



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



**AUSTINTOWN TOWNSHIP
MAHONING COUNTY**

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Austintown Township
Mahoning County
82 Ohltown Road
Youngstown, Ohio 44515

To the Board of Trustees:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Unmodified and Adverse Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of Austintown Township, Mahoning County, Ohio (the Township), which comprises the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental and proprietary fund type and the fiduciary fund type combined total as of and for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Unmodified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each governmental and proprietary fund type and the fiduciary fund type combined total as of and for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, in accordance with the financial reporting provisions which Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(C) permit, described in Note 2.

Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the *Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* section of our report, the accompanying financial statements do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Township, as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, or the changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of the 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 the 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 generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), to satisfy these requirements. The effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 2 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material and pervasive.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the 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 Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *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 October 15, 2025, on our consideration of the 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 our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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.

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tiffany L. Ridenbaugh". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tiffany L. Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM
Chief Deputy Auditor

October 15, 2025

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**AUSTINTOWN TOWNSHIP
MAHONING COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (CASH BASIS)
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024**

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Permanent	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts					
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$1,234,181	\$11,907,185			\$13,141,366
Charges for Services		119,851			119,851
Licenses, Permits and Fees	249,640	248,122			497,762
Fines and Forfeitures	25,507	3,939			29,446
Intergovernmental	660,153	2,576,577	\$822,455		4,059,185
Special Assessments			178,964		178,964
Earnings on Investments	68,008	6,209		\$79	74,296
Miscellaneous	88,948	652,222			741,170
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>2,326,437</u>	<u>15,514,105</u>	<u>1,001,419</u>	<u>79</u>	<u>18,842,040</u>
Cash Disbursements					
Current:					
General Government	1,009,494	258,605	4,974		1,273,073
Public Safety	375	11,443,070			11,443,445
Public Works		2,645,641			2,645,641
Health	263,658	24,565			288,223
Human Services	25	341,751			341,776
Conservation-Recreation		466,800			466,800
Capital Outlay	15,292	1,271,502	983,883		2,270,677
Debt Service:					
Principal Retirement	72,668	84,760	63,000		220,428
Interest and Fiscal Charges		11,794	8,103		19,897
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>1,361,512</u>	<u>16,548,488</u>	<u>1,059,960</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>18,969,960</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>964,925</u>	<u>(1,034,383)</u>	<u>(58,541)</u>	<u>79</u>	<u>(127,920)</u>
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)					
Sale of Capital Assets		42,826			42,826
Transfers In		782,000	71,103		853,103
Transfers Out	(868,103)				(868,103)
Advances In	2,720,065	1,325,500	624,565		4,670,130
Advances Out	(2,720,065)	(1,325,500)	(624,565)		(4,670,130)
<i>Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	<u>(868,103)</u>	<u>824,826</u>	<u>71,103</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>27,826</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	<u>96,822</u>	<u>(209,557)</u>	<u>12,562</u>	<u>79</u>	<u>(100,094)</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>2,111,168</u>	<u>1,740,757</u>	<u>61,930</u>	<u>4,719</u>	<u>3,918,574</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$2,207,990</u>	<u>\$1,531,200</u>	<u>\$74,492</u>	<u>\$4,798</u>	<u>\$3,818,480</u>

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

**AUSTINTOWN TOWNSHIP
MAHONING COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (CASH BASIS)
ALL PROPRIETARY FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024**

	<u>Proprietary Fund Types</u>		<u>Totals</u>
	<u>Enterprise</u>	<u>Internal Service</u>	<u>(Memorandum Only)</u>
Operating Cash Receipts			
Miscellaneous	\$202,730	\$1,171,368	\$1,374,098
<i>Total Operating Cash Receipts</i>	<u>202,730</u>	<u>1,171,368</u>	<u>1,374,098</u>
Operating Cash Disbursements			
Salaries		1,739,122	1,739,122
Employee Fringe Benefits		933,644	933,644
Purchased Services	40,795	56,529	97,324
Supplies and Materials		14,493	14,493
Other	28,901	9,829	38,730
<i>Total Operating Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>69,696</u>	<u>2,753,617</u>	<u>2,823,313</u>
<i>Operating Income (Loss)</i>	<u>133,034</u>	<u>(1,582,249)</u>	<u>(1,449,215)</u>
Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)			
Intergovernmental	137,200	1,447,830	1,585,030
Miscellaneous Receipts	645	101,439	102,084
Sale of Capital Assets		71	71
Capital Outlay	(225,768)	(12,450)	(238,218)
<i>Total Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	<u>(87,923)</u>	<u>1,536,890</u>	<u>1,448,967</u>
<i>Income (Loss) before Transfers and Advances</i>	<u>45,111</u>	<u>(45,359)</u>	<u>(248)</u>
Transfers In		15,000	15,000
Advances In		770,000	770,000
Advances Out		(770,000)	(770,000)
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	<u>45,111</u>	<u>(30,359)</u>	<u>14,752</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>536,774</u>	<u>51,041</u>	<u>587,815</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$581,885</u>	<u>\$20,682</u>	<u>\$602,567</u>

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

**AUSTINTOWN TOWNSHIP
MAHONING COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF ADDITIONS, DEDUCTIONS
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (CASH BASIS)
FIDUCIARY FUND TYPE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024**

	<u>Fiduciary Fund Type</u>
	<u>Custodial</u>
Additions	
Other Amounts Collected for Distribution	<u>\$46,760</u>
<i>Total Additions</i>	<u>46,760</u>
Deductions	
Distributions as Fiscal Agent	<u>60,484</u>
<i>Total Deductions</i>	<u>60,484</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Balances</i>	<u>(13,724)</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>34,481</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u><u>\$20,757</u></u>

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

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Austintown Township
Mahoning County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Austintown Township, Mahoning County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, police and fire protection, park and recreation and zoning services.

Jointly Governed Organizations

The Township participates in two jointly governed organizations. Note 11 to the financial statements provide additional information for these entities.

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

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

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, and a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) for all proprietary fund types and a combined statement of additions, deductions and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) all fiduciary fund types which are all organized on a fund type basis.

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:

Police District Fund The police district fund receives property tax money to provide police protection for Township residents.

Fire District Fund The fire district fund receives property tax money to provide fire protection for Township residents.

Road and Bridge Fund The road and bridge fund receives property tax money for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads.

Park Fund The park fund receives property tax money for maintaining Township parks.

Senior Center Fund The senior center fund receives property tax money for operating the Senior Center.

Austintown Township
Mahoning County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Gas Tax Fund The gas tax fund accounts for and reports that portion of the State gasoline tax restricted for maintenance and repair of roads within the Township.

Motor Vehicle License Tax Fund The motor vehicle license tax fund accounts for an report that portion of motor vehicle license registration fees restricted for maintenance and repair of roads within the Township.

Capital Project Funds These funds account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets. The Township had the following significant capital project funds:

Lighting District Fund The township received special assessments to maintain Township street lights.

Communications Equipment Fund A joint communications district was established with Boardman Township and Mahoning County to provide communications equipment, personnel and services to the District. This fund received debt proceeds for equipment purchases.

Permanent Fund This fund accounts for and report resources that are restricted to the extent that only earnings, and not principal, may be used for purposes that support the reporting government's programs (for the benefit of the government or its citizenry). The Township had the following significant permanent fund:

Cemetery Bequests Fund The cemetery bequests fund accounts for and reports interest earned on the nonexpendable corpus from a trust agreement. These earnings are used for the general maintenance and upkeep of specific family plots/graves within the Township's cemeteries.

Enterprise Fund This fund accounts for operations that are similar to private business enterprises, where management intends to recover the significant costs of providing certain goods or services through user charges.

Westchester Building Fund This fund collects rental income from the building to be used for parks and recreation purposes.

Internal Service Funds These funds account for services provided by one department to other departments of the government unit. The Township had the following Internal Service Funds:

Communications Fund This fund receives reimbursements from other funds to pay for the operation of the Fire and Police Dispatch which also services Emergency 911 operations.

Maintenance Fund This fund receives reimbursements from other funds based on the department utilization to pay for the maintenance of Township vehicles and equipment.

Fiduciary Funds Fiduciary funds include custodial funds.

Custodial funds are purely custodial in nature and are used to report fiduciary activity that is not required to be reported in a trust fund. The Township's custodial funds account for unclaimed monies and custodial holdings such as fire loss insurance proceeds.

Basis of Accounting

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

Austintown Township
Mahoning County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (C) permit.

Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund (except certain custodial 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 Board of 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 2024 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Deposits and Investments

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

Money market mutual funds are recorded at share values the mutual funds report.

Interfund Activity

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as revenues in the seller funds and as expenditures/expenses in the purchaser funds. Flows of cash or goods from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds.

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.

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.

Leases and SBITAs

The Township is the lessee in various leases (as defined by GASB 87) related to vehicles and other equipment under noncancelable leases. Lease revenue/disbursements are recognized when they are received/paid.

Austintown Township
Mahoning County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Settlement Monies

Ohio has reached settlement agreements with various distributors of opioids which are subject to the OheOhio memorandum of understanding. The original settlement was reached in 2021 with annual payments anticipated through 2038. For 2024, distributions of \$62,124 are reflected as Intergovernmental Receipts in the Opioid Special Revenue Fund in the accompanying financial statements.

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*. For regulatory purposes, assigned fund balance in the general fund is limited to encumbrances outstanding at year end.

Unassigned Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not included in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

The 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 12.

Austintown Township
Mahoning County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Note 3 – Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ending December 31, 2024 follows:

2024 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$1,930,421	\$2,326,437	\$396,016
Special Revenue	15,788,858	16,338,931	550,073
Capital Projects	1,567,322	1,072,522	(494,800)
Permanent	0	79	79
Enterprise	70,000	340,575	270,575
Internal Service	3,030,492	2,735,708	(294,784)
Custodial	32,644	46,760	14,116
Total	<u>\$22,419,737</u>	<u>\$22,861,012</u>	<u>\$441,275</u>

2024 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$4,041,589	\$2,404,570	\$1,637,019
Special Revenue	17,426,914	16,831,404	595,510
Capital Projects	1,629,251	1,059,960	569,291
Permanent	1,686	0	1,686
Enterprise	300,000	295,464	4,536
Internal Service	3,081,534	2,780,763	300,771
Custodial	60,484	60,484	0
Total	<u>\$26,541,458</u>	<u>\$23,432,645</u>	<u>\$3,108,813</u>

Note 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 deposit and investment accounts are as follows:

	2024
<i>Cash Management Pool:</i>	
Demand deposits	\$979,164
Other time deposits (savings and NOW accounts)	1,053,614
Total deposits	<u>2,032,778</u>
Government Sweep Account	2,409,026
Total investments	<u>2,409,026</u>
<i>Total carrying amount of deposits and investments held in the Pool</i>	<u><u>\$4,441,804</u></u>

Austintown Township
Mahoning County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Deposits

Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or collateralized through the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution.

Investments

The Township's investments are limited to a Government Sweep Account.

Note 5 – Property Taxes

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees adopted tax rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable non-business, owner occupancy, and homestead exemption credits and/or homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include these credits and/or deduction 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.

Note 6 – Risk Management

Workers' Compensation

Workers' Compensation coverage is provided by the State of Ohio. The Township pays the State Workers' Compensation System a premium based on a rate per \$100 of salaries. This rate is calculated based on accident history and administrative costs.

Risk Pool Membership

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 actuarially-measured liabilities and the assets available to pay those liabilities as of December 31:

Austintown Township
Mahoning County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

	<u>2024</u>
Cash and investments	\$32,822,076
Actuarial liabilities	\$12,568,762

Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

The Township's certified Fire Fighters belong to the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund (OP&F). Full-time Police Officers and other employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OP&F and OPERS are cost-sharing, multiple-employer plans. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes these plans' benefits, which include postretirement health care and survivor and disability benefits. The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2024, OP&F participants contributed 12.25% of their wages and the Township contributed to OP&F an amount equal to 24% of full-time fire fighters' wages. For 2024 OPERS members contributed 10% of their gross salaries and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14% of participants' gross salaries. For 2024 OPERS law enforcement members contributed 13% of their gross salaries and the Township contributed an amount equaling 18.1% of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2024.

Note 8 – Postemployment Benefits

Both OPERS and OP&F offer cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans. OPERS offers a health reimbursement arrangement (HRA) allowance to benefit recipients meeting certain age and service credit requirements. The HRA is an account funded by OPERS that provides tax-free reimbursement for qualified medical expenses such as monthly post-tax insurance premiums, deductibles, co-insurance, and co-pays incurred by eligible benefit recipients and their dependents. OP&F uses a stipend-based health care model. A stipend funded by OP&F is placed in individual Health Reimbursement Accounts that retirees use to be reimbursed for health care expenses. For calendar year 2024, the portion of OPERS employer contributions allocated to health care was 0 percent for members in the traditional pension plan and 2 percent for members in the combined plan. For 2024, the portion of employer contributions OPERS allocated to health care for members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent; however, a portion of the health care rate was funded with reserves. OP&F contributions 0.5 percent to fund these benefits.

Note 9 – Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2024, was as follows:

	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>
OPWC SR 46 Sanitary Loan	\$22,852	0%
Communications Equipment Note	200,000	3.50%
2020 Pierce Saber Pumper Truck	343,134	2.64%
2021 OPWC Road Resurfacing	508,696	0%
2024 Fire Apparatus	1,789,853	5.50%
Total	<u>\$2,864,535</u>	

The Township issued the Communications Equipment Note to finance the purchase of communication equipment for the Township's 911 system. The Township also has an OPWC Loan through the Mahoning County Sanitary Engineer's Office. Bi-annual payments are made to the County on this loan for the Sanitary Sewer Line to Fire Station #1. The Township also had an OPWC Loan for Road Resurfacing Projects.

Austintown Township
Mahoning County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Financed Purchases

The Township has entered into financed purchase agreements for a 2020 Pierce Pumper and a 2024 Fire Apparatus Aerial Truck for the Fire Department. Ownership of the underlying asset transfers to the Township by the end of the contract. The Township disbursed \$52,152 to pay these costs for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024.

Amortization

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

Year Ending December 31:	OPWC	Communications Equipment Note	2020 Pierce	2021 OPWC	2024 Fire Apparatus
2025	\$3,047	\$70,862	\$62,588	\$72,668	\$237,456
2026	3,047	70,553	62,588	72,668	237,456
2027	3,047	69,190	62,588	72,688	237,456
2028	3,047		62,588	72,668	237,456
2029	3,047		62,588	72,668	237,456
2030-2034	7,617		62,588	145,336	1,187,279
Total	<u>\$22,852</u>	<u>\$210,605</u>	<u>\$375,528</u>	<u>\$508,696</u>	<u>\$2,374,559</u>

Note 10 – Contingent Liabilities

The Township is one of about 40 Intervening Parties in the Court of Common Pleas of Stark County, Case No. 2017 CV 01438, concerning money owed to the defendants pursuant to the Township's self-insured group medical coverage from July 1, 2014 through December 31, 2017. However, it is management's belief that any claim would not have a material effect on the financial statements.

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the township are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor, principally the federal government. The grantor may require refunding any disallowed costs. Management cannot presently determine amounts grantors may disallow. However, based on prior experience, management believes any refunds would be immaterial.

Note 11 – Jointly Governed Organizations

ABC Water and Storm Water District – Austintown Township participates in a jointly governed water district with Boardman Township and Canfield Township. The district formed in 2010 with the intent to deal with both storm water flooding and potable water source issues.

Austintown-Boardman-Mahoning County Joint Communications District was established pursuant to Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code. This is a successor COG to the Austintown-Boardman Joint Communications District.

Note 12 – 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 unexpendable corpus of the permanent funds. Encumbrances are commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting is utilized to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilities effective cash planning and control. At year end the balances of these amounts were as follows:

Austintown Township
Mahoning County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

<u>Fund Balances</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Internal Service</u>	<u>Permanent</u>	<u>Total</u>
Nonspendable:					
Corpus				4,798	4,798
Outstanding Encumbrances	174,955	282,916	14,696		472,567
Total	<u>\$174,955</u>	<u>\$282,916</u>	<u>\$14,696</u>	<u>\$4,798</u>	<u>\$477,365</u>

The fund balance of special revenue funds is either restricted or committed. The fund balance of internal 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, internal service, capital projects, and permanent funds would include the outstanding encumbrances. In the general fund, outstanding encumbrances are considered assigned.

Note 13 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS

Transfers for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024, as reported in the fund financial statements:

Transfers from General Fund to:	Amount
Police District Fund (2081)	\$ 688,000
Park Levy Fund (2171)	94,000
Communication Equipment Fund (4901)	71,103
Maintenance Fund (6001)	<u>15,000</u>
Total	\$ 868,103

Transfers are used to move revenues from the fund that statute or budget required to collect them to the fund that statute or budget requires to expend them and to use unrestricted revenues collected in the general fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations

Note 14 – COVID-19

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ohio's state of emergency ended in June 2021 while the national state of emergency ended in April 2023. During 2024, the Township received COVID-19 funding through the American Rescue Plan. The Township will continue to spend available COVID-19 funding consistent with the applicable program guidelines.

**AUSTINTOWN TOWNSHIP
MAHONING COUNTY**

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

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Permanent	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts					
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$1,125,632	\$9,621,878			\$10,747,510
Charges for Services		45,864			45,864
Licenses, Permits and Fees	264,498	105,339			369,837
Fines and Forfeitures	22,781	4,112			26,893
Intergovernmental	755,200	3,047,458	\$786,867		4,589,525
Special Assessments			119,975		119,975
Earnings on Investments	59,124	3,329		\$57	62,510
Miscellaneous	122,808	634,230			757,038
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>2,350,043</u>	<u>13,462,210</u>	<u>906,842</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>16,719,152</u>
Cash Disbursements					
Current:					
General Government	1,068,219	211,789	3,729		1,283,737
Public Safety	107	10,428,690	2,445		10,431,242
Public Works		2,532,193			2,532,193
Health	193,832	29,286			223,118
Human Services		339,503			339,503
Conservation-Recreation		473,484			473,484
Capital Outlay	8,284	1,151,387	949,947		2,109,618
Debt Service:					
Principal Retirement	36,334	118,454	61,000		215,788
Interest and Fiscal Charges		14,434	10,273		24,707
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>1,306,776</u>	<u>15,299,220</u>	<u>1,027,394</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>17,633,390</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>1,043,267</u>	<u>(1,837,010)</u>	<u>(120,552)</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>(914,238)</u>
Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)					
Sale of Capital Assets	9,860	23,300			33,160
Transfers In		314,140	91,273		405,413
Transfers Out	(419,203)				(419,203)
Advances In	2,055,173	1,162,500	667,673		3,885,346
Advances Out	(2,055,173)	(1,162,500)	(667,673)		(3,885,346)
<i>Total Other Financing Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	<u>(409,343)</u>	<u>337,440</u>	<u>91,273</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>19,370</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	<u>633,924</u>	<u>(1,499,570)</u>	<u>(29,279)</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>(894,868)</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>1,477,244</u>	<u>3,240,327</u>	<u>91,209</u>	<u>4,662</u>	<u>4,813,442</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u>\$2,111,168</u>	<u>\$1,740,757</u>	<u>\$61,930</u>	<u>\$4,719</u>	<u>\$3,918,574</u>

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

**AUSTINTOWN TOWNSHIP
MAHONING COUNTY**

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

	Proprietary Fund Types		Totals
	Enterprise	Internal Service	(Memorandum Only)
Operating Cash Receipts			
Miscellaneous	\$186,442	\$307,531	\$493,973
<i>Total Operating Cash Receipts</i>	<u>186,442</u>	<u>307,531</u>	<u>493,973</u>
Operating Cash Disbursements			
Salaries		1,271,108	1,271,108
Employee Fringe Benefits		632,513	632,513
Purchased Services	37,078	50,273	87,351
Supplies and Materials		13,792	13,792
Other	42,717	7,390	50,107
<i>Total Operating Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>79,795</u>	<u>1,975,076</u>	<u>2,054,871</u>
<i>Operating Income (Loss)</i>	<u>106,647</u>	<u>(1,667,545)</u>	<u>(1,560,898)</u>
Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)			
Intergovernmental		1,203,420	1,203,420
Miscellaneous Receipts	733	66,541	67,274
Capital Outlay	(47,970)	(2,299)	(50,269)
<i>Total Non-Operating Receipts (Disbursements)</i>	<u>(47,237)</u>	<u>1,267,662</u>	<u>1,220,425</u>
<i>Income (Loss) before Transfers and Advances</i>	59,410	(399,883)	(340,473)
Transfers In		13,790	13,790
Advances In		225,000	225,000
Advances Out		(225,000)	(225,000)
<i>Net Change in Fund Cash Balances</i>	59,410	(386,093)	(326,683)
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>477,364</u>	<u>437,134</u>	<u>914,498</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u><u>\$536,774</u></u>	<u><u>\$51,041</u></u>	<u><u>\$587,815</u></u>

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

**AUSTINTOWN TOWNSHIP
MAHONING COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF ADDITIONS, DEDUCTIONS
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES (CASH BASIS)
FIDUCIARY FUND TYPE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023**

	<u>Fiduciary Fund Type</u>
	<u>Custodial</u>
Additions	
Other Amounts Collected for Distribution	<u>\$15,467</u>
<i>Total Additions</i>	<u>15,467</u>
Deductions	
Distributions as Fiscal Agent	<u>15,467</u>
<i>Total Deductions</i>	<u>15,467</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Balances</i>	<u>0</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, January 1</i>	<u>34,481</u>
<i>Fund Cash Balances, December 31</i>	<u><u>\$34,481</u></u>

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

Austintown Township
Mahoning County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Austintown Township, Mahoning County, (the Township) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly elected three-member Board of Trustees directs the Township. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance, police and fire protection, park and recreation and zoning services.

Jointly Governed Organizations

The Township participates in two jointly governed organizations. Note 11 to the financial statements provide additional information for these entities.

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

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

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, and a combined statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) for all proprietary fund types and a combined statement of additions, deductions and changes in fund balances (regulatory cash basis) all fiduciary fund types which are all organized on a fund type basis.

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:

Police District Fund The police district fund receives property tax money to provide police protection for Township residents.

Fire District Fund The fire district fund receives property tax money to provide fire protection for Township residents.

Road and Bridge Fund The road and bridge fund receives property tax money for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads.

Park Fund The park fund receives property tax money for maintaining Township parks.

Senior Center Fund The senior center fund receives property tax money for operating the Senior Center.

Austintown Township
Mahoning County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Gas Tax Fund The gas tax fund accounts for and reports that portion of the State gasoline tax restricted for maintenance and repair of roads within the Township.

Capital Project Funds These funds account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets. The Township had the following significant capital project funds:

Lighting District Fund The township received special assessments to maintain Township street lights.

Communications Equipment Fund A joint communications district was established with Boardman Township and Mahoning County to provide communications equipment, personnel and services to the District. This fund received debt proceeds for equipment purchases.

Permanent Fund This fund accounts for and report resources that are restricted to the extent that only earnings, and not principal, may be used for purposes that support the reporting government's programs (for the benefit of the government or its citizenry). The Township had the following significant permanent fund:

Cemetery Bequests Fund The cemetery bequests fund accounts for and reports interest earned on the nonexpendable corpus from a trust agreement. These earnings are used for the general maintenance and upkeep of specific family plots/graves within the Township's cemeteries.

Enterprise Fund This fund accounts for operations that are similar to private business enterprises, where management intends to recover the significant costs of providing certain goods or services through user charges.

Westchester Building Fund This fund collects rental income from the building to be used for parks and recreation purposes.

Internal Service Funds These funds account for services provided by one department to other departments of the government unit. The Township had the following Internal Service Funds:

Communications Fund This fund receives reimbursements from other funds to pay for the operation of the Fire and Police Dispatch which also services Emergency 911 operations.

Maintenance Fund This fund receives reimbursements from other funds based on the department utilization to pay for the maintenance of Township vehicles and equipment.

Fiduciary Funds Fiduciary funds include custodial funds.

Custodial funds are purely custodial in nature and are used to report fiduciary activity that is not required to be reported in a trust fund. The Township's custodial funds account for unclaimed monies and custodial holdings such as fire loss insurance proceeds.

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (C). This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The 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).

Austintown Township
Mahoning County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as the financial reporting provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (C) permit.

Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund (except certain custodial 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 Board of 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 2023 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

Deposits and Investments

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

Money market mutual funds are recorded at share values the mutual funds report.

Interfund Activity

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as revenues in the seller funds and as expenditures/expenses in the purchaser funds. Flows of cash or goods from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds.

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.

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.

Leases

The Township is the lessee in various leases (as defined by GASB 87) related to vehicles and other equipment under noncancelable leases. Lease revenue/disbursements are recognized when they are received/paid.

Austintown Township
Mahoning County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Settlement Monies

Ohio has reached settlement agreements with various distributors of opioids which are subject to the OheOhio memorandum of understanding. The original settlement was reached in 2021 with annual payments anticipated through 2038. For 2023, distributions of \$20,113 are reflected as Intergovernmental Receipts in the Opioid Special Revenue Fund in the accompanying financial statements.

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*. For regulatory purposes, assigned fund balance in the general fund is limited to encumbrances outstanding at year end.

Unassigned Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not included in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

The 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 12.

Austintown Township
Mahoning County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Note 3 – Budgetary Activity

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

2023 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$1,500,000	\$2,359,903	\$859,903
Special Revenue	13,325,776	13,799,650	473,874
Capital Projects	997,697	998,115	418
Permanent	0	57	57
Enterprise	0	187,175	187,175
Internal Service	1,575,271	1,591,282	16,011
Custodial	27,840	15,467	(12,373)
Total	<u>\$17,426,584</u>	<u>\$18,951,649</u>	<u>\$1,525,065</u>

2023 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$1,995,673	\$1,735,568	\$260,105
Special Revenue	16,528,543	15,986,216	542,327
Capital Projects	1,028,291	1,028,225	66
Permanent	1,630	0	1,630
Enterprise	250,000	127,765	122,235
Internal Service	2,012,406	1,993,909	18,497
Custodial	27,840	15,467	12,373
Total	<u>\$21,844,383</u>	<u>\$20,887,150</u>	<u>\$957,233</u>

Note 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 deposit and investment accounts are as follows:

	2023
<i>Cash Management Pool:</i>	
Demand deposits	\$1,066,441
Other time deposits (savings and NOW accounts)	1,124,612
Total deposits	<u>2,191,053</u>
Government Sweep Account	2,349,817
Total investments	<u>2,349,817</u>
<i>Total carrying amount of deposits and investments held in the Pool</i>	<u><u>\$4,540,870</u></u>

Austintown Township
Mahoning County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Deposits

Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or collateralized through the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution.

Investments

The Township's investments are limited to a Government Sweep Account.

Note 5 – Property Taxes

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees adopted tax rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable non-business, owner occupancy, and homestead exemption credits and/or homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include these credits and/or deduction 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.

Note 6 – Risk Management

Workers' Compensation

Workers' Compensation coverage is provided by the State of Ohio. The Township pays the State Workers' Compensation System a premium based on a rate per \$100 of salaries. This rate is calculated based on accident history and administrative costs.

Risk Pool Membership

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 actuarially-measured liabilities and the assets available to pay those liabilities as of December 31:

Austintown Township
Mahoning County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	<u>2023</u>
Cash and investments	\$33,494,457
Actuarial liabilities	\$10,885,549

Note 7 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

The Township's certified Fire Fighters belong to the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund (OP&F). Full-time Police Officers and other employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OP&F and OPERS are cost-sharing, multiple-employer plans. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes these plans' benefits, which include postretirement health care and survivor and disability benefits. The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. For 2023, OP&F participants contributed 12.25% of their wages and the Township contributed to OP&F an amount equal to 24% of full-time fire fighters' wages. For 2023 OPERS members contributed 10% of their gross salaries and the Township contributed an amount equaling 14% of participants' gross salaries. For 2023 OPERS law enforcement members contributed 13% of their gross salaries and the Township contributed an amount equaling 18.1% of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2023.

Note 8 – Postemployment Benefits

Both OPERS and OP&F offer cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans. OPERS offers a health reimbursement arrangement (HRA) allowance to benefit recipients meeting certain age and service credit requirements. The HRA is an account funded by OPERS that provides tax-free reimbursement for qualified medical expenses such as monthly post-tax insurance premiums, deductibles, co-insurance, and co-pays incurred by eligible benefit recipients and their dependents. OP&F uses a stipend-based health care model. A stipend funded by OP&F is placed in individual Health Reimbursement Accounts that retirees use to be reimbursed for health care expenses. For calendar year 2023, the portion of OPERS employer contributions allocated to health care was 0 percent for members in the traditional pension plan and 2 percent for members in the combined plan. For 2023, the portion of employer contributions OPERS allocated to health care for members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent; however, a portion of the health care rate was funded with reserves. OP&F contributions 0.5 percent to fund these benefits.

Note 9 – Debt

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2023, was as follows:

	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>
OPWC SR 46 Sanitary Loan	\$25,899	0%
Communications Equipment Note	263,000	3.50%
2020 Freightliner/International	29,561	4.50%
2020 Pierce Saber Pumper Truck	395,286	2.64%
2021 OPWC Road Resurfacing	581,341	0%
Total	<u>\$1,295,087</u>	

The Township issued the Communications Equipment Note to finance the purchase of communication equipment for the Township's 911 system. The Township also has an OPWC Loan through the Mahoning County Sanitary Engineer's Office. Bi-annual payments are made to the County on this loan for the Sanitary Sewer Line to Fire Station #1. The Township also had an OPWC Loan for Road Resurfacing Projects.

Austintown Township
Mahoning County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Leases

The Township entered into a lease purchase agreement for the 2020 Freightliner and 2020 International dump trucks with plows for the road department.

Amortization

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

Year Ending December 31:	OPWC	Communications Equipment Note	Freightliner / International	2020 Pierce	2021 OPWC
2024	\$3,047	\$71,103	\$30,919	\$62,588	\$72,668
2025	3,047	70,862		62,588	72,668
2026	3,047	70,553		62,588	72,668
2027	3,047	69,190		62,588	72,668
2028	3,047			62,588	72,668
2029-2032	10,664			125,176	218,001
Total	<u>\$25,899</u>	<u>\$281,708</u>	<u>\$30,919</u>	<u>\$438,116</u>	<u>\$581,341</u>

Note 10 – Contingent Liabilities

The Township is one of about 40 Intervening Parties in the Court of Common Pleas of Stark County, Case No. 2017 CV 01438, concerning money owed to the defendants pursuant to the Township's self-insured group medical coverage from July 1, 2014 through December 31, 2017. However, it is management's belief that any claim would not have a material effect on the financial statements.

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the township are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor, principally the federal government. The grantor may require refunding any disallowed costs. Management cannot presently determine amounts grantors may disallow. However, based on prior experience, management believes any refunds would be immaterial.

Note 11 – Jointly Governed Organizations

ABC Water and Storm Water District – Austintown Township participates in a jointly governed water district with Boardman Township and Canfield Township. The district formed in 2010 with the intent to deal with both storm water flooding and potable water source issues.

Austintown-Boardman-Mahoning County Joint Communications District was established pursuant to Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code. This is a successor COG to the Austintown-Boardman Joint Communications District.

Note 12 – 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 unexpendable corpus of the permanent funds. Encumbrances are commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting is utilized to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilities effective cash planning and control. At year end the balances of these amounts were as follows:

Austintown Township
Mahoning County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

<u>Fund Balances</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Internal Service</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	<u>Permanent</u>	<u>Total</u>
Nonspendable:						
Corpus					4,719	4,719
Outstanding Encumbrances	9,589	686,996	16,534	831		713,950
Total	<u>\$9,589</u>	<u>\$686,996</u>	<u>\$16,534</u>	<u>\$831</u>	<u>\$4,719</u>	<u>\$718,669</u>

The fund balance of special revenue funds is either restricted or committed. The fund balance of internal 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, internal service, capital projects, and permanent funds would include the outstanding encumbrances. In the general fund, outstanding encumbrances are considered assigned.

Note 13 – Interfund Transactions

Transfers for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, as reported in the fund financial statements:

Transfers from General Fund to:	Amount
Fire District Fund (2111)	\$ 58,489
Park Levy Fund (2171)	137,451
Zoning Fund (2181)	118,200
Lighting District Fund (4501)	20,000
Communication Equipment Fund (4901)	71,273
Communication Fund (6002)	<u>13,790</u>
Total	\$ 419,203

Transfers are used to move revenues from the fund that statute or budget required to collect them to the fund that statute or budget requires to expend them and to use unrestricted revenues collected in the general fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations.

Note 14 – COVID-19

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the Township. The Township's investment portfolio fluctuates with market conditions, and due to market volatility, the amount of gains or losses that will be realized in subsequent periods, if any, cannot be determined. In addition, the impact on the Township's future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

During 2023, the Township received \$624,701 in American Rescue Plan - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds.

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



65 East State Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
ContactUs@ohioauditor.gov
800-282-0370

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

Austintown Township
Mahoning County
82 Ohltown Road
Youngstown, Ohio 44515

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the cash balances, receipts, and disbursements for each governmental and proprietary fund type and the fiduciary fund type combined total as of and for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023 and the related notes to the financial statements of Austintown Township, Mahoning County, (the Township) and have issued our report thereon dated October 15, 2025, wherein we noted the Township followed financial reporting provisions Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 and Ohio Admin. Code 117-2-03 (C) permit.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the 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 opinions 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. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Township's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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.

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State



Tiffany L. Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM
Chief Deputy Auditor

October 15, 2025

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



AUSTINTOWN TOWNSHIP

MAHONING 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 12/2/2025

65 East State 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