

**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP  
TRUMBULL COUNTY**

**REGULAR AUDIT**

**FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022-2021**

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



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE  
KEITH FABER



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

Board of Trustees  
Bazetta Township  
3372 State Route 5 NE  
Cortland, OH 44410

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditors' Report* of Bazetta Township, Trumbull County, prepared by Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc., for the audit period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022. 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. Bazetta Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Keith Faber".

Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

August 29, 2023

**This page intentionally left blank.**

**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP  
TRUMBULL COUNTY  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022-2021**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Table of Contents	( i )
Independent Auditors' Report	1-3
Financial Statements	
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances - All Governmental Fund Types For the Year Ended December 31, 2022	4
2022 Notes to the Financial Statements	5
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances - All Governmental Fund Types For the Year Ended December 31, 2021	13
2021 Notes to the Financial Statements	14
Independent Auditors' Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting Based on an Audit of Financial Statement Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards.	22
Schedule of Audit Findings	24
Schedule of Prior Audit Findings	25

**This page intentionally left blank.**

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

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

Bazetta Township  
Trumbull County  
3372 State Route 5 NE  
Cortland, Ohio 44410

To the Township Trustees:

**Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

**Unmodified and Adverse Opinions**

We have audited the financial statements of Bazetta Township, Trumbull County, Ohio (the Township) which comprises the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental fund type combined total as of and for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, 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 fund type combined total as of and for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, 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 Bazetta Township, Trumbull County as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, or changes in financial position thereof for the years then ended.

**Basis for Opinions**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards general 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 Responsibilities for the Audit of Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of Bazetta Township, 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.

**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 Bazetta Township 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 general 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.

### **Emphasis of Matter**

As described in Note 12 to the financial statements, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the Township. Our opinions are not modified with respect to this matter.

### **Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for 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 Bazetta Township'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 Responsibility 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 Township'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 Township'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.



**Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards**

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 12, 2023, on our consideration of Bazetta Township's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of 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 Township'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 Township's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

***Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc.***  
Zanesville, Ohio  
July 12, 2023

**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP  
TRUMBULL COUNTY**

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

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			<b>Totals (Memorandum Only)</b>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>	
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 175,941	\$ 2,061,282	\$ 125,806	\$ 2,363,029
Charges for Servicing	-	258,645	-	258,645
Licenses, Permits and Fees	74,793	45,800	-	120,593
Fines and Forfeitures	-	4,707	-	4,707
Intergovernmental	113,395	705,722	-	819,117
Special Assessments	-	14,808	-	14,808
Earnings on Investments	3,845	1,567	-	5,412
Miscellaneous	20,501	117,809	-	138,310
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>	<u>388,475</u>	<u>3,210,340</u>	<u>125,806</u>	<u>3,724,621</u>
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>				
Current:				
General Government	254,220	-	-	254,220
Public Safety	-	2,279,336	-	2,279,336
Public Works	-	472,969	-	472,969
Health	-	73,543	-	73,543
Conservation-Recreation	46,348	-	-	46,348
Capital Outlay	18,730	147,036	-	165,766
Debt Service:				
Principal Retirement	-	-	95,303	95,303
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	-	25,200	25,200
<b>Total Cash Disbursements</b>	<u>319,298</u>	<u>2,972,884</u>	<u>120,503</u>	<u>3,412,685</u>
<b>Excess of Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements</b>	69,177	237,456	5,303	311,936
<b>Other Cash Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</b>				
Advances - In	175,000	75,000	-	250,000
Advances - Out	(75,000)	(175,000)	-	(250,000)
<b>Total Other Cash Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</b>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>(100,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net Change in Fund Cash Balance</b>	169,177	137,456	5,303	311,936
<b>Fund Cash Balances, January 1, restated</b>	<u>634,367</u>	<u>1,697,954</u>	<u>5,250</u>	<u>2,337,571</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	<u>\$ 803,544</u>	<u>\$ 1,835,410</u>	<u>\$ 10,553</u>	<u>\$ 2,649,507</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP  
TRUMBULL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2022**

**1. REPORTING ENTITY**

**Description of the Entity**

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Bazetta Township, Trumbull County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publically elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides general government services, road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, police protection, fire protection and emergency medical services.

The Township participates in the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA) public entity risk pool. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

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

**2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**A. Basis of Presentation**

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

**B. Fund Accounting**

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

**General Fund**

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

**Special Revenue Funds**

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

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

**Police District Fund** – This fund receives property tax monies for providing police protection to the residents of the Township.

**Fire District Fund** – This fund receives property tax money to provide fire protection to the residents of the Township.

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

**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP  
TRUMBULL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2022**

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

**Debt Service Funds**

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

**Bond/Note Retirement Fund** – This fund receives property tax monies to pay bond and note debt.

**C. 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(C). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Township 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,

**D. Budgetary Process**

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

**Appropriations**

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

**Estimated Resources**

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

**Encumbrances**

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be reappropriated.

A summary of 2022 appears in Note 3.

**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP  
TRUMBULL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2022**

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

**E. Deposits and Investments**

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

The Township values U.S. Treasury Notes at cost.

**F. Capital Assets**

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

**G. 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.

**H. Fund Balance**

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

**Nonspendable**

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

**Restricted**

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

**Committed**

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

**Assigned**

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

**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP  
TRUMBULL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2022**

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

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

For regulatory purposes, limited disclosure related to fund balance is included in Note 11.

**3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY**

Budgetary activity for the years ended December 31, 2022 is as follows:

2022 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 475,000	\$ 388,475	\$ (86,525)
Special Revenue	3,295,419	3,210,340	(85,079)
Debt Service	125,806	125,806	-
Total	\$ 3,896,225	\$ 3,724,621	\$ (171,604)

2022 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 521,315	\$ 320,159	\$ 201,156
Special Revenue	3,450,542	3,073,072	377,470
Debt Service	125,823	120,503	5,320
Total	\$ 4,097,680	\$ 3,513,734	\$ 583,946

**4. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS**

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

	2022
<b><i>Cash Management Pool</i></b>	
Demand deposits	\$ 1,748,964
Total Deposits	1,748,964
U.S. Treasury Notes	900,543
Total Investments	900,543
Total Carrying Amount of Deposits and Investments held in Pool	\$ 2,649,507

**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP  
TRUMBULL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2022**

**4. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (Continued)**

The Township does not use a separate payroll clearing account. The expenditures included in the accompanying financial statements reflect net payroll plus all remitted payroll withholdings. At December 31, 2022, the Township is holding \$15,620 in unremitted employee payroll withholdings.

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

**Investments:** The Federal Reserve holds the Township's U.S. Treasury Notes in book-entry form in the name of the Township's financial institution. The financial institution maintains records identifying the Township as owner of these securities.

**5. PROPERTY TAX**

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

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

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

**6. RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Township is a member of the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (The Pool). The Pool assumes the risk of loss up to the limits of the Township's policy. The Pool covers the following risks:

- General liability and casualty
- Public official's liability
- Cyber
- Law enforcement liability
- Automobile liability
- Vehicles
- Property
- Equipment breakdown

The Pool reported the following summary of assets and actuarially-measured liabilities available to pay those liabilities as of December 31 (latest information available):

	<u>2021</u>
Cash and investments	\$34,880,599
Actuarial liabilities	10,601,444

**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP  
TRUMBULL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2022**

**7. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS**

*Ohio Public Employees Retirement System*

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

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2022 OPERS members contributed 10.0% of their gross wages and the Township contributed an amount equal to 14.00% of participant's gross salaries. OPERS law enforcement members contributed 13.00% of their gross salaries, and the Township contributed an amount equal to 18.10% of participant's gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2022.

*Ohio Police and Fire Retirement*

The Township's certified Fire Fighters 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 contributed 12.25% of their wages. The Township contributed to OP&F an amount equal to 24.00% of full-time fire fighter's wages. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2022.

*Social Security*

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

**8. 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 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. 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.

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 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.



**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP  
TRUMBULL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2022**

**9. PUBLIC ENTITY RISK POOL**

The Township belongs to the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio local governments. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. OTARMA is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP). Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims exceeding the member's deductible.

**10. DEBT**

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2022 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest rate
Ohio Public Works Commission CF26K	\$ 3,071	0.00%
Ohio Public Works Commission CF26V	33,474	0.00%
Fire Station Bonds	810,000	3.00%
Total	\$ 846,545	

In 2008, the Township received a loan from OPWC for the Durst Clagg Road Improvement Project. The Township's taxing authority collateralized the loan and is paid from the Debt Service Fund.

In 2020, the Township received a loan from OPWC for the Beaver Trail Resurfacing project. The Township's taxing authority collateralized the loan and is paid from the Debt Service Fund.

In 2016, the Township issued bonds in the amount of \$1,400,000 for constructing, improving and equipping a Township fire station. The bonds will be repaid annually over fifteen years from the Fire District Fund.

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

Year Ended December 31	OPWC CF26K	Fire Station Bonds	OPWC CF26V
2023	\$ 3,071	\$ 112,680	\$ 4,463
2024	-	112,160	4,463
2025	-	112,500	4,463
2026	-	114,840	4,463
2027	-	117,040	4,463
2028-2032	-	343,340	11,159
Total	\$ 3,071	\$ 912,560	\$ 33,474

**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP  
TRUMBULL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2022**

**11. FUND BALANCES**

Included in fund balance are amounts the Township cannot spend, including the balance of unclaimed monies, which cannot be spent for five years and the expendable 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 facilities effective cash planning and control. At year end, the balances of those amounts were as follows:

<u>Fund Balances</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>Total</u>
Nonspendable:				
Corpus	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Outstanding Encumb.	861	100,188	-	101,049
Total	<u>\$ 861</u>	<u>\$ 100,188</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 101,049</u>

The fund balance of special revenue funds is either restricted or committed. The fund balance of debt service funds and capital projects funds 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.

**12. COVID-19**

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ohio's state of emergency ended in June 2021, while the national state of emergency continues. During 2021, the Township did receive COVID-19 funding. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Township. The impact on the Township's future operating costs, revenues, and any recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

The Township received \$291,790 in 2022 from the American Rescue Plan.

**13. RESTATEMENT OF FUND BALANCE**

Fund balance in the General Fund, Special Revenue Funds and Fiduciary Funds have been restated for the year beginning January 1, 2022 as the Township added back voided checks:

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>
Fund Balance at December 31, 2021	\$ 634,317	\$ 1,697,656
Adjustments	50	298
Fund Balance at January 1, 2022	<u>\$ 634,367</u>	<u>\$ 1,697,954</u>

**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP  
TRUMBULL COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND  
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES  
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			<b>Totals (Memorandum Only)</b>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>	
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 173,485	\$ 2,045,710	\$ 117,043	\$ 2,336,238
Charges for Servicess	-	247,742	-	247,742
Licenses, Permits and Fees	68,398	35,508	-	103,906
Fines and Forfeitures	-	15,938	-	15,938
Intergovernmental	114,660	688,903	-	803,563
Special Assessments	309	10,705	-	11,014
Earnings on Investments	65,180	2,232	-	67,412
Miscellaneous	112,037	116,626	-	228,663
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>	<u>534,069</u>	<u>3,163,364</u>	<u>117,043</u>	<u>3,814,476</u>
<b>Cash Disbursements:</b>				
Current:				
General Government	300,675	10,597	-	311,272
Public Safety	-	2,356,591	-	2,356,591
Public Works	-	505,884	-	505,884
Health	-	140,591	-	140,591
Conservation-Recreation	28,077	-	-	28,077
Capital Outlay	181,813	-	-	181,813
Debt Service:				
Principal Retirement	-	-	106,211	106,211
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	-	27,580	27,580
<b>Total Cash Disbursements</b>	<u>510,565</u>	<u>3,013,663</u>	<u>133,791</u>	<u>3,658,019</u>
<b>Excess of Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements</b>	23,504	149,701	(16,748)	156,457
<b>Other Cash Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</b>				
Advances - In	203,000	103,000	-	306,000
Advances - Out	(103,000)	(203,000)	-	(306,000)
<b>Total Other Cash Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</b>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>(100,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net Change in Fund Cash Balance</b>	123,504	49,701	(16,748)	156,457
<b>Fund Cash Balances, January 1, restated</b>	<u>510,813</u>	<u>1,647,955</u>	<u>21,998</u>	<u>2,180,766</u>
<b>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</b>	<u>\$ 634,317</u>	<u>\$ 1,697,656</u>	<u>\$ 5,250</u>	<u>\$ 2,337,223</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP  
TRUMBULL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2021**

**1. REPORTING ENTITY**

**Description of the Entity**

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Bazetta Township, Trumbull County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publically elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides general government services, road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, police protection, fire protection and emergency medical services.

The Township participates in the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA) public entity risk pool. Note 6 to the financial statements provides additional information for this entity.

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

**2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**A. Basis of Presentation**

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

**B. Fund Accounting**

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

**General Fund**

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

**Special Revenue Funds**

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

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

**Police District Fund** – This fund receives property tax monies for providing police protection to the residents of the Township.

**Fire District Fund** – This fund receives property tax money to provide fire protection to the residents of the Township.

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

**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP  
TRUMBULL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2021**

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

**Debt Service Funds**

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

**Bond/Note Retirement Fund** – This fund receives property tax monies to pay bond and note debt.

**C. 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(C). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The Township 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,

**D. Budgetary Process**

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

**Appropriations**

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

**Estimated Resources**

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

**Encumbrances**

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be reappropriated.

A summary of 2021 appears in Note 3.

**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP  
TRUMBULL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2021**

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

**E. Deposits and Investments**

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

The Township values U.S. Treasury Notes at cost.

**F. Capital Assets**

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

**G. 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.

**H. Fund Balance**

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

**Nonspendable**

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

**Restricted**

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

**Committed**

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

**Assigned**

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

**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP  
TRUMBULL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2021**

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

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

For regulatory purposes, limited disclosure related to fund balance is included in Note 11.

**3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY**

Budgetary activity for the years ended December 31, 2021 is as follows:

2021 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 521,238	\$ 534,069	\$ 12,831
Special Revenue	3,141,589	3,163,364	21,775
Debt Service	117,043	117,043	-
Total	\$ 3,779,870	\$ 3,814,476	\$ 34,606

2021 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 600,847	\$ 531,880	\$ 68,967
Special Revenue	3,861,533	3,209,021	652,512
Debt Service	134,578	133,791	787
Total	\$ 4,596,958	\$ 3,874,692	\$ 722,266

**4. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS**

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

	2021
<b><i>Cash Management Pool</i></b>	
Demand deposits	\$ 1,532,015
Total Deposits	1,532,015
U.S. Treasury Notes	805,208
Total Investments	805,208
Total Carrying Amount of Deposits and Investments held in Pool	\$ 2,337,223

**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP  
TRUMBULL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2021**

**4. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (Continued)**

The Township does not use a separate payroll clearing account. The expenditures included in the accompanying financial statements reflect net payroll plus all remitted payroll withholdings. At December 31, 2021, the Township is holding \$13,895 in unremitted employee payroll withholdings.

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

**Investments:** The Federal Reserve holds the Township's U.S. Treasury Notes in book-entry form in the name of the Township's financial institution. The financial institution maintains records identifying the Township as owner of these securities.

**5. PROPERTY TAX**

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

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

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

**6. RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Township is a member of the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (The Pool). The Pool assumes the risk of loss up to the limits of the Township's policy. The Pool covers the following risks:

- General liability and casualty
- Public official's liability
- Cyber
- Law enforcement liability
- Automobile liability
- Vehicles
- Property
- Equipment breakdown

The Pool reported the following summary of assets and actuarially-measured liabilities available to pay those liabilities as of December 31:

	<u>2021</u>
Cash and investments	\$34,880,599
Actuarial liabilities	10,601,444



**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP  
TRUMBULL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2021**

**7. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS**

*Ohio Public Employees Retirement System*

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

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2021 OPERS members contributed 10.0% of their gross wages and the Township contributed an amount equal to 14.00% of participant's gross salaries. OPERS law enforcement members contributed 13.00% of their gross salaries, and the Township contributed an amount equal to 18.10% of participant's gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2021.

*Ohio Police and Fire Retirement*

The Township's certified Fire Fighters 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 contributed 12.25% of their wages. The Township contributed to OP&F an amount equal to 24.00% of full-time fire fighter's wages. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2021.

*Social Security*

Several Township 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 Township contributed an amount equal to 6.2 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2021.

**8. 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 2021. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent during calendar year 2021. 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.

**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP  
TRUMBULL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2021**

**9. PUBLIC ENTITY RISK POOL**

The Township belongs to the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio local governments. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. OTARMA is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP). Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims exceeding the member's deductible.

**10. DEBT**

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2021 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest rate
Ohio Public Works Commission CF26K	\$ 6,142	0.00%
Ohio Public Works Commission CF26V	35,706	0.00%
Fire Station Bonds	900,000	3.00%
Total	\$ 941,848	

In 2008, the Township received a loan from OPWC for the Durst Clagg Road Improvement Project. The Township's taxing authority collateralized the loan and is paid from the Debt Service Fund.

In 2020, the Township received a loan from OPWC for the Beaver Trail Resurfacing project. The Township's taxing authority collateralized the loan and is paid from the Debt Service Fund.

In 2016, the Township issued bonds in the amount of \$1,400,000 for constructing, improving and equipping a Township fire station. The bonds will be repaid annually over fifteen years from the Fire District Fund.

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

Year Ended December 31	OPWC CF26K	Fire Station Bonds	OPWC CF26V
2022	\$ 3,071	\$ 115,200	\$ 2,232
2023	3,071	112,680	4,463
2024	-	112,160	4,463
2025	-	112,500	4,463
2026	-	114,840	4,463
2027-2031	-	463,380	15,622
Total	\$ 6,142	\$ 1,030,760	\$ 35,706

**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP  
TRUMBULL COUNTY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2021**

**11. FUND BALANCES**

Included in fund balance are amounts the Township cannot spend, including the balance of unclaimed monies, which cannot be spent for five years and the expendable 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 facilities effective cash planning and control. At year end, the balances of those amounts were as follows:

<u>Fund Balances</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>Total</u>
Nonspendable:				
Corpus	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Outstanding Encumb.	21,315	195,358	-	216,673
Total	<u>\$ 21,315</u>	<u>\$ 195,358</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 216,673</u>

The fund balance of special revenue funds is either restricted or committed. The fund balance of debt service funds and capital projects funds 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.

**12. COVID-19**

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ohio's state of emergency ended in June 2021, while the national state of emergency continues. During 2021, the Township did receive COVID-19 funding. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the Township. The impact on the Township's future operating costs, revenues, and any recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

The Township received \$289,480 in 2021 from the American Rescue Plan.

**13. RESTATEMENT OF FUND BALANCE**

Fund balance in the General Fund, Special Revenue Funds and Fiduciary Funds have been restated for the year beginning January 1, 2021 as the Township posted fund adjustments/added back voided checks in 2021 for 2020:

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Fiduciary</u>
Fund Balance at December 31, 2020	\$ 512,170	\$ 1,635,309	\$ 3,819
Adjustments	(1,357)	12,646	(3,819)
Fund Balance at January 1, 2021	<u>\$ 510,813</u>	<u>\$ 1,647,955</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

**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.**

Bazetta Township  
Trumbull County  
3372 State Route 5 NE  
Cortland, Ohio 44410

To the Township Trustees:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards general accepted in the United States and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standard* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the cash balances, receipts, and disbursements for each governmental fund type combined total as of and for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 and the related notes to the financial statements of Bazetta Township, Trumbull County (the Township) and have issued our report thereon dated July 12, 2023, wherein we noted the Township followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C) permit. We also noted the financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the Township.

***Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Bazetta Township'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 opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Township'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 Township'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. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. We identified a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2022-001 that we consider to be a significant deficiency.

***Compliance and Other Matters***

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Bazetta Township's financial statements are free of 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 Standard*.

***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 Township'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 Township's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

***Wilson, Phillips & Agin, CPA's, Inc.***  
Zanesville, Ohio  
July 12, 2023

**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP  
UNION COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021**

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

**FINDING NUMBER 2022-001**

**Significant Deficiency – Reclassifications**

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

The Ohio Township Handbook provides suggested account classifications. These accounts classify receipts by fund and source (taxes or charges for services, for example) and classify disbursements by fund, program (general government, for example) or object (personal services, for example). Using these classifications will provide the Township with information required to monitor compliance with the budget, and prepare annual reports in the format required by the Auditor of State.

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

The following is related to 2022:

- A reclassification in the amount of \$58,274 was made to increase Licenses, Permits and Fees and decrease Miscellaneous Receipts in the General Fund for cable franchise fees.
- A reclassification in the amount of \$5,303 was made to increase Principal Retirement and decrease Interest and Fiscal Charges in the Debt Service Fund to properly show debt paid.

The following is related to 2021:

- A reclassification in the amount of \$58,283 was made to increase Licenses, Permits and Fees and decrease Miscellaneous Receipts in the General Fund for cable franchise fees.
- A reclassification in the amount of \$17,501 was made to increase Principal Retirement and decrease Interest and Fiscal Charges in the Debt Service Fund to properly show debt paid.

**Client Response:** We have not received an response from client.

**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP  
TRUMBULL COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS  
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021**

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <b>Explain:</b>
2020-001	Material Weakness Financial Reporting	No	Not Corrected: Cited in current report as finding 2022-001 as significant deficiency
2020-002	Noncompliance ORC 5705.41(D) Prior certification of expenditures	Yes	Finding No Longer Valid
2020-003	Noncompliance ORC 5705.39 Appropriations greater than estimated resources	Yes	Finding No Longer Valid

**This page intentionally left blank.**



# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



**BAZETTA TOWNSHIP**

**TRUMBULL 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 9/12/2023**

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

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at  
[www.ohioauditor.gov](http://www.ohioauditor.gov)