	6,451	3.52
Total	\$ 622,665	

The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) loan CQ36S relates to the sanitary sewer improvements Phase 1 project. The loan will be repaid in semiannual installments of \$294, over 30 years. The loan is collateralized by water/sewer receipts. The Village has agreed to set utility rates sufficient to cover OPWC debt service requirements. This will be paid through the Enterprise Sewer Debt Service Fund.

The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) loan CQ13H relates to the influent pump. The loan will be repaid in semiannual installments of \$2,350, over 20 years. The loan is collateralized by water/sewer receipts. The Village has agreed to set utility rates sufficient to cover OPWC debt service requirements. This will be paid through the Enterprise Sewer Debt Service Fund.

The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) loan CT71N relates to the wastewater treatment facility improvements project. The loan will be repaid in semiannual installments of \$17,938 over 20 years. The loan is collateralized by water/sewer receipts. The Village has agreed to set utility rates sufficient to cover OPWC debt service requirements. This will be paid through the Enterprise Sewer Debt Service Fund.

The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) loan CQ19R relates to the improvements of Church, Maple, and Jefferson streets. The loan will be repaid in semiannual installments of \$2,881 over 10 years. The beginning loan balance was restated as of January 1, 2016 from \$25,932 to \$27,374.

In November 2015, the Village issued bonds in the amount of 24,612 for the purchase of a Dump Truck to be used by the street department and utility services. This will be repaid over four years with interest calculated annually at 3.52%. The Dump Truck collateralizes the bonds. This will be repaid by the street fund and enterprise debt service funds.

In February 2017, the Village issued bonds in the amount of \$35,165 for the purchase of police cruiser to be used by the police department. This will be repaid over four years with interest calculated annually at 3.52%. The police cruiser collateralizes the bonds. This will be repaid by the General Fund.

**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2018**

**10. DEBT (Continued)**

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

Year Ending December 31	OPWC CQ36S	OPWC CQ13H	OPWC CT71N	OPWC CQ19R	Dump Truck Bonds
2019	\$ 294	\$ 4,700	\$ 35,876	\$ 2,882	\$ 6,680
2020	294	4,700	35,876	2,882	-
2021	294	4,700	35,876	2,882	-
2022	294	4,700	35,876	2,882	-
2023	294	4,700	35,876	2,882	-
2024-2028	1,470	9,400	179,380	4,321	-
2029-2033	1,470	-	179,371	-	-
2034-2038	1,470	-	-	-	-
2039-2043	1,470	-	-	-	-
2044-2048	1,173	-	-	-	-
	<u>\$ 8,523</u>	<u>\$ 32,900</u>	<u>\$ 538,131</u>	<u>\$ 18,731</u>	<u>\$ 6,680</u>

  

Year Ending December 31	Police Cruiser Bonds
2019	\$ 9,414
2020	9,414
	<u>\$ 18,828</u>

**11. PUBLIC ENTITY RISK POOL**

The Village belongs to the Ohio Municipal Joint Self-Insurance Pool (the "Pool"), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio local governments. The Pool provides property and casualty coverage for its members. Member governments pay annual contributions to fund the Pool. The Pool pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims exceeding the member's deductible.

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

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

Village of Utica  
Licking County  
39 Spring Street  
Utica, Ohio 43080

To the Village Council:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards general accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of Village of Utica, Licking County as of and for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated May 8, 2020, wherein we noted the Village followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit.

***Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

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

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

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

***Compliance and Other Matters***

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

***Purpose of this Report***

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

***Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc.***  
Zanesville, Ohio  
May 6, 2020

**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018**

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

**FINDING NUMBER 2019-001**

**Noncompliance – Certification of Funds**

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

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

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

**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018**

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

**FINDING NUMBER 2019-001 (Continued)**

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

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

Client Response: We received no response form client.

**FINDING NUMBER 2019-002**

**Material Weakness-Financial Reporting**

All public offices shall maintain an accounting system and accounting records sufficient to enable the public office to identify, assemble, analyze, classify, record and report its transaction, maintain accountability for the related assets, document compliance with finance-related legal and contractual requirements and prepare financial statements.

As a result of audit procedures, errors were noted that required reclassification to the financial statement as follows:

- In the General Fund for 2018, there was a reclassification of \$22,500 from Special Assessments to Property Tax and Other Local Taxes. There was a reclassification of \$9,014 from Property Tax and Other Local Taxes to Intergovernmental Receipts for Rollbacks. There was a reclassification of 9,414 from Security of Persons to Principal Retirement in the amount of \$8,535 and to Interest and Fiscal Charges in the amount of \$879.
- In the Street Fund for 2018, there was a reclassification of \$2,204 from Transportation to Principal Retirement in the amount of \$2,055 and to Interest and Other Fiscal Charges of \$149.
- In the Enterprise Fund for 2018, there was a reclassification of \$40,869 from Capital Outlay and \$7,358 from Supplies and Materials to Principal Retirement in the amount of \$47,924 and to Interest and Other Fiscal Charges in the amount of \$303.
- In the General Fund for 2019, there was a reclassification of \$22,500 from Special Assessments to Property Tax and Other Local Taxes. There was a reclassification of \$9,134 from Property Tax and Other Local Taxes to Intergovernmental Receipts for Rollbacks. There was a reclassification of 9,414 from Security of Persons to Principal Retirement in the amount of \$8,819 and to Interest and Fiscal Charges in the amount of \$595.
- In the Street Fund for 2019, there was a reclassification of \$2,205 from Transportation to Principal Retirement in the amount of \$2,129 and to Interest and Other Fiscal Charges of \$76.

**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018**

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

**FINDING NUMBER 2019-002 (Continued)**

- In the Enterprise Fund for 2019, there was a reclassification of \$40,869 from Capital Outlay and \$7,357 from Supplies and Materials to Principal Retirement in the amount of \$48,073 and to Interest and Other Fiscal Charges in the amount of \$153.
- Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) No. 54, paragraph 16 states that an appropriation of existing fund balance to eliminate a projected budgetary deficit in the subsequent year's budget in an amount no greater than the projected excess of expected expenditures over expected revenue satisfies the criteria to be classified as an assignment of fund balance. The following inaccurate reporting of fund balances were noted: The General Fund's year end cash balance was utilized to cover subsequent year appropriations exceeding estimated revenue at the end of 2018 in the amounts of \$405,413.

Sound financial reporting is the responsibility of the Village and is essential to help ensure the information provided to the readers of financial statements is complete and accurate. To help ensure the Village's financial statements and notes to the financial statements are complete and accurate, the Village should adopt policies and procedures to identify and correct errors and omissions. In addition, the Village should review the financial statements and notes prior to submission for audit.

Client Response: We received no response from client.

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**VILLAGE OF UTICA  
LICKING COUNTY**

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

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <b>Explain:</b>
2017-001	ORC 5705.41(D) Prior certification of availability not done	No	Not Corrected: Stated as Finding Number 2019-001 in current report
2017-002	Material Weakness Reclassifications and postings	No	Not Corrected: Stated as Finding Number 2019-002 in current report

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE  
**KEITH FABER**



VILLAGE OF UTICA

LICKING 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  
JULY 14, 2020