



**BURTON TOWNSHIP
GEAUGA COUNTY**

REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001 & 2000



JIM PETRO
AUDITOR OF STATE

STATE OF OHIO

**BURTON TOWNSHIP
GEAUGA COUNTY**

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Burton Township
Geauga County
P.O. Box 355
Burton, Ohio 44021

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Burton Township, Geauga County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2001 and December 31, 2000. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Township's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits 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 audits 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 audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 1, the Township 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 of Burton Township, Geauga County, Ohio, as of December 31, 2001 and December 31, 2000, 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 April 12, 2002 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 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 audits.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Board of Trustees and other officials authorized to receive this report under § 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

April 12, 2002

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**BURTON TOWNSHIP
GEAUGA COUNTY**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		Total (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
Cash Receipts:			
Local Taxes	\$105,049	\$171,780	\$276,829
Intergovernmental	115,831	78,073	193,904
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	0	10,410	10,410
Earnings on Investments	8,953	611	9,564
Other Revenue	9,897	1,200	11,097
	<u>239,730</u>	<u>262,074</u>	<u>501,804</u>
Total Cash Receipts			
	<u>239,730</u>	<u>262,074</u>	<u>501,804</u>
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	105,530	91,369	196,899
Public Safety	2,479	1,892	4,371
Public Works	86,380	113,829	200,209
Health	11,404	5,297	16,701
Conservation - Recreation	1,633	0	1,633
Capital Outlay	8,444	1,941	10,385
	<u>215,870</u>	<u>214,328</u>	<u>430,198</u>
Total Cash Disbursements			
	<u>215,870</u>	<u>214,328</u>	<u>430,198</u>
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	<u>23,860</u>	<u>47,746</u>	<u>71,606</u>
Other Financing Receipts:			
Other Sources	1,635	0	1,635
	<u>1,635</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,635</u>
Total Other Financing Receipts			
	<u>1,635</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,635</u>
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	<u>25,495</u>	<u>47,746</u>	<u>73,241</u>
Fund Cash Balances, January 1, 2001	<u>152,500</u>	<u>93,032</u>	<u>245,532</u>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31, 2001	<u><u>\$177,995</u></u>	<u><u>\$140,778</u></u>	<u><u>\$318,773</u></u>

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

**BURTON TOWNSHIP
GEAUGA COUNTY**

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

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		Total (Memorandum Only)
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	
Cash Receipts:			
Local Taxes	\$107,822	\$182,993	\$290,815
Intergovernmental	161,146	77,240	238,386
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	0	5,633	5,633
Earnings on Investments	12,134	1,232	13,366
Other Revenue	4,504	0	4,504
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Receipts	285,606	267,098	552,704
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
General Government	82,617	73,372	155,989
Public Safety	187	1,171	1,358
Public Works	144,138	193,977	338,115
Health	20,466	3,076	23,542
Conservation - Recreation	1,209	0	1,209
Capital Outlay	1,093	29	1,122
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Cash Disbursements	249,710	271,625	521,335
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	35,896	(4,527)	31,369
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Other Financing Receipts:			
Other Sources	361	0	361
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Other Financing Receipts	361	0	361
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	36,257	(4,527)	31,730
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Fund Cash Balances, January 1, 2000	116,243	97,559	213,802
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Fund Cash Balances, December 31, 2000	<u>\$152,500</u>	<u>\$93,032</u>	<u>\$245,532</u>

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

**BURTON TOWNSHIP
GEAUGA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Burton Township, Geauga County, Ohio, (the Township) 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 Township is directed by a publicly elected three member Board of Trustees. The Township provides general governmental services, including road and bridge maintenance and cemetery maintenance.

The Township's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Township 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

Investments are included in fund cash balances. 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.

Certificates of deposit and repurchase agreements are valued at cost.

D. Fund Accounting

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

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.

Special Revenue Funds

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 Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

Road and Bridge Fund - This fund receives property tax money for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads and bridges.

**BURTON TOWNSHIP
GEAUGA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000
(Continued)**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

D. Fund Accounting (Continued)

Special Revenue Funds (Continued)

Gasoline Tax Fund - This fund receives gasoline tax money for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads.

Fire Levy Fund - This fund receives property tax money to provide fire protection for residents.

E. Budgetary Process

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

Appropriations

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

Estimated Resources

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must also 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 canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2001 and 2000 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.

**BURTON TOWNSHIP
GEAUGA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000
(Continued)**

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS

The Township maintains a cash and investment 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>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
Demand deposits	\$35,281	\$25,767
Certificates of deposit	<u>125,000</u>	<u>125,000</u>
Total deposits	<u>160,281</u>	<u>150,767</u>
Repurchase agreement	<u>158,492</u>	<u>94,765</u>
Total investments	<u>158,492</u>	<u>94,765</u>
Total deposits and investments	<u><u>\$318,773</u></u>	<u><u>\$245,532</u></u>

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

Investments: Repurchase agreements are uninsured and unregistered securities which are held by the counter party, or by its trust department or agent but not in the Township's name.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ended December 31, 2001 and December 31, 2000 follows:

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$242,809	\$241,365	(\$1,444)
Special Revenue	<u>271,166</u>	<u>262,074</u>	<u>(9,092)</u>
Total	<u><u>\$513,975</u></u>	<u><u>\$503,439</u></u>	<u><u>(\$10,536)</u></u>

2001 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$395,309	\$215,870	\$179,439
Special Revenue	<u>364,197</u>	<u>214,328</u>	<u>149,869</u>
Total	<u><u>\$759,506</u></u>	<u><u>\$430,198</u></u>	<u><u>\$329,308</u></u>

**BURTON TOWNSHIP
GEAUGA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000
(Continued)**

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY (Continued)

2000 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$209,220	\$285,967	\$76,747
Special Revenue	259,951	267,098	7,147
Total	\$469,171	\$553,065	\$83,894

2000 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$325,463	\$249,710	\$75,753
Special Revenue	357,510	271,625	85,885
Total	\$682,973	\$521,335	\$161,638

4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by the Board of Trustees. 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 payments, 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.

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

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

5. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Township's employees belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) of Ohio. PERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. This plan provides 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 2001, members of PERS contributed 8.5% of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries for 2001 and from January 1, 2000 through June 30, 2000. PERS temporarily reduced the employer contribution rate to 8.13%, effective July 1, 2000 through December 31, 2000. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2001.

**BURTON TOWNSHIP
GEAUGA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND 2000
(Continued)**

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

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

Casualty Insurance

OTARMA retains casualty risks up to \$250,000 per claim. Claims exceeding \$250,000 are reinsured with APEEP up to \$1,750,000 per claim and \$5,000,000 in the aggregate per year. Governments can elect additional coverage, from \$2,000,000 to \$10,000,000, from the General Reinsurance Corporation.

If losses exhaust OTARMA's retained earnings, APEEP covers OTARMA losses up to \$5,000,000 per year, subject to a per-claim limit of \$2,000,000.

Property Insurance

OTARMA retains property risks including automobile physical damage up to \$100,000 on any specific loss. The Travelers Indemnity Company reinsures specific losses exceeding \$100,000. The Travelers Indemnity Company also provides aggregate excess coverage for property including automobile physical damage subject to an annual stop loss. When the stop loss is reached in any year, The Travelers Indemnity Company provides coverage in excess of \$10,000.

The aforementioned casualty and property reinsurance agreements do not discharge OTARMA's primary liability for claims payments on covered losses. Claims exceeding coverage limits are the obligation of the respective government.

Financial Position

OTARMA's financial statements (audited by other accountants) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31:

<u>Casualty Coverage</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Assets	\$22,684,383	\$18,172,222
Liabilities	<u>8,924,977</u>	<u>5,947,013</u>
Retained earnings	<u>\$13,759,406</u>	<u>\$12,225,209</u>
 <u>Property Coverage</u>	 <u>2000</u>	 <u>1999</u>
Assets	\$3,931,536	\$3,181,655
Liabilities	<u>272,583</u>	<u>311,970</u>
Retained earnings	<u>\$3,658,953</u>	<u>\$2,869,685</u>

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

Burton Township
Geauga County
P.O. Box 355
Burton, Ohio 44021

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Burton Township, Geauga County, Ohio, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2001 and December 31, 2000, and have issued our report thereon dated April 12, 2002. We conducted our audits 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 Township'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 audits and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audits, we considered the Township'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. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. 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. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we noted other matters involving the internal control over financial reporting that do not require inclusion in this report, that we have reported to management of the Township in a separate letter dated April 12, 2002.

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

Jim Petro
Auditor of State

April 12, 2002



STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR

JIM PETRO, AUDITOR OF STATE

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BURTON TOWNSHIP

GEAUGA COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

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

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

**CERTIFIED
MAY 9, 2002**