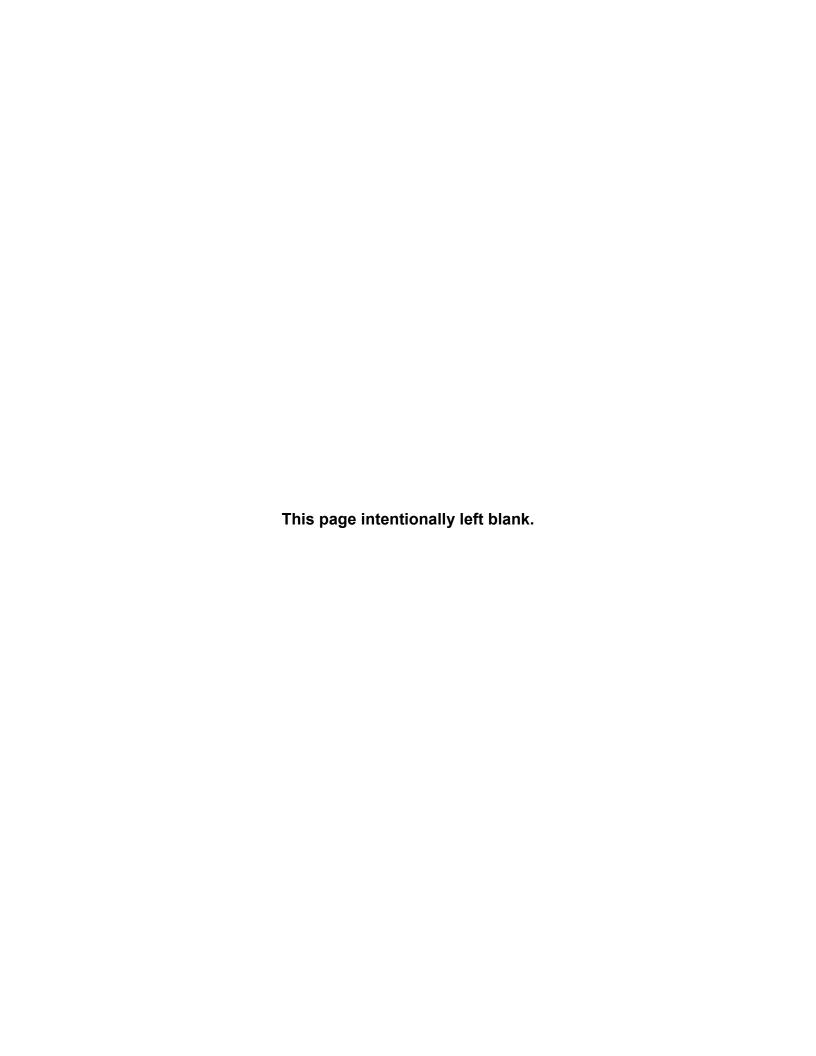




TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	PAGE
Report of Independent Accountants	1
Combined Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Cash Balances - All Governmental Fund Types - For the Year Ended December 31, 2000	3
Notes to the Financial Statements	5
Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Required by Government Auditing Standards	9





35 North Fourth Street Columbus, Ohio 43215 Telephone 614-466-3402 800-443-9275

Facsimile 614-728-7199 www.auditor.state.oh.us

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Village of South Salem Ross County 4482 Main Street South Salem, Ohio 45681

To the Village Council:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Village of South Salem, Ross County, Ohio (the Village) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2000. 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 discussed 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 accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 29, 2002, 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 South Salem Ross County Report of Independent Accountants Page 2

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, audit committee, Council 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

May 29, 2002

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

	Governmental Fund Types			
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:				
Property Tax and Other Local Taxes	\$1,184	\$0	\$0	\$1,184
Intergovernmental Receipts	29,270	4,863	10,000	44,133
Charges for Services	875	0	0	875
Earnings on Investments	5,982	0	0	5,982
Miscellaneous	335	0	0	335
Total Cash Receipts	37,646	4,863	10,000	52,509
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
Security of Persons and Property	3,768	0	0	3,768
Transportation	3,093	0	0	3,093
General Governmen	17,903	0	0	17,903
Debt Service	0	0	271,758	271,758
Capital Outlay	0	0	44,112	44,112
Total Cash Disbursements	24,764	0	315,870	340,634
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements	12,882	4,863	(305,870)	(288,125)
Other Financing Receipts and (Disbursements):				
Proceeds from Notes			165,561	165,561
Transfers-In	0	919	5,645	6,564
Transfers-Out	(6,564)	0	0	(6,564)
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	(6,564)	919	171,206	165,561
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements				
and Other Financing Disbursements	6,318	5,782	(134,664)	(122,564)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	67,843	30,129	134,664	232,636
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$74,161	\$35,911	\$0	\$110,072

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

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2000

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

The Village of South Salem, Ross County, Ohio (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 street maintenance. The Village contracts with the Ross County Sheriff's department to provide security of persons and property. The Village contracts with the City of Greenfield to provide fire protection 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

Certificates of deposit are valued at cost.

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.

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

D. Fund Accounting (Continued)

3. 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:

Sanitary Sewer Construction Fund - This fund receives proceeds of grant awards, interim financing and note proceeds. The proceeds are being used to construct a new sanitary sewer system.

E. Budgetary Process

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

1. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund 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.

2. 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.

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Village to reserve (encumber) appropriations when commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2000 (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:

Demand deposits	\$73,934
Certificates of deposit	36,138
Total deposits	110,072

Deposits: Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, or (3) collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity follows:

2000 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$35,344	\$37,646	\$2,302
Special Revenue	5,516	5,782	266
Capital Projects	0	15,645	15,645
Total	\$40,860	\$59,073	\$18,213

2000 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Budgeted	Actual	_
Fund Type	Expenditures	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$93,087	\$31,328	\$61,759
Special Revenue	35,744	0	35,744
Capital Projects	144,664	150,309	(5,645)
Total	\$273,495	\$181,637	\$91,858

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2000 (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 payments, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

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:

Fifth Third Bank - Revenue Note - Sanitary Sewer Principal Interest Rate \$165,561 5.20%

The Village had a revenue note for \$255,000 at 5.20% used for initial startup costs for the Sanitary Sewer Construction Project. This Note was secured by a letter of credit issued by Ohio Water Development Authority. This Note matured December 31, 2000 was issued for the balance due, \$165,561.

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Village's elected officials and part-time employees belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) of Ohio. PERS is 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, PERS members contributed 8.5% of their wages. The Village contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries 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 Village has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2000.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

Commercial Insurance

The Village has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability;
- Vehicles; and



35 North Fourth Street Columbus, Ohio 43215 Telephone 614-466-3402

800-443-9275 Facsimile 614-728-7199 www.auditor.state.oh.us

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

Village of South Salem Ross County 4482 Main Street South Salem. Ohio 45681

To the Village Council:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Village of South Salem, Ross County, Ohio (the Village) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2000, and have issued our report thereon dated May 29, 2002. 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 no instance of noncompliance that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*. However, we noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Village in a separate letter dated May 29, 2002.

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. 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 a matter involving the internal control over financial reporting which we have reported to management of the Village in a separate letter dated May 29, 2002.

Village of South Salem Ross County Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Required by *Government Auditing Standards* Page 2

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

JIM PETRO Auditor of State

May 29, 2002



88 East Broad Street P.O. Box 1140 Columbus, Ohio 43216-1140

Telephone 614-466-4514

800-282-0370

Facsimile 614-466-4490

VILLAGE OF SOUTH SALEM ROSS 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 JULY 23, 2002