AUDITOR (MIII///)

VILLAGE OF FELICITY CLERMONT COUNTY

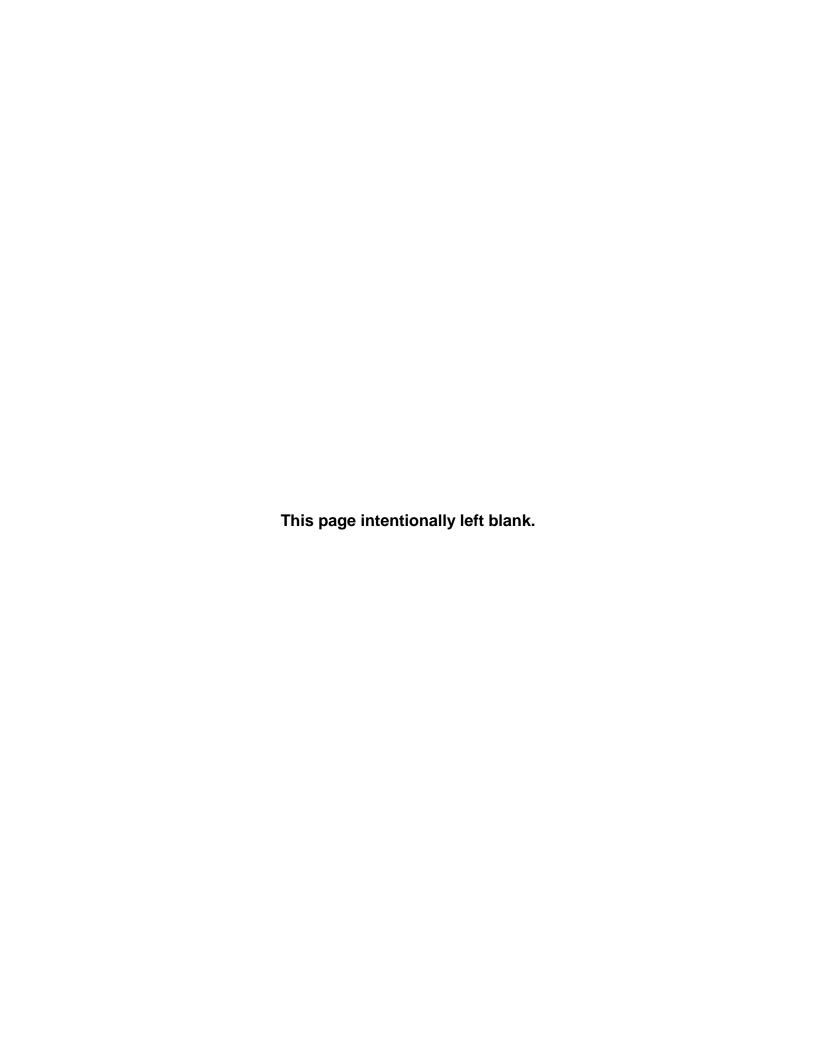
REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000-1999



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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Village of Felicity Clermont County 415 Walnut Street Felicity, Ohio 45120

To the Village Council:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Village of Felicity, Clermont County, Ohio (the Village), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2000 and 1999. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Village's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

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

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

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances, and reserves for encumbrances of the Village as of December 31, 2000 and 1999, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 24, 2001, on our consideration of the Village's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

Village of Felicity Clermont County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

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

Jim Petro Auditor of State

October 24, 2001

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL AND SIMILAR FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000

		Governmenta		Fiduciary Fund Type	Tatala	
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Expendable Trust	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:						
Property Tax and Other Local Taxes	\$34,868	\$66,562			\$13,802	\$115,232
Intergovernmental Receipts	109,514	31,520		4,950		145,984
Charges for Services	175					175
Fines, Licenses, and Permits	20,171	1,475				21,646
Earnings on Investments Miscellaneous	20,466 1,113	21,015				20,466 22,128
Miscellarieous	1,113	21,015	·			22,120
Total Cash Receipts	186,307	120,572		4,950	13,802	325,631
Cash Disbursements:						
Current: Security of Persons and Property	67,799	38,907				106,706
Public Health Services	1,241	30,907				1,241
Leisure Time Activities	264					264
Community Environment	201				4,168	4.168
Basic Utility Services					3,040	3,040
Transportation	20,166	30,470			2,010	50,636
General Government	53,688	202			6,978	60,868
Capital Outlay	45,689	13,059		14,098	99	72,945
Total Cash Disbursements	188,847	82,638		14,098	14,285	299,868
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(2,540)	37,934		(9,148)	(483)	25,763
Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements):						
Transfers-In	225					225
Transfers-Out			(225)			(225)
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	225		(225)			
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing						
Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	(2,315)	37,934	(225)	(9,148)	(483)	25,763
Fund Cash Balances January 1	116,504	73,483	225	9,148	8,404	207,764
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$114,189	\$111,417			\$7,921	\$233,527
Reserves for Encumbrances, December 31	\$29,232	\$5,468			\$1,020	\$35,720

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL PROPRIETARY AND SIMILAR FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000

	Proprietary Fund Types	Fiduciary Fund Types	
			Totals (Memorandum
	Enterprise	Agency	Only)
Operating Cash Receipts:			
Charges for Services	\$274,681		\$274,681
Miscellaneous	2,720		2,720
Total Operating Cash Receipts	277,401		277,401
Operating Cash Disbursements:			
Personal Services	54,582		54,582
Contractual Services	49,127		49,127
Supplies and Materials	14,312		14,312
Capital Outlay	163,472		163,472
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	281,493		281,493_
Operating Income/(Loss)	(4,092)		(4,092)
Non-Operating Cash Receipts:			
Other Non-Operating Receipts		25,622	25,622
Total Non-Operating Cash Receipts	0	25,622	25,622
Non-Operating Cash Disbursements:			
Debt Service:			
Principal Payments	15,000		15,000
Interest Payments	21,783		21,783
Other Non-Operating Cash Disbursements		25,366	25,366
Total Non-Operating Cash Disbursements	36,783	25,366	62,149
Excess of Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements			
Before Interfund Transfers and Advances	(40,875)	256	(40,619)
Transfers-In	41,043		41,043
Transfers-Out	(41,043)		(41,043)
Net Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(40,875)	256	(40,619)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	468,611	1,519	470,130
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$427,736	\$1,775	\$429,511
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	\$37,301		\$37,301

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL AND SIMILAR FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999

		Governmenta	I Fund Types		Fiduciary Fund Type	
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Expendable Trust	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:						
Property Tax and Other Local Taxes	\$21,557	\$62,677	\$10,750		\$12,797	\$107,781
Intergovernmental Receipts	110,579	18,312		309,408		438,299
Charges for Services	2,400					2,400
Fines, Licenses, and Permits	16,166	1,665				17,831
Earnings on Investments	24,376	4.000				24,376
Miscellaneous		1,000				1,000
Total Cash Receipts	175,078	83,654	10,750	309,408	12,797	591,687
Cash Disbursements: Current:						
Security of Persons and Property	72,715	31,961				104,676
Public Health Services	1,255	,				1,255
Leisure Time Activities	493					493
Community Environment					4,158	4,158
Basic Utility Services					2,736	2,736
Transportation	17,814	28,419				46,233
General Government	53,966				7,540	61,506
Debt Service:						
Principal Payments	2,665		10,000			12,665
Interest Payments	181	157	637	200 200	500	818
Capital Outlay	62,142	15/		300,260	500	363,059
Total Cash Disbursements	211,231	60,537	10,637	300,260	14,934	597,599
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(36,153)	23,117	113	9,148	(2,137)	(5,912)
Fund Cash Balances January 1	152,657	50,366	112		10,541	213,676
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$116,504	\$73,483	\$225	\$9,148	\$8,404	\$207,764
Reserves for Encumbrances, December 31	\$26,497	\$11,636		\$9,148	\$1,050	\$48,331

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL PROPRIETARY AND SIMILAR FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999

	Proprietary Fund Types	Fiduciary Fund Types	
	Entorprico	Agonov	Totals (Memorandum
-	Enterprise	Agency	Only)
Operating Cash Receipts:			
Charges for Services	\$289,348		\$289,348
Miscellaneous	4,382		4,382
Total Operating Cash Receipts	293,730		293,730
Operating Cash Disbursements:			
Personal Services	55,674		55,674
Contractual Services	50,908		50,908
Supplies and Materials	18,190		18,190
Capital Outlay	176,426		176,426
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	301,198		301,198
Operating Income/(Loss)	(7,468)		(7,468)
Non-Operating Cash Receipts:			
Other Non-Operating Receipts		20,450	20,450
Total Non-Operating Cash Receipts		20,450	20,450
Non-Operating Cash Disbursements:			
Debt Service:			
Principal Payments	10,000		10,000
Interest Payments	21,983		21,983
Other Non-Operating Cash Disbursements		22,189	22,189
Total Non-Operating Cash Disbursements	31,983	22,189	54,172
		,	
Excess of Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements			
Before Interfund Transfers and Advances	(39,451)	(1,739)	(41,190)
Transfers-In	33,728		33,728
Transfers-Out	(33,728)		(33,728)
Net Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	(39,451)	(1,739)	(41,190)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	530,416	3,258	533,674
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$490,965	\$1,519	\$492,484
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	\$130,540		\$130,540

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

The Village of Felicity, Clermont County, (the Village) is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Village is directed by a publicly-elected six-member Council. The Village provides general governmental services, including water and sewer utilities, and police services.

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

B. Basis of Accounting

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

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

C. Cash and Investments

U.S. Treasury Notes and the money market account are valued at cost.

Investments are reported as assets. Accordingly, purchases of investments are not recorded as disbursements, and sales of investments are not recorded as receipts. Gains or losses at the time of sale are recorded as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

D. Fund Accounting

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

1. General Fund

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

2. Special Revenue Fund

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

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

Police Levy Fund - This fund receives tax monies to fund the police department.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

3. Debt Service Fund

These funds are used to accumulate resources for the payment of bonds and note indebtedness. The Village had the following significant debt service fund:

General Obligation Fund (Service Building Bond) - This fund is used to make payments on a debt issued to construct a municipal service building.

4. Capital Project Funds

These funds are used to account for receipts that are restricted for the acquisition or construction of major capital projects (except those financed through enterprise or trust funds). The Village had the following significant capital project fund:

Issue II/ Walnut Street Fund - This fund received Issue II funding form the Ohio Public Works Commission. The funding is for the Feeder Main modification project. This fund accounts for all fees and costs associated with the replacement of an 8 inch water main.

5. Enterprise Funds

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

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

6. Fiduciary Funds (Trust and Agency Funds)

Trust funds are used to account for resources restricted by legally binding trust agreements. If the agreement does not require the Village to maintain the corpus of the trust, the fund is classified as a expendable trust fund. Funds for which the Village is acting in an agency capacity are classified as agency funds. The Village had the following significant fiduciary funds:

Income Tax Fund - This expendable trust fund receives Village income tax money for current operating expenses.

Mayor's Court Fund - This agency fund receives mayor's court fines, fees, and costs collected for state and local distribution.

E. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund (except certain agency funds) be budgeted annually.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

1. Appropriations

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

2. Estimated Resources

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

3. Encumbrances

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

A summary of 2000 and 1999 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Property, Plant and Equipment

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

G. Unpaid Vacation and Sick Leave

Employees are entitled to cash payments for unused vacation and sick leave in certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment. Unpaid vacation and sick leave are not reflected as liabilities under the cash basis of accounting used by the Village.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999 (Continued)

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS

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

	<u>2000</u>		<u>1999</u>
Demand Deposits Savings Account	\$ 368,876 260,695	\$	414,197 250,496
Total deposits	 629,571		664,693
Treasury Notes Money Market Account	 32,210 1,257	_	32,210 3,345
Total investments	 33,467		35,555
Total deposits and investments	\$ 663,038	\$	700,248

Deposits: Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, (2) collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

Investments: U.S. Treasury Notes are held in book-entry form by the Federal Reserve, in the name of the Village's financial institution. The financial institution maintains records identifying the Village as owner of these securities. Money Market Account funds are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2000 follows:

Fund Type		Budgeted Receipts		Actual Receipts		/ariance
General Special Revenue Debt Service Capital Projects Enterprise Fiduciary		\$	183,271 120,572 0 4,950 299,926 13,802	\$ 186,532 120,572 0 4,950 318,444 13,802	\$	3,261 0 0 0 18,518 0
	Total	\$	622,521	\$ 644,300	\$	21,779

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999 (Continued)

3. **BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)**

2000 Budgeted	vs. Actual	Budgetary	/ Basis E	expenditures

		Appropriation		Е	Budgetary		
Fund Type		Authority		Expenditures			Variance
General		\$	289,032	\$	218,079	\$	70,953
Special Revenue			171,132		88,106		83,026
Debt Service			225		225		0
Capital Projects			14,098		14,098		0
Enterprise			742,123		396,620		345,503
Fiduciary			19,300		15,305		3,995
	Total	\$	1,235,910	\$	732,433	\$	503,477

1999 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

		Budgeted		Actual		
Fund Type		Receipts		 Receipts		/ariance
General		\$	171,728	\$ 175,078	\$	3,350
Special Revenue			82,654	83,654		1,000
Debt Service			10,750	10,750		0
Capital Projects			309,408	309,408		0
Enterprise			303,241	327,458		24,217
Fiduciary			12,797	 12,797		0
	Total	\$	890,578	\$ 919,145	\$	28,567

1999 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

Fund Type		Appropriation Authority		Budgetary Expenditures		Variance	
General		\$	316,689	\$ 237,728	\$	78,961	
Special Revenue			117,092	72,173		44,919	
Debt Service			10,863	10,637		226	
Capital Projects			309,408	309,408		0	
Enterprise			779,081	497,449		281,632	
Fiduciary			16,508	 15,984		524	
	Total	\$	1,549,641	\$ 1,143,379	\$	406,262	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999 (Continued)

4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by Village Council. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. Homestead and rollback amounts are then paid by the State, and are reflected in the accompanying financial statements as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to make semiannual payment, the first half is due 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 Village.

Tangible personal property tax is assessed by the property owners, who must file a list of such property to the County by each April 30.

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

5. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2000 was as follows:

		Principal		Interest Rate
Water System 1 st Mortgage Revenue Refunding and Improvement Bonds Ohio Public Works Commission Loan		\$	355,000 185,000	4.5 - 6.875% 0%
	Total	\$	540,000	

The Water System 1st Mortgage Revenue Refunding and Improvement Bonds, Series 1994, relates to the improvement of the Village's owned water system. The 1994 issue dated August 1, 1994, bears an interest rate of 4.5% to 6.875% and matures August 1, 2024. This series 1994 Bond combines two other outstanding Water System Revenue Bonds issued in 1980 and 1994.

The Ohio Public Works Commission Loan relates to water system improvements for the Village. The original loan amount was \$200,000, dated August 1, 1998, bears a 0% interest rate, and matures on January and July 1 of each year until final maturity on July 2019.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999 (Continued)

5. DEBT (Continued)

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

	N	Mortgage			
Year ending	F	Revenue	OPWC		
December 31:	Bonds			Loan	
2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 Subsequent	\$	28,970 28,675 28,375 33,070 32,450 31,820 549,693		5,000 10,000 10,000 10,000 10,000 10,000 130,000	
Oubsequent		343,033		100,000	
Total	\$	733,053	\$	185,000	

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Village's law enforcement officers belong to the Police and Firemen's Disability and Pension Funds (PFDPF). Other full-time employees belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) of Ohio. PFDPF and PERS are cost-sharing, multiple-employer plans. These plans provide retirement benefits, including postretirement healthcare, and survivor and disability benefits to participants as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code.

Contribution rates are also prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. For 2000 and 1999, members of PFDPF contributed 10% of their wages to the PFDPF. The Village contributed an amount equal to 19.5% of their wages. PERS members contributed 8.5% of their gross salaries. The Village contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries. The Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2000.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Government belongs to the Ohio Government Risk Management Plan (the "Plan"), an unincorporated non-profit association with over 600 governmental entity members providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services.

Pursuant to Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Plan is deemed a separate legal entity. The Plan provides property, liability, errors and omissions, law enforcement, automobile, excess liability, crime, surety and bond, inland marine and other coverages, modified for each member's needs. The Plan pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the member's deductible.

The Plan uses conventional insurance coverages and reinsures these coverages 100%, rather than using a risk pool of member funds to pay individual and collective losses. Therefore, the individual members are only responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts which vary from member to member.

The Village also provides health insurance to full-time employees through a private carrier.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999 (Continued)

8. PRIOR PERIOD ADVANCE

Advances are intended to temporarily reallocate cash from one fund to another and involve an expectation of repayment. The Water Fund advanced forty-two thousand dollars (\$42,000) to the Utility Improvement Fund during a prior period. However, the Utility Improvement Fund has not repaid this amount.



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REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Village of Felicity Clermont County 415 Walnut Street Felicity, Ohio 45120

To the Council:

We have audited the financial statements of the Village of Felicity, Clermont County, Ohio (the Village), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2000 and 1999, and have issued our report thereon dated October 24, 2001. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Village's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item numbers 2000-30413-001 and 2000-30413-002. We also noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to the management of the Village in a separate letter dated October 24, 2001.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Village's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. However, we noted certain matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be reportable conditions. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control over financial reporting that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the Village's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements. A reportable condition is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2000-30413-001.

Village of Felicity Clermont County Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Required by Government Auditing Standards Page 2

A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, we believe the reportable condition described above is not a material weakness.

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

Jim Petro Auditor of State

October 24, 2001

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999

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

FINDING NUMBER 2000-30413-001

Material Noncompliance/Reportable Condition - Certification of Purchase Orders

Ohio Rev. Code, Section 5705.41(D), provides that no subdivision shall make any contract or order any expenditure of money unless the certificate of the fiscal officer is attached. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required to meet such a commitment has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance.

This section also provides for the following exceptions to this requirement:

- A. Then and Now Certificates If no certificate is issued at the time the contract or order is entered into, the fiscal officer may later certify that there were funds properly appropriated and in the treasury or in the process of collection and such funds were free from a previous encumbrance, both at the time the contract or order was entered into and at the time of the certificate. The council may then authorize the fiscal office to issue a warrant in payment of the amount due upon such contract or order by resolution within thirty (30) days from the receipt of such certificate; or
- B. If the amount involved is less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), the fiscal officer may authorize payment through a Then and Now Certificate without affirmation of the Village Council if such expenditure is otherwise valid.

The Village ordered and received goods and/or services without first obtaining the certificate of the Treasurer and did not meet the requirements for exceptions to the certificate requirements. As a result, the Village improperly encumbered thirteen percent (13%) of the transactions that we reviewed. Failure to properly certify the availability of funds can result in overspending and negative cash balances.

Therefore, we recommend the Village properly utilize the encumbrance method of accounting by certifying the availability of funds. The Village should obtain approved purchase orders, which contain the Clerk's certification that the amount required to meet the obligation has been lawfully appropriated and authorized, prior to making a commitment.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999 (Continued)

FINDING NUMBER 2000-30413-002

Material Noncompliance - 1994 Water System First Mortgage Revenue Bonds

Village of Felicity Ordinance Number 158-94 states that the Village covenants that it will prescribe and charge such rates for the services of the System, and will so restrict Operating and Maintenance Expenses of the System, as shall result in Net Income Available for Debt Service at least equal to one hundred twenty percent (120%) of the maximum amount of principal and interest debt service requirements necessary in any succeeding year to meet interest and principal maturities of all Bonds secured by revenues of the System plus one hundred percent (100%) of the maximum amount of principal and interest necessary to be paid in any succeeding year on all Bonds and general obligations bonds and notes and other obligations of the Village that are also expected to be paid from revenues of the System, if any.

The Village has not increased rates since adopting this ordinance on August 9, 1994. As a result, the variance between Net Income Available for Debt Service and the maximum amount of principal and interest in any succeeding year for fiscal years 2000 and 1999 were \$64,466 and \$73,832 respectively.

Therefore, we recommend the Village closely monitor the System's cash flows to determine where it can decrease operating expenses, when and to what extent it should increase rates, the extent, if any, to which it should pursue delinquent accounts, and when principal and interest bond payments are due. Such action is necessary if the Village is to continue to meet its debt obligations.



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VILLAGE OF FELICITY

CLERMONT COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED NOVEMBER 8, 2001